

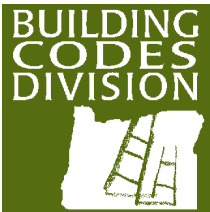
# CODE LINK

STATE OF OREGON • BUILDING CODES DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER & BUSINESS SERVICES

FALL 2007

## Administrator's message

by Mark Long



Our mission at Building Codes Division (BCD) is to ensure safe building construction while supporting a positive business environment. As we work with Oregonians to achieve this goal, we are guided by three principles that we refer to as the Three C's: consistency, compliance, and customer service. For the division, the Three C's are like a roadmap, directing us on how to best fulfill our role.

The Three C's are guiding some exciting new developments designed to improve consistency throughout the state, enhance our compliance efforts, and help us continue to provide a high level of customer service.

### Regional Program

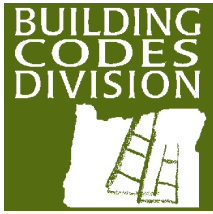
The division's regional program — called Regional Program Services — has taken a major step in improving outreach and code consistency throughout the state. The division has created five regions in the state: northwest/metro region, mid-valley region, southern region, central region, and eastern region. There is a regional coordinator representing each area, and the program manager is based in Salem. The regional coordinators work to enhance the division's presence and establish an ongoing dialogue with local government officials and construction industry stakeholders. Coordinators promote code consistency, offer best practices, and provide dispute resolution services.

The primary goals of the regional program are to strengthen partnerships with local governments and the construction industry; facilitate local construction projects; and ensure code consistency. Developing close links among building

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officials, local governments, and BCD will help achieve those goals and continue the healthy construction industry in Oregon.

### Electronic Permitting

Consumer demand for online government services continues to grow because online services allow businesses to save time and expense so they can remain competitive. While the value to the customer is clear, state and local governments also benefit from providing online government services. Online services such as electronic permitting are a valuable tool in streamlining the regulatory process and improving customer service.

Oregon's commitment to electronic permitting services began in 2003 with the development of Quick Permits. Quick Permits allows contractors to apply and pay for certain over-the-counter, non-plan-review building permits online. What began as an experiment in six jurisdictions has steadily grown. Now 18 jurisdictions participate, and as many as 12 more have expressed interest in providing this valuable service to their customers. But Quick Permits is just the first step.

The division is developing the first-in-the-nation statewide ePermitting system. The ePermitting system will add features such as permit and inspection tracking and electronic plan review. Working with local governments and stakeholders will ensure that we create a system that every jurisdiction in Oregon will want to use. The added benefits of the full ePermitting system should be available by spring 2009.

### Administrative Consistency

Consistency in the application, administration, and enforcement of the building code is important because it creates predictability and improves efficiency. This philosophy is at the heart of several legislative changes from the 2007 session.

House Bill 2478 authorizes the division to develop a consistent and uniform residential certificate of occupancy (C of O) requirement. A consistent C of O requirement offers predictability to builders, local governments, and homeowners.

HB 2478 also establishes authority for consistent building fee methodology and forms, including permits, throughout the state. Many contractors in Oregon work in multiple jurisdictions and will benefit from consistency and predictability from jurisdiction to jurisdiction in fees and forms. This fee and form initiative is also a major part of implementing the expanded services of the ePermitting program.

### Consumer Protection through Compliance

Senate Bill 192 provided the division with a number of new enforcement tools that should help ensure contractor accountability. The division gained enhanced authority to suspend or deny a license to individuals or businesses that have a history of violations. Additionally, SB 192 provides new tools to prevent contractors that have had this license revoked from simply opening a new business under a different name. The bill also aligns the enforcement actions of the division with the Construction Contractors Board so when BCD acts against a license, the CCB can follow suit and vice versa.

The division is also attempting to align the administrative provisions of the various adopted specialty codes. Currently, each adopted code has its own set of administrative provisions. By aligning the administrative provisions of all the codes, the division hopes to improve compliance enforcement efforts among the various programs.

Construction is a fast-paced industry that is always changing. The division, local governments, and the construction industry must all be prepared to evolve to meet the demands of constant change. As we continue to pursue consistency, ensure compliance, and provide good customer service, we will meet those demands and keep Oregon open for business. ■

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# Green building is here to stay

by Richard P. Weiland, CEO, International Code Council (ICC)



Green building isn't just a trend that will fade in a few years. According to the World Resources Institute, the green building sector is worth \$38 billion and growing. Strong, durable homes that are safe and affordable have a smaller impact on the world's limited resources. Like building hurricane-resistant homes, energy efficient, green homes may cost more upfront, but environmentally-friendly construction saves money in the long run by reducing energy use. A 2004 nationwide study conducted by the research and consulting firm Capital E found that the additional cost for building green was about \$4-5 per square foot and – over 20 years – would result in energy-related savings of about 10 times the value of the initial investment – as much as \$65 per square foot.

As I travel around the country meeting with colleagues, I'm seeing green building practices in place everywhere. From schools in White Plains to public buildings in Rochester to skyscrapers in New York City, the public is asking for environmentally friendly construction and builders are responding. The International Code Council is responding as well.

The International Code Council Board of Directors recently approved a policy position on Green Building and Sustainable Communities to emphasize the Code Council's commitment to social responsibility and expand the boundaries of public safety. Building safety professionals and others in the construction industry can have a positive impact on the environment by advocating for sustainable construction and promoting the environmentally friendly features of the International Codes. The policy outlines several initiatives to support green building, including educating our members on green building and advocating for green building in the legislative, regulatory and code arenas. This policy reinforces the Council's commitment to the environment and assures that our members play an important role on matters related to green building. The policy calls for the Code

Council to participate in activities with other organizations to assure green building practices are sustainable and safe. Such an effort is already underway through a partnership with the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB).

The Code Council and NAHB have joined forces to develop the first-ever residential National Green Building Standard. The standard will make it even easier for builders to adapt to green building methods, techniques and materials. It also will help code officials and building safety professionals better understand green building features and ensure that such practices are sustainable, safe and affordable. By developing the National Green Building Standard and including green and sustainable construction methods in the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), jurisdictions that join the green building movement will have these tools at the ready; builders, designers, contractors and building officials all will benefit. The standard is being developed under ANSI (American National Standards Institute) guidelines and is expected to be completed in late 2008. The result will be a voluntary green home building standard that can be adopted by local jurisdictions or building departments as a guide for green home building programs.

Green building features include sustainable, durable and low maintenance building design and operation, energy and water efficiency, attention to indoor and outdoor air quality, the use of recycling and conservation in building materials and products, and many more practices. Many of these building methods and techniques are included in the IECC, which has been adopted by at least 15,000 jurisdictions in 38 states, including New York State and New York City. The IECC addresses energy-efficient provisions for residential and commercial buildings, and prescriptive- and performance-based approaches to energy-efficient design.

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The U.S. Department of Energy references the IECC as the benchmark for conserving resources used in construction and daily living. The compatibility of the I-Codes with green building, combined with the energy-efficient features found in the IECC and the National Green Building Standard under development with NAHB all illustrate the International Code Council's support of green building.

In a report issued to the International Code Council Industry Advisory Committee by the Task Group on Green Buildings, it concluded that there were very few, if any, serious barriers in the I-Codes that would inhibit green building techniques and methods. As interested parties get involved in the code change process and submit code changes, many green and sustainable materials and methods will be included in the codes. This will further complement the National Green Building Standard and other green building standards in place and being developed around the country.

The Code Council has “gone green” as well, recently relocating the organization's world headquarters to the first LEED-certified (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) building in Washington, D.C. Its green features include energy efficiency, rainwater collection, high-efficiency heating, cooling and lighting, water-efficient fixtures and water-less urinals, excellent day-lighting, and use of recycled content materials. This move fits in perfectly with the Code Council's mission of safeguarding the public and demonstrates our commitment to good corporate citizenship.

An initiative underway in all of our offices commits the Code Council to help save energy,

reduce landfill waste, take advantage of recycled products and reduce other wasteful habits that are detrimental to the environment. Our “Going Green” initiative will begin with Sustainable Workplace Advocate Teams (SWAT) in each office to coordinate being green and sustainable. The SWATs will explore ideas such as recycling cans, water bottles and paper; using compact fluorescent lamps in place of incandescent lamps; eliminating simultaneous heating and cooling in offices; selecting products such as paper, furniture and carpet made from recycled materials; installing low-consumption plumbing fixtures; and offering incentives to carpool.

It is the responsibility of the International Code Council and its members to make sure that green materials and methods undergo the same scrutiny and procedures that other code prescribed materials and methods have endured. The public health, safety and general welfare must be safeguarded for green buildings, just as it is for all other buildings. The International Code Council has made a corporate commitment to respect the environment. Green technology is playing an important role in our collective future—not just in the United States but around the world.

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# Regional roundup



Passage of Senate Bill 421 in the 2005 Legislature enhanced the Building Code Division's presence around the state. At the bill's direction, the division placed staff members in areas around the state with an emphasis on outreach to building officials, contractors, and other construction stakeholders. BCD staff members work to promote code consistency by providing best practice guidelines, offering dispute resolution, and promoting e-permitting. Staff members also participate as regional members of the Governor's Economic Revitalization Team (ERT) to bring state agencies together at the local level to increase economic opportunity and to help local governments and business owners bring industrial sites to "shovel ready" status.

When fully staffed, the program will have five coordinators around the state. In the interim, Jerod Broadfoot is the Eastern Oregon coordinator (also assisting the Central region) and Michael Morter is working in the Valley/Mid-Coast area (also assisting in the Northwest and Southern regions).

## **Here is a roundup of regional activities:**

### Eastern

Recently the directors of the member agencies of the ERT toured the eastern region and met with local leaders. During these meetings, the local leaders, directors, and agency staff members talked about a number of issues and the agency directors were able to experience eastern Oregon. As a member of the ERT, BCD is working locally throughout the state to streamline the construction process.

In another effort as part of BCD's regional program, the division recently hosted an electrical program presentation in Pendleton. The presentation was provided as a proactive approach to working with contractors to identify and resolve potential inconsistencies with the application of the electrical code.

BCD's electrical chief, Dennis Clements, traveled from Salem and provided the presentation to about 25 electricians from the eastern region. As part of the class, BCD also gave four hours of code-related continuing education credit to those in attendance. BCD will continue to work with local contractors to proactively address issues.

### Central

Since July 1, 2007, the Mid-Columbia Council of Governments (MCCOG) has been administering the building program in Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, and Wheeler counties. The counties assumed this program from the Building Codes Division as part of the statutory assumption process. Fees for the program have remained the same and feedback from customers has been positive. For more information please contact the MCCOG building department at (541) 298-4461.

### Northwest

As part of a regional ERT meeting in Columbia County, BCD staff members presented an overview of the Quick Permits system to county commissioners who expressed strong interest in the program. Projects of note in the area include significant industrial expansion around the Scappoose airport that is poised to serve as a regional hub for charter jet service.

### Valley/Mid-Coast

BCD staff members participated in a recent ERT meeting in Junction City where the community is planning two large state projects of note: a prison with a capacity of up to 2,000 inmates and a 360-bed mental hospital. Site work on the prison is slated for 2009 with occupancy starting in 2012, and construction of the state hospital is tentatively set to begin in 2013.

The meeting also provided an opportunity to engage the city in a discussion of Quick Permits, and BCD is working on a follow-up presentation.

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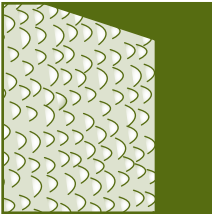
### Southern

In response to requests from the local ERT staff members and the Rogue Valley Council of Governments, the Building Codes Division provided background information on residential pre-fab housing. This included a site visit to a

new facility in Burlington, Wash., which was designed from the ground up to build residential pre-fab. The company, Transform LLC ([www.transform-llc.com](http://www.transform-llc.com)), uses robotics technology to build its wall assemblies. ■

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## Barrier-Type Exterior Insulation Finish Systems (EIFS) prohibited in Oregon



With Oregonians' health and safety in mind, the 2007 Legislature gave new attention to the EIFS barrier system by passing House Bill 2112. This law prohibits the use of barrier-type Exterior Insulation Finish Systems (EIFS), sometimes called "synthetic stucco," in both commercial and residential new construction.

All EIFS or "synthetic stucco" systems must now be installed with a waterproof membrane over the substrate and a drainage system to allow moisture to drain from behind the EIFS. Drainable systems consist of a waterproof membrane attached to the exterior wall and a drainage plane found between the fiberglass board and the waterproof membrane.

Remember, this is a requirement for both commercial and residential construction.

The law still allows barrier-type EIF Systems on existing installations for repairs or replacement. Contractors also may use them for architectural features that do not insulate or protect the building from water and as an exterior application on concrete or concrete masonry unit block walls.

Posters announcing the ban are available upon request. Please contact Sherri West, [sherri.d.west@state.or.us](mailto:sherri.d.west@state.or.us), 503-373-7509, for information. ■

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## New online: BCD enforcement final orders



This summer, the Building Codes Division began the process of posting all final enforcement orders to the enforcement section of its Web site. Final orders are issued at the end of an enforcement case and may assess civil penalties, order corrections of code violations, order a party to stop work on a project, or order other remedial measures.

Final orders are posted for most "closed" cases from 2005-2007. The division will update the site regularly. You can search the final orders by violator's name, by violation date, and by program area. The final orders

contain details about the facts of the case, the laws that were violated, and the penalties that were imposed.

While final orders are the end of the division's enforcement process, they are not always the final result in a case because final orders can be appealed to the Court of Appeals. During an appeal, a judge can adopt, amend, or overturn the agency's order. ■

# Code adoption update



## 2008 Oregon Residential Specialty Code

The Building Codes Division is updating the 2005 Oregon Residential Specialty Code (ORSC) to the recently published 2006 edition of the International Residential Code (IRC) with Oregon amendments. Oregon's current residential code is based on the 2003 IRC with Oregon amendments.

On Aug. 2, 2007, the Residential Code Review Committee completed its work reviewing existing Oregon amendments, new model code changes, and code amendment proposals for the structural and mechanical provisions. Archived copies of the meetings, code amendment proposals, and other committee information are posted on the division's Web site at [www.bcd.oregon.gov/committees/08orsc/codechanges.html](http://www.bcd.oregon.gov/committees/08orsc/codechanges.html).

The Residential Structures Board has completed its review of the code review committee's recommendations concerning the structural and mechanical portions of the residential code. A public hearing will be held Nov. 20, 2007. In December 2007, the board is scheduled to begin its review of the plumbing and electrical portions of the residential code. The 2008 ORSC is expected to go into effect April 1, 2008.

**Contact:** Richard Rogers, structural program chief, at (503) 378-4472 or send e-mail to [richard.rogers@state.or.us](mailto:richard.rogers@state.or.us).

## 2008 Oregon Electrical Specialty Code

The Building Codes Division is updating the 2005 Oregon Electrical Specialty Code (OESC) to the 2008 edition of the National Electrical Code (NEC). Oregon's current electrical specialty code is based on the 2005 edition of the NEC. The 2008 edition of the NEC became available to the public in mid-September.

On Sept. 14, 2007, the division opened the 45-day period for submitting code amendment proposals. Code amendment proposals will be accepted until Oct. 31, 2007. Proposals submitted after this time will not be considered. Code amendment proposal applications (form # 2652) are available on the division's Web site at [www.bcd.oregon.gov/pdf/2652.pdf](http://www.bcd.oregon.gov/pdf/2652.pdf).

The Electrical Code Review Committee has begun reviewing code amendment proposals. The code review committee expects to complete its work in November 2007. You can find additional information on the division's committees page at [www.cbs.state.or.us/bcd/boards.html#committees](http://www.cbs.state.or.us/bcd/boards.html#committees). The 2008 OESC is scheduled to become effective on April 1, 2008.

**Contact:** Dennis Clements, chief electrical inspector, at (503) 378-4459, or send e-mail to [dennis.l.clements@state.or.us](mailto:dennis.l.clements@state.or.us).

## 2008 Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code

The Building Codes Division is updating the 2005 Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code (OPSC) to the 2006 edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC). Oregon's current plumbing code is based on the 2003 UPC with Oregon amendments.

On Sept. 17, 2007, the Plumbing Code Review Committee completed its work reviewing existing Oregon amendments, new model code changes, and code amendment proposals. Archived copies of the meetings, code amendment proposals, and other committee information are posted on the division's Web site at [www.bcd.oregon.gov/committees/08ospc.html](http://www.bcd.oregon.gov/committees/08ospc.html).

On Oct. 12, 2007, the State Plumbing Board reviewed the code review committee's recommendations concerning the 2008 OPSC. A public hearing will be held on Jan. 15, 2008. The proposed effective date for adoption of the 2008 OPSC is April 1, 2008.

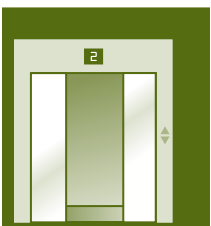
**Contact:** Terry Swisher, chief plumbing inspector, at (503) 373-7488, or send e-mail to [terry.l.swisher@state.or.us](mailto:terry.l.swisher@state.or.us). ■

# Code adoption timetable



Timetable	
August – October 2007	Boards review Oregon Residential Specialty Code (ORSC), Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code (OPSC)
Mid-September – October 2007	Accepting proposed code amendments – Oregon Electrical Specialty Code (OESC)
September – November 2007	Code Review Committee meets – OESC
November 2007	Rules hearing – ORSC
November 2007	Board review – OESC
January 2008	Rules hearing – ORSC, OPSC, OESC
January 2008	Publication and finalization of the codes – ORSC, OPSC, OESC
February 2008	Codes available to the public – ORSC, OPSC, OESC
April 2008	Effective date of the codes – ORSC, OPSC, OESC

## Elevators in residences: Make sure they are inspected!



After its first installation and inspection, an elevator in a home is not required to have further safety inspections. Consequently, for safety's sake, it is important to make sure that an elevator in a home was inspected when it was installed.

Before you start work on an elevator in a home, make sure that the elevator has been inspected by looking for the "silver tag" issued by the

elevator inspector showing the elevator has passed its installation inspection. These tags have an "elevator number" and are usually placed next to the elevator's electrical disconnect. If you do not see a silver tag, contact Fran Thomas, elevator program technical support staff, at: (503) 373-7159 or [frances.d.thomas@state.or.us](mailto:frances.d.thomas@state.or.us), to determine if the elevator has been inspected. ■

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## Permanent rule notices



### HB 2405 statewide e-permitting system surcharge rule

**Effective date:** Jan. 1, 2008

**Purpose:** This rule implements part of House Bill 2405 (2007), which requires the division to develop and administer a statewide e-permitting system for building permits. HB 2405 funded the e-permitting system by allowing a 5 percent surcharge on permits and the flexibility to set a lower surcharge. This rule establishes a lower surcharge than the permissible statutory 5 percent surcharge on building permits imposed under HB 2405 to support the statewide e-permitting system.

**Citation(s):** OAR 918-050-0800.

**Contact:** Richard Baumann, policy analyst, (503) 373-7559, or [richard.j.baumann@state.or.us](mailto:richard.j.baumann@state.or.us).

### SB 193 implementation rules

**Effective date:** Jan. 1, 2008

**Purpose:** These rules clarify definitions and distinguish permit types in the boiler safety program's rules based on changes made in Senate Bill 193 (2007).

**Citation(s):** OAR 918-225-0240; 918-225-0600; and 918-225-0610

**Contact:** Mike Graham, chief boiler inspector, [mike.d.graham@state.or.us](mailto:mike.d.graham@state.or.us), (503) 559-0843. ■

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## Temporary rule notices

### Installation of manufactured dwellings in floodways' rule

**Effective date:** Aug. 20, 2007

**Expiration date:** Feb. 14, 2008

**Purpose:** This temporary rule amends the 2002 Manufactured Dwelling and Parks Specialty Code, allowing manufactured dwellings to be

installed in floodways at the discretion of the local municipality, making it consistent with the federal code.

**Citation(s):** OAR 918-500-0021.

**Contact:** If you have questions or need further information, please contact the Manufactured Structures Chief, Albert Endres, at (503) 378-5975 or [albert.g.endres@state.or.us](mailto:albert.g.endres@state.or.us). ■

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## Confirmation of executive appointments



### The Board of Boiler Rules (ORS 480.535)

Edward Pitzrick, Sandy  
(Insurance)

Appointment of a four-year term  
Term: Oct. 1, 2007 – Sept. 30, 2011

### Plumbing Board, State (ORS 693.115)

Rick Bosch, Portland  
(Plumbing business)

Appointment of a four-year term  
Term: Oct. 1, 2007 – Sept. 30, 2011

### Building Codes Structures Board (ORS 455.132 & 144)

Thomas Sjostrom, Portland  
(Owner/manager of commercial office building)

Appointment of an unexpired four-year term  
Term: Oct. 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008 ■

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# Information about the NLEA form for prefabricated construction



The Notice to Local Enforcement Agency (NLEA) is explained in Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 918-674-0055. When an unfinished prefabricated structure is shipped to a site in a local jurisdiction, BCD will complete the NLEA form and provide it to the local jurisdiction. The definition of incomplete structure is found in OAR 918-674-0005. For prefabricated structures that will be completed on site, the manufacturer must provide a set of BCD-approved plans showing the work to be completed.

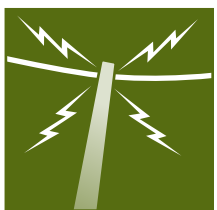
Oregon Administrative Rules OAR 918-674-0015 (5) explains what the local jurisdiction needs to do. A jurisdiction's responsibilities include making sure the structure meets the fire-resistive requirements in the Oregon Structural Specialty Code or the Oregon Residential Specialty Code. Another requirement is to review plans, issue permits, and perform site-specific inspections for accessibility, geographic, geologic, or climatic code requirements affecting the prefabricated structure.

Occasionally BCD receives inquiries asking what to inspect and what to charge for the placement of a prefabricated structure. The installation process is similar to placing a manufactured home. Jurisdictions are responsible for foundation permits and inspections. You can find information about foundations in OAR 918-674-0038. Some jurisdictions use the manufactured home fee structure to compute charges for prefabricated structures, since this fee structure is already in place for manufactured homes.

For more information contact Jack Abernathy, plans examiner and assistant building official, at [jack.w.abernathy@state.or.us](mailto:jack.w.abernathy@state.or.us), (503) 378-2833. ■

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## Incident sparks concern about overhead line safety



A recent incident on the property of Tillamook People's Utility District (TPUD) has highlighted an area of concern for the staff at the Oregon Public Utility Commission's (OPUC) Safety and Reliability Section. Specifically, a customer in TPUD's service area applied for, and was granted, a building permit for a two-story, single-family structure. During the initial construction phase, while pouring the foundation, the operator of the concrete pumper discovered the "hard way" that an energized primary power line was directly overhead.

The pumper made direct enough contact that the tires were burned off his truck, yet the circuit never relayed. Because the customer had elected to provide power to the construction company via a generator, rather than a temporary electrical service, the first inkling

for TPUD that an incident had occurred came when the owner of the pumper truck attempted to submit a claim for his tires.

To protect those working near overhead power lines from accidental contact, the Oregon Legislature passed into law the High Voltage Overhead Line Safety Act in 1989. The law provides that no work activities take place within 10 feet of a high voltage overhead power line until the following two requirements are met:

1. The responsible party must notify the utility operating the line of the intended work activity.
2. The responsible party and the utility must complete mutually satisfactory precautions for the activity.

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By establishing restricted space, one might think that the problem is solved. In most new subdivisions, utility facilities are typically underground. The proximity issue typically arises during construction on individual pieces of property, usually in rural areas, with a pre-existing overhead high voltage power line. If the new building is sited in, or very near the utility right-of-way, the stage is set for another incident and is compounded if the planned structure is multi-story. With any multi-story structure, the workers and their equipment may easily encroach into the restricted space during construction, even though the structure itself may not.

We were very lucky to have avoided a serious, potentially fatal, accident in the incident described above. Oregon Public Utility Commission's (OPUC) Safety and Reliability Section is concerned about the issue and is discussing methods to avoid future incidents.

Primary among those is to alert local permitting authorities of this issue and ask that they take a closer, more three-dimensional look at planned new construction, particularly when it involves a multi-story structure. We also believe it would be very helpful to develop a continuing line of communication with local power companies regarding new construction within their service areas.

Contractors, remember to contact the local electric utility before beginning a project that is located near overhead lines, they. If it is not clear which utility operates the power lines in question, any utility will be able to help. Make your work activities as safe as possible by being aware of the requirements listed in the High Voltage Overhead Line Safety Act (ORS 757.805).

For more information contact John Wallace, Public Utility Commission-Safety and Reliability section, (503) 373-1016, [john.wallace@state.or.us](mailto:john.wallace@state.or.us). ■

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## The enforcement program at BCD: a presence in the field



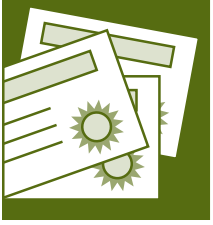
In an effort to make enforcement a top priority, the Building Codes Division has been conducting site checks and enforcement "sweeps" regularly. Enforcement officers are spending two or three days a month in different parts of the state. In the past three months, site checks from Pendleton to Happy Valley, from Salem to Lincoln City, and from Boardman to Springfield have occurred randomly. And in a collaborative effort with industry, BCD has provided training and ticketing authority to two NECA-employed licensing enforcement specialists who are checking electrical licenses in Eugene and Medford.

BCD is also teaming up with other state agencies, including the Construction Contractors Board, Department of Revenue, Bureau of Labor and Industry, DCBS' Workers' Compensation Division, and the Employment Division, to conduct construction site "sweeps" in locations such as Bend, Portland, and the North Coast.

All this work out in the field is yielding results: In the past year, BCD's enforcement section has investigated close to 400 cases and assessed more than \$350,000 in civil penalties. Through these efforts, BCD is sending the message that its enforcement team is a licensing compliance and building safety force throughout the state. ■

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# Law changes are keeping the BCD's licensing program busy



The Building Codes Division's licensing program is stirring with activity these days. The 2007 Legislature passed several bills that affect boiler, electrical, elevator, and plumbing licenses. Several committees are meeting and drafting rules.

There are three major changes to electrical licensing:

- Removal of four unused licenses from the Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR). The licenses being removed are for class I and class II oil module electrician; limited journeyman industrial electrician; limited journeyman sign electrician; and limited sign service electrician.
- Decrease in apprenticeship terms for limited journeyman stage and sign electrician, and the class A limited energy technician licenses. A new law reduces the apprenticeship terms from a four-year program to a two-year program, with the exception of the Class A limited energy technician, which will move from a four-year program to a three-year program.
- Clarification of the scope of the limited maintenance electrician license. The law clarifies that a limited maintenance electrician may maintain, repair, and replace

installations on systems of less than 600 volts, unless the permit is for work in an industrial plant. All of the changes in the OARs dealing with these electrical issues will be discussed at the Nov. 19, 2007 rulemaking hearing.

The biggest change to boiler licenses is the implementation of a three-year license on the next renewal date. Boiler applicants who need to test will begin using the open book test before the end of the year.

Applicants testing for plumbing licenses will no longer have to take the practical exam after Jan. 1, 2008.

There are two new elevator licenses: the Reciprocating Conveyor Mechanic license and the Restricted Reciprocating Conveyor Mechanic license. The Building Codes Division and committees have been working out the details for these new licenses, which will be relayed at a November rulemaking hearing. For more information on the committees working on these new licenses, please go to <http://www.cbs.state.or.us/bcd/committees/hb2548.html#nam>.

For more information on all of these changes, please visit the BCD Web site at [www.bcd.oregon.gov](http://www.bcd.oregon.gov). ■

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## BCD enhances Minor Label Program Web Site



Purchasing minor label permits online is about to get easier. BCD is launching the newest version of the Minor Label Program Web site. Both contractors and building departments should be pleased with the amazing capabilities this new and improved Web site has to offer.

Minor labels are inexpensive permits for minor electrical and plumbing, residential and commercial installations. For example, you can use minor label permits to put in light switches or install residential water heaters. Licensed

contractors buy a "lot" of 10 labels, of which one is inspected. Contractors may use the labels for installations anywhere in the state.

The updated online system is secure, and all financial transactions are encrypted. Contractors can keep track of their purchases with ease. From the main menu of an online account, registered users can access their payment and purchase history; keep track of the details of the minor label permits they have

*Continued on Page 13*

purchased once they enter the information (i.e., contractor installation information, including the work description); find a list of all completed inspections for an account; and the new label installation record instead of the log sheet.

Building departments will be amazed at the record-keeping abilities of the new software. Faxing inspection requests and results and storing all of the related paperwork will be a thing of the past — this information will be right at their fingertips. Building departments will have online access to all of the steps taken with a specific inspection, from request through completion. The system will also keep track of inspection billing records.

Another benefit that everyone using the system should appreciate is the new two-part label. After receiving your order, the Building Codes Division will preprint the labels with the business name, license number, label expiration date, and space to enter the work performed. The second, smaller tear-off portion of the label displays only the label number and can be placed on a work order, removing the need for installers to fill out some of that time-consuming paperwork. Consumers, inspectors,

and contractors can enter the label number into the new system, and information on that particular label will appear on the screen.

BCD will be converting the records from the old edition of the Minor Label Program to the new edition of the Web site soon. All licensed contractors who have purchased minor labels in the past year will receive a letter in the mail with directions on how to activate their new online account. It does not matter if they have never used the online purchasing system before. Besides the instructions for logging into the new system, contractors will receive a PIN number they can use along with their contractor license number to access their account page. If a contractor decides not to use the online system, there will be a new log sheet to fill in similar to the form they use now.

In addition to improved record keeping and accessibility, the new system will allow contractors to apply online and order their first set of labels all at the same time. The changes should make everyone's job easier. ■

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## Code interpretation



BCD issues code interpretations, site-specific interpretations, and alternate method rulings to clarify code requirements and to help ensure the consistent application of code throughout Oregon. A complete listing of code interpretations is available on the division's Web site by going to "Interpretations" from the home page.

### 2007 Oregon Structural Specialty Code (OSSC)

**Code Section:** 3405.1

**Code Edition:** 2004 and 2007 for OSSC's and 2002 and 2005 for ASCE Standard 7.

**Date:** July 20, 2007

### Question:

When replacing glazing in existing buildings, does the framed opening have to be altered to meet current code requirements for emergency egress?

### Answer:

No.

### Analysis:

Section 3403.1 Existing building or structures states: "Portions of the structure not altered and not affected by the alteration are not required to comply with the code requirements for a new structure."

*Continued on Page 14*



Removing an existing fenestration and replacing it with a new one that is the same size does not require an alteration to the framed opening, nor does it affect the structure.

However, the new fenestration must meet current code requirements which are:

1) Section 3405.1 states: "The installation or replacement of glass shall be as required for new installations." (Note that this is specific to glass requirements and not framed opening requirements.)

2) Section 1307.1.3.2 Existing buildings states: "New windows shall have a maximum U-factor of 0.40."

**Contact:**

Shane Sumption, code specialist,  
shane.r.sumption@state.or.us, (503) 378-4635

**Oregon Structural Specialty Code (OSSC)**

**Code Section:** 1019.2

**Code Edition:** 2007 OSSC

**Date:** Sept. 18, 2007

**Subject:** Stories with One Exit

**Question:**

Is the intent of OSSC section 1019.2 to regulate buildings with one exit or stories with one exit?

**Answer:**

The intent of this section is to regulate stories with one exit.

**Discussion:**

The charging language for section 1019 is found in section 1019.1 and states in part that; "All rooms and spaces within each story shall be provided with and have access to the minimum number of approved independent exits required by Table 1019.1 based on the occupant load of the story, except as modified in Section 1015.1 or 1019.2. The required number of exits from any story, basement or individual space shall be maintained until arrival at grade or the public way."

When section 1019.2 is applied without the scoping guidance of 1019.1, it may be concluded that multiple exits are required from a second story based solely on the occupant load of the first story. However, recent code changes to the 2009 International Building Code have helped clarify the intent. The first changes the title of section 1019.2 from "Buildings with one exit" to "Stories with one exit." The second code modification makes the same change to Table 1019.2. The ICC Means of Egress Committee provided the following reason in support of the code change:

"The proposal clarifies the intent of the code. The charging statement in 1019.1 states that every story has two exits. The proposal carries on with that and references stories again versus the entire building. The proposal will allow for small 2nd floors or basements that meet the travel distance over a much larger 1st floor to have single exits." (et al)

It should also be noted that section 1015.1, as referenced above, is only applicable to "spaces" and not to entire "buildings" or "stories."

Richard S. Rogers, Structural Program chief,  
richard.rogers@state.or.us, (503) 378-4472 ■

The Board of Boiler Rules found the following violations of the Oregon Boiler Safety Laws in June 2007:

CITY	NAME	VIOLATION	PENALTY
Beaverton	Chris J. Harper	No boiler/pressure vessel individual certification	\$1,000
Oregon City	Ray E. Edgington	No boiler/pressure vessel individual certification	\$1,000
Ontario	Heinz Mechanical Inc.	No boiler/pressure vessel installation permit (2 violations)	\$2,000
Beaverton	Gene A. Knupp	No boiler/pressure vessel individual certification	\$1,000
Oregon City	David C. Austin	No boiler/pressure vessel individual certification	\$1,000
Troutdale	Warren Plumbing & Remodel Inc.	No boiler/pressure vessel business license, no boiler/pressure vessel installation permit	\$2,000
Oregon City	G. H. McCulloch Inc.	Employed individual without proper certification to make installation. (3 violations)	\$3,000
Beaverton	American Residential Services LLC	No boiler/pressure vessel business license, no boiler/pressure vessel installation permit	\$2,000

The Electrical and Elevator Board found the following violations of the Oregon Electrical Safety Laws in July 2007:

CITY	NAME	VIOLATION	PENALTY
Beaverton	Precision Electric of Washington Inc.	Allowed unlicensed individual to make electrical installation, electrical contractor failing to ensure all work was made by or under supervision of full-time signing supervising electrician	\$2,000
Lake Oswego	Eric Weaver	No supervising or journeyman's license, unsafe installation	\$2,000
Corvallis	James B. Cates Jr.	No supervising or journeyman's license	\$3,000
Corvallis	Federal Security Inc.	No electrical contractor's license	\$5,000
Oceanside	Larson High Technology Services LLC	Allowed unlicensed individual to make electrical installation, no electrical contractor's license	\$2,000
Eugene	Stephen J. Kern	No supervising or journeyman's license	\$1,000
Eugene	Del-J Inc.	Allowed unlicensed individual to make electrical installation	\$1,000
LaGrande	Sign Service & Mfg Inc.	No electrical contractor's license, no electrical permit	\$2,000
Hood River	Claudia Landchild	No electrical contractor's license, no electrical permit, no supervising or journeyman's license, unsafe installation	\$4,000

Continued on Page 16

McMinnville.....	Craig A. Williams .....	As supervising electrician, failed .....	\$1,000
		to ensure individuals had proper licenses to make electrical installation	
Gresham.....	Jimmy R. Kelly Jr, .....	No supervising or journeyman's license .....	\$1,000
Gresham.....	The Jemm Corporation .....	Allowed unlicensed individual to .....	\$3,000
		make electrical installation, no electrical contractor's license, no electrical permit	
Tangent.....	Ajay Equipment..... Corp.	Installed or altered elevator .....	\$2,000
		without prior plan approval, no elevator contractor's license	
Portland .....	Robert Lockett, Lockett .....	No electrical contractor's .....	\$3,000
	Company	license, no electrical permit, no supervising or journeyman's license	
Gresham.....	Mark P. Lee .....	As supervising electrician, failed .....	\$14,000
		to ensure individuals had proper licenses to make electrical installation (4 violations), as supervising electrician, failed to ensure permit was obtained	
Salem .....	David E. Greer, MD & D .....	Aided or abetted any other person .....	\$3,000
	Construction Inc.	to engage in activity which requires a permit or license, allowed unlicensed individual to make electrical installation, violated a final order	
McMinnville.....	Stanislav V. Bakanov .....	Allowed unlicensed individual.....	\$1,000
	SIBCO Electric	to make electrical installation	
Willamina.....	Dickie A. Comstock .....	As signing supervising electrician, .....	\$3,000
		failed to comply with a corrective notice.	
Salem .....	Michael Nonnenmacher, .....	No electrical contractor's permit, .....	\$3,000
	Farwest license, no electrical Fix-It Troubleshoot &	no supervising or journeyman's license	
Salem .....	Walter E. Steinbrook, aka .....	Allowed unlicensed individual.....	\$25,000
	Rick Steinbrook	to make electrical installation, directing, making or controlling the making of an electrical installation without a supervising electrician's license, no electrical contractor's license, no electrical permit, no supervising or journeyman's license	
Silverton .....	Thomas . Williams, Tom .....	No electrical contractor's license, .....	\$2,000
	"The Tool Man" Home	no electrical improvements permit, no supervising or journeyman's license	
Oregon City .....	GAW Electric Inc.....	Allowed unlicensed individual.....	\$1,000
		to make electrical installation	
Oceanside .....	Daniel L. Larson.....	No supervising or journeyman's license .....	\$1,000
Oregon City .....	Henry W. Penselin .....	As supervising electrician, failed .....	\$1,000
		to ensure individuals had proper licenses to make electrical installation	
Eugene .....	Paul M. Oestreich .....	As supervising electrician, failed .....	\$1,000
		to ensure individuals had proper licenses to make electrical installation	

*Continued on Page 17*

The director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services found the following violations of the Oregon Specialty Codes in June - August 2007:

CITY	NAME	VIOLATION	PENALTY
Ontario.....	Tobby A. Stoltz.....	Failed to comply with final order .....	\$5,000
Portland.....	Euro Plumbing Inc.....	No permit in a residential structure.....	\$2,000
Salem .....	Dickie A. Comstock .....	Failed to comply with final order .....	\$1,000
Silverton .....	Thomas P. Williams, Tom .....	No permit in a residential structure (double.....	\$0
	“The Tool Man” Home Improvements	permit fee assessed by local jurisdiction)	
Lake Oswego .....	Shawn R. Hetrick, Shawn .....	No permit in a residential structure.....	\$1,000
	Hetrick Construction		

The Plumbing Board found the following violations of the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Codes in June and June 2007:

CITY	NAME	VIOLATION	PENALTY
Lake Oswego .....	Shawn R. Hetrick, .....	No journeyman plumber’s license,.....	\$2,000
	Shawn Hetrick Construction	no plumbing business license	
Newport.....	Newport Plumbing Inc.....	Allowing unlicensed individuals .....	\$3,000
		to make plumbing installations (2 violations), no plumbing permit	
Hermiston .....	Erick Iniguez .....	No journeyman plumber’s license.....	\$1,000
Hermiston .....	Precision Plumbing &.....	Allowing unlicensed individuals to .....	\$1,000
	Supply Inc.	make plumbing installations	
Newport.....	Daniel K. Jones.....	No journeyman plumber’s license.....	\$1,000
Salem .....	Rickey Byrd.....	No journeyman plumber’s license,.....	\$2,000
		no plumbing business license	

## SB 192 gives BCD new enforcement tools

Effective Jan. 1, 2008, a new bill passed during the 2007 legislative session strengthens the enforcement authority of the Building Codes Division and the various licensing boards (electrical, elevator, plumbing, and boiler) that work with the division to ensure the safety of construction work in Oregon. Senate Bill 192 allows the division or a board to deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew a license issued by the division for:

- Construction-related violations that lead to sanction by the Construction Contractors Board (CCB) or failure to pay civil penalties imposed by CCB

- Construction-related violations in another state or failure to pay civil penalties imposed by another state
- Violation of any building code law (i.e. sanitation or sewage standards etc.)

This bill provides that sanctions the division imposes by may provide grounds for sanction by CCB. SB 192 also clarifies that aiding or abetting an individual in the violation of building code laws is prohibited under state law (i.e., someone allowing an individual to work without a required license or condoning the forgery of legal documents). In addition, this legislation expands the prohibition against employing unlicensed boiler workers to perform work on boilers. ■

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# 2007 Electrical program presentations



The BCD electrical chief presents information on Rule and Law, Grounding and Bonding, Wiring Methods, and Common Misconceptions Parts I, II, and III at various locations throughout the state. Here is an upcoming schedule.

## **Ashland**

**Date:** Thursday, Nov 1

**Time:** 1 p.m.- 5 p.m.

**Location:**

City of Ashland, Community

Development Center

51 Winburn Way

Ashland, OR 97520

Mike Broomfield, (541) 488-5309

**Subject:** Rule and Law, Wiring Methods,  
Common Misconceptions, Part III

**Contact:** Dennis Clements, chief electrical  
inspector, (503) 378-4459

**Hosts:** City of Ashland

## **Tri county**

**Date:** Tuesday, Nov 13

**Time:** 4 p.m.- 8 p.m.

**Location:**

Multnomah County Office Building

501 SE Hawthorne Ave.

Portland, OR 97232

**Subject:** Rule and Law, Wiring Methods,  
Common Misconceptions, Part III

**Contact:** Dennis Clements, chief electrical  
inspector, (503) 378-4459

**Hosts:** IBEW, IEC ■

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# Four percent surcharge effective Jan. 1



**Beginning Jan. 1, 2008, the surcharge on all permit fees and hourly inspection rates will increase by 4 percent.\*\***

In 2007, the Oregon Legislature passed HB 2405, which directed the Department of Consumer and Business Services to establish a one-stop, integrated, full-service, statewide electronic permitting (ePermitting) system to be made available to contractors and businesses in jurisdictions across Oregon. The system will streamline the current permitting and plan review processes used by the 130 local jurisdictions that issue thousands of permits annually.

The 4 percent increase in the surcharge will defray the costs of developing and administering the Statewide ePermitting System. The system will allow customers to apply, pay, and receive permits online; submit plans electronically for review and tracking; and schedule, track, and receive inspection reports electronically.

\*\* Local government building programs shall collect and remit the surcharge increase in the same manner used by the jurisdiction for submitting the current state surcharge.

# 2007/2008 BCD board meeting dates

Sun	Mon
1	2
8	9

## ELECTRICAL & ELEVATOR BOARD

Meets fourth Thursday of every other month:

- Nov. 29
- Jan. 24
- March 27
- May 22
- July 24
- Sept. 25
- Nov. 27

## BOARD OF BOILER RULES

Meets first Tuesday of the 3rd, 6th, 9th, and 12th months:

- Dec. 4
- March 4
- June 3
- Sept. 9
- Dec. 2

## BUILDING CODES STRUCTURES BOARD

Meets first Wednesday of the 2nd, 5th, 8th, and 11th months:

- Nov. 7
- Feb. 6
- May 7
- Aug. 6
- Nov. 5

## MECHANICAL BOARD

Meets first Wednesday of the 3rd, 6th, 9th, and 12th months:

- Oct. 17
- Dec. 5
- March 5
- June 4
- Sept. 10
- Dec. 3

## STATE PLUMBING BOARD

Meets third Friday of every other month:

- Oct. 12
- Dec. 14
- Feb. 15
- April 18
- June 20
- Aug. 15
- Oct. 17
- Dec. 19

## MANUFACTURED STRUCTURES & PARKS ADVISORY BOARD

Meets twice a year:

- March 13
- Sept. 11

## RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES BOARD

Meets first Wednesday of each quarter:

- Dec. 11
- Jan. 9
- April 2
- July 2
- Oct. 1

MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE BCD CONFERENCE ROOM AT 1535 EDGEWATER ST. NW, SALEM

Meetings begin at 9:30 a.m. Meetings may be canceled or rescheduled.

This calendar reflects adjustments to the regular meeting schedule to accommodate for holidays.

All board information is posted on the BCD Web site: [www.bcd.oregon.gov/boards.html](http://www.bcd.oregon.gov/boards.html).

# BCD improves video streaming capabilities



To provide Oregonians better access to public proceedings, BCD launched a new video streaming program in January 2007. Video streaming allows the public to “virtually” attend public board meetings, committee meetings, and rule making hearings by viewing the proceedings live over the Web.

Video streaming of BCD board and committee meetings has become popular as a source of information and citizen participation. BCD is expanding this effort by adding the ability for guest presenters to show PowerPoint presentations on the live broadcast. Before the days of Web cast streaming, any person wishing to testify or provide public comment was asked to provide 20 hole-punched copies of any written material so committee or board members and the audience would have access to it, and the material could become a part of the permanent record. Although this standard is still in place, now, through the use of the new video streaming equipment, BCD has discovered we are able to display simple

PowerPoint presentations on a screen in BCD Conference Room A, and on the live broadcast. Whatever is included in a meeting that is broadcast live on the Internet becomes the permanent record of the meeting.

There are some limitations to this new method of presenting materials. For network and equipment security, non-division hardware and software cannot be used for presentation purposes. The system does not have the capacity to broadcast a video presentation or a PowerPoint presentation with sound. Also, the system uses only one camera selection at a time, so the audience can see only the presenter or the PowerPoint presentation at one time.

Anyone interested in using the new PowerPoint capabilities should contact Debi Woods, [debra.j.woods@state.or.us](mailto:debra.j.woods@state.or.us), for more information. ■



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