

RCA INDUSTRY FUND

BULLETIN #02-2005

Modified Pennsylvania and New Jersey Building Codes

Many contractors have been reporting contract specifications for both new and reroofing that state simply: All work shall comply with the requirements of the _____ Building Code . Prior to 2003, most, if not all, counties, political subdivisions and municipalities found in Southeastern Pa. and Southern NJ utilized the model building code developed by the Building Officials and Code Administrators International, Inc. (BOCA). Throughout the rest of the USA there were 2 other model building codes groups whose Codes were in use, the International Conference of Building Code Officials, Inc. (ICBO) and the Southern Building Code Congress International, Inc. (SBCCI). In 2000 an agreement was reached among these groups on a uniform building code that would be applicable to all structures in all regions of the Country. In 2003 the International Building Code (IBC) was published and adopted, in many cases with minor changes and/or local supplements, by most of the United States, including all counties, political subdivisions and municipalities in Southeastern Pa, Southern NJ and the state of Delaware.

The IBC is broken out by chapters with the majority of the roofing related requirements being found in Chapter 15 - Roofs and Rooftop Structures. There are, however, some roofing related requirements found in other chapters. Wind load requirements in roof assemblies are found in Chapter 16 - Structural Loads. Below grade waterproofing requirements are provided in Chapter 18 - Foundations and Retaining Walls and requirements for plastic foam insulation (e.g. polyurethane, polystyrene, polyisocyanurate) are found in Chapter 26 - Plastics. In general, Chapter 15 provides requirements in 4 areas of roofing: fire resistance, uplift resistance, applicable material standards and compliance with installation instructions. A copy of IBC Chapter 15 is attached along with a copy of roof related code requirements found in other Chapters of the International Building Code.

Please see that all persons in your firm who need to be aware of Building Code requirements receive a copy of this information. Should you have any questions, please give the Industry Fund office a call at (215)509-7200.