

2015 International Mechanical Code Overview of Changes

The latest code change cycle resolved common interpretation problems and provided clarity of content to the 2015 *International Mechanical Code* (IMC). The code was also changed to reflect current design, construction and inspection methods. In order to keep the IMC up to date on new technology, requirements to assist designers, installers and inspectors as the demand for new energy sources increase.

The 2015 IMC is primarily intended to be a commercial code. Therefore, mechanical installations associated with one-and-two family dwellings are regulated by the *International Residential Code*.

New in the 2015 Edition:

307.2.5 Drain Line Maintenance. The code now requires that condensate drains be configured or equipped to allow maintenance of the drain without the drain pipe or tubing being cut.

307.3 Condensate Pumps. Condensate pumps located in uninhabitable spaces and used with condensing fuel-fired appliances and cooling equipment must be connected to the appliance or equipment served by the pump to prevent water damage in the event of pump failure.

407.1 General. Occupancies including hospitals, nursing homes, detoxification facilities and ambulatory care facilities must be ventilated in accordance with a new standard, ASHRAE170.

506.5.3 Exhaust Fan Mounting. The code now requires that hinged exhaust fans be provided with a means to limit the travel of the fan assembly (Ex: restraint cables).

507.1 General. Type I hood installations shall comply with all aspects of a Type I exhaust system, whether the Type I hood is required or installed by choice.

701.2 Dampered Openings. Where dampers are installed on combustion air openings, the code now requires an interlock with the appliance to prevent operation when the damper is closed.

1102.3 Access Port Protection. Refrigerant access ports shall be protected in accordance with Section 1101.10 whenever refrigerant is added to or recovered from refrigeration or air conditioning systems.

**2015 International Mechanical Code
Proposed Amendments**

- “D. The International Mechanical Code adopted by reference in Section 101.4.2, 2015 International Building Code is hereby amended as follows:
- 1 Section 102.8 (Referenced codes and standards) is amended by adding the following exception:

‘**Exception:** Any reference to the ICC Electrical Code shall mean the National Electrical Code, as adopted and amended by the City of College Station.’
 - 2 Section 106.3 (Application for permit) is amended by deleting the text in said section and replacing it with the following:

‘The code official may require a permit application for work regulated by this code.’
 - 3 Section 106.5.2 (Fee schedule) is amended by deleting the section in its entirety.
 - 4 Section 106.5.3 (Fee refunds) is amended by deleting the text in said section and replacing it with the following:

‘The City Manager or his designee is authorized to establish a refund policy.’
 - 5 Section 108.5 (Stop work orders) is amended by inserting the following amounts in the blanks provided at the end of said section:

‘twenty-five (\$25.00) in the first blank and two-thousand (\$2,000.00) in the second blank’
 - 6 Section 109 (Means of Appeal) is amended by deleting the section in its entirety.
 - 7 Section 304.7 (Private garages) is amended by deleting the section in its entirety.
 - 8 Section 507.6.1 (Capture and containment test) is amended by deleting the section in its entirety.