Department of Public Safety and Corrections
Uniform Construction Code Council

Uniform Construction Code (LAC 55:VI.301)

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 40:1730.26 and R.S. 40:1730.28, relative to the authority of the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council (LSUCCC) to promulgate and enforce rules and in accordance with R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of the State Fire Marshal, Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council (LSUCCC) hereby amends and adopts the following Rule regarding construction codes by replacing the current editions with the more recent editions.

Title 55
PUBLIC SAFETY
Part VI. Uniform Construction Code

Chapter 3. Adoption of the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code

§301. Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code

A. In accordance with the requirements set forth in R.S. 40:1730.28, effective January 1, 2014 (excepting the National Electric Code which is presently in effect), the following is hereby adopted as the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code. (The "Louisiana State Plumbing Code" shall replace all references to the "International Plumbing Code" in the following codes.)

1. International Building Code (IBC), 2012 Edition, not including Chapter 1, Administration, Chapter 11, Accessibility, Chapter 27, Electrical and Chapter 29, Plumbing Systems. The applicable standards referenced in that code are included for regulation of construction within this state. Furthermore, IBC shall be amended as follows and shall only apply to the International Building Code.

a. Delete Chapter 4, Section 403.5.5 Luminous Egress Path Markings.

b. Amend Chapter 9 to adopt and amend 2012 International Building Code, Section 903.2.1.2 Group A-2 (2.). The fire area has an occupant load of 300 or more.

c. Amend chapter 10, Section 1018.5 Air Movement in corridors. Corridors that require protection under Table 1018.1—Corridor Fire-Resistance Rating, shall not serve as supply, return, exhaust, relief or ventilation air ducts.

d. Amend Chapter 10 Section 1026.5

i. Exception: Exterior stairs or ramps which serve no more than one story above the level of exit discharge and constructed with non-combustible materials or constructed with fire retardant treated lumber, shall be allowed when the fire separation distance is between 5 and 10 feet measured from the exterior edge of the stairway or ramp.

e. Amend Chapter 16 Section 1603.1, General. Construction documents shall show the size, section and relative locations of structural members with floor levels, column centers and offsets dimensioned. The design loads and other information pertinent to the structural design required by Sections 1603.1.1 through 1603.1.9 shall be indicated on the construction documents.

i. Exception: Construction documents for buildings constructed in accordance with the conventional light-frame construction provisions of Section 2308 shall indicate the following structural design information:

(a). floor and roof live loads;
(b). ground snow load, *Pg;*
(c). basic wind speed (3-second gust), miles per hour (mph) (km/hr) and wind exposure;
(d). seismic design category and site class., unless excepted by Sections 1603.1.5 or 1613.1;
(e). flood design data, if located in flood hazard areas established in Section 1612.3;
(f). design load-bearing values of soils.

f. Amend Chapter 16 Section 1603.1.5 Earthquake design data. The following information related to seismic

loads shall be shown, regardless of whether seismic loads govern the design of the lateral-force-resisting system of the building:

i. seismic importance factor, I, and occupancy category;
ii. mapped spectral response accelerations, SS and S1;
iii. site class;
iv. spectral response coefficients, SDS and SD1;
v. seismic design category;
vi. basic seismic-force-resisting system(s);
vii. design base shear;
viii. seismic response coefficient(s), CS;
ix. response modification factor(s), R;
x. analysis procedure used;
xi. exceptions:

(a). construction documents that are not required to be prepared by a registered design professional;

(b). construction documents for structures that are assigned to Seismic Design Category A.

g. Amend Chapter 16, Section 1609.1.2 Protection of Openings. In wind-borne debris regions, glazing in buildings shall be impact resistant or protected with an impact-resistant covering meeting the requirements of an approved impact-resistant standard or ASTM E 1996 and ASTM E 1886 referenced herein as follows.

i. Glazed openings located within 30 feet (9144 mm) of grade shall meet the requirements of the large missile test of ASTM E 1996.

ii. Glazed openings located more than 30 feet (9144 mm) above grade shall meet the provisions of the small missile test of ASTM E 1996.

iii. Exceptions

(a). Wood structural panels with a minimum thickness of 7/16 inch (11.1 mm) and maximum panel span of 8 feet (2438 mm) shall be permitted for opening protection in one- and two-story buildings classified as Risk Category 2. Panels shall be precut so that they shall be attached to the framing surrounding the opening containing the product with the glazed opening. Panels shall be predrilled as required for the anchorage method and shall be secured with the attachment hardware provided. Attachments shall be designed to resist the components and cladding loads determined in accordance with the provisions of ASCE 7, with corrosion-resistant attachment hardware provided and anchors permanently installed on the building. Attachment in accordance with Table 1609.1.2 with corrosion-resistant attachment hardware provided and anchors permanently installed on the building is permitted for buildings with a mean roof height of 45 feet (13 716 mm) or less where V_{asd} determined in accordance with Section 1609.3.1 does not exceed 140 mph (63 m/s). =

(b). Glazing in Risk Category I buildings as defined in Section 1604.5, including greenhouses that are occupied for growing plants on a production or research basis, without public access shall be permitted to be unprotected.

(c). Glazing in Risk Category II, III or IV buildings located over 60 feet (18 288 mm) above the ground and over 30 feet (9144 mm) above aggregate surface roofs located within 1,500 feet (458 m) of the building shall be permitted to be unprotected.

h. Chapter 16 Section 1613.1 Scope. Every structure, and portion thereof, including nonstructural components that are permanently attached to structures and their supports and attachments, shall be designed and constructed to resist the effects of earthquake motions in accordance with ASCE 7, excluding Chapter 14 and Appendix 11A. The seismic design category for a structure is permitted to be determined in accordance with Section 1613 or ASCE 7.

i. Exceptions:

(a). detached one- and two-family dwellings, assigned to Seismic Design Category A, B or C, or located where the mapped short-period spectral response acceleration, *SS*, is less than 0.4 g;

(b). the seismic-force-resisting system of wood-frame buildings that conform to the provisions of Section 2308 are not required to be analyzed as specified in this Section;

(c). agricultural storage structures intended only for incidental human occupancy;

(d). structures that require special consideration of their response characteristics and environment that are not addressed by this code or ASCE 7 and for which other regulations provide seismic criteria, such as vehicular

bridges, electrical transmission towers, hydraulic structures, buried utility lines and their appurtenances and nuclear reactors;

(e). structures that are not required to have a registered design professional in responsible charge;

(f). structures that are assigned to Seismic Design Category A.

ii. Amend Chapter 16, Section 1613.1 Scope. Every structure, and portion thereof, including nonstructural components that are permanently attached to structures and their supports and attachments, shall be designed and constructed to resist the effects of earthquake motions in accordance with ASCE 7, excluding Chapter 14 and Appendix 11A. The seismic design category for a structure is permitted to be determined in accordance with Section 1613 or ASCE 7-10. Figure 1613.5(1) shall be replaced with ASCE 7-10 Figure 22-1. Figure 1613.5(2) shall be replaced with ASCE 7-10 Figure 22-2.

i. Amend chapter 23, section 2308.2, exceptions 4. Wind speeds shall not exceed 110 miles per hour (mph)(48.4m/s)(3 second gust) for buildings in exposure category B.

2. International Existing Building Code (IEBC), 2012 Edition, not including Chapter 1, Administration, and the standards referenced in that code for regulation of construction within this state.

3.a. International Residential Code, 2012 Edition, not including Parts I-Administrative, V-Mechanical, VII-Plumbing and VIII-Electrical. The applicable standards referenced in that code are included for regulation of construction within this state. The enforcement of such standards shall be mandatory only with respect to new construction, reconstruction, additions to homes previously built to the International Residential Code, and extensive alterations. Appendix J, Existing Buildings and Structures, may be adopted and enforced only at the option of a parish, municipality, or regional planning commission.

i. Adopt and amend 2012 IRC Section R301.2.1. Part IV-Energy Conservation of the latest edition of the International Residential Code is hereby amended to require that supply and return ducts be insulated to a minimum of R-6. Furthermore, 2012 IRC R301.2.1.1 (Design Criteria) shall be amended as follows and shall only apply to the International Residential Code:

(a). Delete Figure R301.2(4)B and replace all references to this figure with Figure R301.2(4)A.

ii. Amend 2012 IRC Section R301.2.1.1 (Design Criteria); R301.2.1.1 Wind limitations and wind design required. The wind provisions of this code shall not apply to the design of buildings where the basic wind speed from Figure R301.2(4)A equals or exceeds 110 miles per hour (49 m/s).

(a). Exceptions

(i). For concrete construction, the wind provisions of this code shall apply in accordance with the limitations of Sections R404 and R611.

(ii). For structural insulated panels, the wind provisions of this code shall apply in accordance with the limitations of Section R613.

(b). In regions where the basic wind speed shown on Figure R301.2(4)A equals or exceeds 110 miles per hour (49 m/s), the design of buildings for wind loads shall be in accordance with one or more of the following methods:

(i). AF&PA Wood Frame Construction Manual (WFCM);

(ii). ICC Standard for Residential Construction in High-Wind Regions (ICC 600);

(iii). ASCE Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures (ASCE 7);

(iv). AISI Standard for Cold-Formed Steel Framing—Prescriptive Method For One- and Two-Family Dwellings (AISI S230);

(v). International Building Code; or

(vi). SSTD 10-99 Hurricane Resistant Construction Standard.

(c). The elements of design not addressed by the methods in Clauses (i) through (vi) shall be in accordance with the provisions of this code. When ASCE 7 or the *International Building Code* is used for the design of the building, the wind speed map and exposure category requirements as specified in ASCE 7 and the *International Building Code* shall be used.

iii. Adopt and amend 2012 IRC Section R301.2.1.2 Protection of Openings. Exterior glazing in buildings located in windborne debris regions shall be protected from windborne debris. Glazed opening protection for windborne debris shall meet the requirements of the Large Missile Test of ASTM E 1996 and ASTM E 1886 referenced therein. The applicable wind zones for establishing missile types in ASTM E 1996 are shown on Figure

R301.2(4)F. Garage door glazed opening protection for windborne debris shall meet the requirements of an approved impact-resisting standard or ANSI/DASMA115.

(a). Exceptions

(i). Wood structural panels with a minimum thickness of 7/16 inch (11 mm) and a maximum span of 8 feet (2438 mm) shall be permitted for opening protection in one- and two-story buildings.

(ii). Panels shall be precut and attached to the framing surrounding the opening containing the product with the glazed opening.

(iii). Panels shall be predrilled as required for the anchorage method and shall be secured with the attachment hardware provided.

(iv). Attachments shall be designed to resist the component and cladding loads determined in accordance with either Table R301.2(2) or ASCE 7, with the permanent corrosion-resistant attachment hardware provided and anchors permanently installed on the building.

(v). Attachment in accordance with Table R301.2.1.2 is permitted for buildings with a mean roof height of 33 feet (10 058 mm) or less where wind speeds do not exceed 130 miles per hour (58 m/s).

iv. Adopt 2012 IRC Figure R301.2(4)A and delete Figure R301.2(4)B and Figure R301.2(4)C.

v. Adopt 2012 IRC Section R301.2.1.4 Exposure Category.

b. Additionally, Section 302, R302.1 Exterior Walls shall be amended to add the following exception:

i. On lots that are 50 feet or less in width and that contain a one or two family dwelling or townhouse that was in existence prior to October 1, 2005, the following are permitted for rebuilding:

(a). a projection 2 feet from the property line with a 1 hour minimum fire-resistance rating on the underside;

(b). a wall 3 feet or more from the property with a 0 hour minimum fire-resistance rating.

c. Amend Section R302.5.1 Opening Protection

i. Openings from a private garage directly into a room used for sleeping purposes shall not be permitted. Other openings between the garage and residence shall be equipped with solid wood doors not less than 13/8 inches (35 mm) in thickness, solid or honeycomb-core steel doors not less than 13/8 inches (35 mm) thick, or 20-minute fire-rated doors.

d. Additionally, IRC shall be amended as follows and shall only apply to the International Residential Code.

i. Adopt and amend 2012 IRC Section 313.1 Townhouse automatic sprinkler system. Per Act No. 685 of the 2010 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the council shall not adopt or enforce any part of the International Residential Code or any other code or regulation that requires a fire protection sprinkler system in one- or two-family dwellings. Further, no municipality or parish shall adopt or enforce an ordinance or other regulation requiring a fire protection sprinkler system in one- or two-family dwellings. Where no sprinkler system is installed a common 2-hour fire-resistance-rated wall is permitted for townhouses if such walls do not contain plumbing or mechanical equipment, ducts or vents in the cavity of the common wall. Electrical installations shall be installed in accordance with the 2011 NEC. Penetrations of electrical outlet boxes shall be in accordance with Section R302.4

(a). Exception: If an owner voluntarily chooses to install an automatic residential fire sprinkler system it shall be installed per Section R313.1.1 Design and installation. Automatic residential fire sprinkler systems for *townhouses* shall be designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 13D and Table 302.1 (2) Exterior Walls-Dwellings with Fire sprinklers may be used for separation requirements.

ii. Adopt and amend 2012 IRC Section 313.2 One-and two-family dwellings automatic fire systems. Per Act No. 685 of the 2010 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the Council shall not adopt or enforce any part of the International Residential Code or any other code or regulation that requires a fire protection sprinkler system in one- or two-family dwellings. Further, no municipality or parish shall adopt or enforce an ordinance or other regulation requiring a fire protection sprinkler system in one- or two-family dwellings.

(a). Exception: If an owner voluntarily choses to install an automatic residential fire sprinkler system it shall be installed per Section R313.2.1 Design and installation. Automatic residential fire sprinkler systems shall be designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 13D and Table 302.1(2) Exterior Walls-Dwellings with Fire sprinklers may be used for separation requirements.

iii. Amend Chapter 3, Section R315.2, Where Required in Existing Dwellings: When alterations, repairs or additions occur or where one or more sleeping rooms are added or created in existing dwellings that have attached garages or in existing dwellings within which fuel fired appliances exist, carbon monoxide alarms shall be provided in accordance with Section R315.1.

iv. Substitute Chapter 3, Section R317, Dwelling Unit Separation of the 2006 IRC, in lieu of the Section 313, Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems of the 2009 IRC. In addition, Chapter 3, Section R 302.2, Townhouses of the 2009 IRC, is amended as follows:

(a). Exceptions

(i). A common 2-hour fire-resistance-rated wall is permitted for townhouses if such walls do not contain plumbing or mechanical equipment, ducts or vents in the cavity of the common wall.

(ii). Electrical installations shall be installed in accordance with Chapters 34 through 43. Penetrations of electrical outlet boxes shall be in accordance with Section R302.4.

(iii). Chapter 3, Section R302.2.4, Structural Independence of the 2009 IRC, is amended as follows: Exception: Number 5, Townhouses, separated by a common 2-hour fire-resistance-rated wall as provided in Section R302.2.

v. Adopt 2012 IRC Table 602.3 (1) Fastening Requirements.

vi. Amend 2012 IRC Section R703.8 Flashing. Approved corrosion-resistant flashing shall be applied shingle-fashion in a manner to prevent entry of water into the wall cavity or penetration of water to the building structural framing components. Self-adhered membranes used as flashing shall comply with AAMA 711. The flashing shall extend to the surface of the exterior wall finish. Approved corrosion-resistant flashings shall be installed at all of the following locations:

(a). exterior window and door openings. Flashing at exterior window and door openings shall extend to the surface of the exterior wall finish or to the water-resistive barrier for subsequent drainage;

(b). at the intersection of chimneys or other masonry construction with frame or stucco walls, with projecting lips on both sides under stucco copings;

(c). under and at the ends of masonry, wood or metal copings and sills;

(d). continuously above all projecting wood trim;

(e). where exterior porches, decks or stairs attach to a wall or floor assembly of wood-frame construction;

(f). at wall and roof intersections;

(g). at built-in gutters.

vii. Adopt 2012 IRC Section R802.11 Roof tie-down.

viii. Adopt 2012 IRC Table R802.11 Rafters.

ix. Amend Section R806.1 Ventilation required.

(a). Enclosed attics and enclosed rafter spaces formed where ceilings are applied directly to the underside of roof rafters shall have cross ventilation for each separate space by ventilating openings protected against the entrance of rain or snow. Ventilation openings shall have a least dimension of 1/16 inch (1.6 mm) minimum and 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) maximum. Ventilation openings having a least dimension larger than 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) shall be provided with corrosion-resistant wire cloth screening, hardware cloth, or similar material with openings having a least dimension of 1/16 inch (1.6 mm) minimum and 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) maximum. Openings in roof framing members shall conform to the requirements of Section R802.7. Required ventilation openings shall open directly to the outside air.

x. Substitute Chapter 11, Energy Efficiency of the 2006 IRC, in lieu of Chapter 11 Energy Efficiency of the 2012 IRC.

4.a. International Mechanical Code(IMC), 2012 Edition, and the standards referenced in that code for regulation of construction within this state. Also included for regulation, the Louisiana One- and Two- Family Supplement to the 2006 International Mechanical Code. Furthermore, the International Mechanical Code, 2006 Edition, Chapter 1, Section 101.2 Scope is amended as follows:

i. Exception: Detached one- and two- family dwellings and multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses) not more than three stories high with separate means of egress and their accessory structures shall comply with the Louisiana One- and Two- Family Supplement to the 2006 International Mechanical Code. Furthermore, the IMC shall be amended to include the following:

b. Amend Chapter 6 Section 603.4 Metallic ducts. All metallic ducts shall be constructed as specified in the SMACNA HVAC Duct Construction Standards-Metal and Flexible.

i Exception: Ducts installed within single dwelling units shall have a minimum thickness as specified in the 2006 International Mechanical Code Table 603.4.

ii. Amend Chapter 6, Section 606.4.1 Supervision. The duct smoke detectors shall be connected to a fire alarm system where a fire alarm system is required by Section 907.2 of the International Fire Code or locally

adopted fire code. The actuation of a duct smoke detector shall activate a visible and audible supervisory signal at a constantly attended location.

5. The Louisiana State Plumbing Code [Part XIV (Plumbing) of the State Sanitary Code] as amended by the state health officer acting through the Office of Public Health of the Department of Health and Hospitals. Nothing in this Part shall be construed so as to prevent the state health officer from enforcing Part XIV (Plumbing) of the State Sanitary Code, the enforcement of which is his statutory and regulatory responsibility.

6. International Fuel Gas Code (IFCG), 2012 Edition, and the standards referenced in that code for regulation of construction within this state.

7. National Electric Code (NEC), 2011 Edition. This Code is to become effective on January 1, 2013.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:1730.22(C) and (D) and 40:1730.26(1).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, State Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 33:291 (February 2007), amended LR 34:93 (January 2008), LR 34: 883 (May 2008), LR 34:2205 (October 2008), LR 35:1904 (September 2009), LR 36:2574 (November 2010), effective January 1, 2011, LR 37:601 (February 2011), LR 37:913 (March 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2187 (July 2011), repromulgated LR 37:2726 (September 2011), amended LR 37:3065 (October 2011), LR 38:1994 (August 2012), LR 39:2512 (September 2013).

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