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6. Application of the NFPA 13R sprinkler system.
7. Design and use of assembly occupancies on building roofs.

Changes noted as “Increase” are important and will impact specific requirements within the building. Major changes in this category include:

1. Requirements for a secondary sprinkler water supply in Seismic Design Category C, D, E, or F.
2. New requirements for opening protective glazing.
3. Use of limited area sprinkler systems.
4. Requirements for alarm systems in college and university buildings.

The changes noted as having cost implication of “None” or “Unknown” need special attention because they will impact the building design and could have an impact on specific provisions in the code. Major changes here include:

1. Revision to requirements on dampers protecting ceiling membrane.
2. Use of cross-laminated and fire-resistant lumber.
3. Location of smoke alarms near kitchens and bathrooms.
4. Use of smoke detection systems as alternative to providing smoke alarms.
5. Measurement of exit and exit access configuration.

One additional note: Special awareness should be given to any attempts to adopt Appendix L – Fire Fighter Air Replenishment Systems and Appendix M – High-Rise Retro Active Installation of Automatic Sprinkler Systems. Appendix items are not part of the code unless they are specifically included during the code adoption process.

Designers and builders need to consult the 2015 ICC codes that are not listed for changes that may be of concern to specific projects.

Important Changes to the 2015 IBC			
<i>Section(s) and Issue(s)</i>	<i>Type of Change</i>	<i>Cost Implication</i>	<i>Comment</i>
IBC 202 Definition of “Private Garage,” 406.3.1 “Classification,” 406.3.2 “Clear Height”	Major Change	Decrease	Private garages are no longer limited to a maximum of 3,000 sq. ft. in a building. Multiple private garages, each a maximum of 1,000 sq. ft., each separated by one-hour fire barriers or horizontal assemblies are now permitted based on their U occupancy

Important Changes to the 2015 IBC (cont'd)			
<i>Section(s) and Issue(s)</i>	<i>Type of Change</i>	<i>Cost Implication</i>	<i>Comment</i>
IBC 705.6 "Exterior Wall-Structural Stability"	Major Change	Decrease	Exterior fire-rated walls that are braced by floor or roof assemblies that have a lesser fire resistance rating are now permitted. Previous editions of the IBC Code required Construction Type III buildings with two -hour fire-rated exterior walls to have floors that support the two-hour fire-rated exterior walls to be upgraded to the two-hour fire rating. This is a major cost since apartment buildings built

Important Changes to the 2015 IBC (cont'd)			
<i>Section(s) and Issue(s)</i>	<i>Type of Change</i>	<i>Cost Implication</i>	<i>Comment</i>
IBC 1016.2(1) "Egress through Intervening Spaces," 3006.4 Means of Egress"	New Provision	Decrease	Exit access is permitted through an enclosed elevator lobby that leads to at least one of the required exits. Exit access to not less than one of the other

Important Changes to the 2015 IBC (cont'd)			
<i>Section(s) and Issue(s)</i>	<i>Type of Change</i>	<i>Cost Implication</i>	<i>Comment</i>
IBC 907.2.11.3 and 907.2.11.4 "Single and Multiple-Station Smoke Alarms Near Cooking Appliances"	New Provision - Correlation	None	

Important Changes to the 2015 IBC (cont'd)			
<i>Section(s) and Issue(s)</i>	<i>Type of Change</i>	<i>Cost Implication</i>	<i>Comment</i>
IBC 1405.3 "Vapor Retarders"	Revised	None	Requirements for vapor retarders have been modified. In Climate Zones 1 and 2, Class I and II vapor retarders are not permitted on the interior side of frame walls. In Climate Zones 3 and 4, Class I vapor retarders are not permitted on the interior of frame walls. Class III vapor retarders are required in specific locations.
IBC 3104.5 Connections of Pedestrian Walkway to Buildings"	Makes Code More User Friendly	None	Revised, reformatted section with no intended changes to the existing requirements.
IBC Section 3006 "Elevator Lobbies and Hoistway Opening Protection	New Section with Relocated Requirements	None	The elevator lobby requirements that were located in 2012 IBC Section 713.14.1 were reformatted and relocated into newly creat

Important Changes to the 2015 IBC (cont'd)			
<i>Section(s) and Issue(s)</i>	<i>Type of Change</i>	<i>Cost Implication</i>	<i>Comment</i>
IBC 907.2.9.3 “Alarm Systems - Group R-2 College and University Buildings”	Clarification	Increase	In the previous edition of the IBC, the alarm requirements of this section appeared to apply to buildings that are owned by a college or university. For the 2015 IBC it was clarified that this requirement was for Group R-2 occupancies that are “...operated by a college or university for student or

Important Changes to the 2015 IFC			
<i>Section(s) and Issue(s)</i>	<i>Type of Change</i>	<i>Cost Implication</i>	<i>Comment</i>
IFC 1103.3.2 Elevator Emergency Operation	New Provision	Decrease	New exception to requirements for updating elevators to latest standard which include installation of protective doors, sprinkler protection, and for freight elevators sprinkler protection provided at least one elevator complies with A 17.3.
IFC 1104.22(4) "Means of Egress for Existing Buildings—Exterior Stairway Protection"	Deletion of 2012 IFC Section 1104.21(4.1)	Decrease	Remainder of Section 1104.21 was moved to 1104.22. The requirement to retroactively sprinkler

Important Changes to the 2015 IEBC			
<i>Section(s) and Issue(s)</i>	<i>Type of Change</i>	<i>Cost Implication</i>	<i>Comment</i>
IEBC 406.3 and 702.5 – “Replacement Window Emergency Escape and Rescue Openings”	New Provision	Decrease	Under the Prescriptive Compliance Method or Level 1 Alterations, the replacement window must be the largest standard size that will fit within the existing frame.
IEBC 803.6 “Fire-Resistance Rating”	New Provision	Decrease	Under Level 2 Alterations, in buildings where an automatic sprinkler system is installed throughout, the required fire resistance rating of building elements and materials can be reduced to meet the requirements of the current building code.
IEBC 706 “Reroofing”	New Provision	Unknown	Under Level 1 Alterations, requirements from 2015 IBC Section 1511 were also placed in the IEBC.
2012 IBC Chapter 34 has been deleted and all of the requirements for existing buildings are now found in the 2015 IEBC	Editorial	None	The 2015 IEBC applies to repair, alteration, and change of occupancy, additions, and relocations of existing buildings.
IEBC 906.2 Alterations Level III	New Provision - Clarification	None	Revised to clarify that where four or more Group I-1, I-2, R-1, R-2, R-3 or R4 dwelling or sleeping units are to be altered, the requirements of Section

Important Changes to the 2015 IPC			
<i>Section(s) and Issue(s)</i>	<i>Type of Change</i>	<i>Cost Implication</i>	<i>Comment</i>
IPC 106.1.1 “Annual Permit”			

