

# PREFACE

Oregon has adopted the 2012 *International Green Construction Code*<sup>™</sup> (IgCC<sup>™</sup>) with amendments to serve as the *Oregon Reach Code*. Amendments were made to ensure compatibility with Oregon's other codes and jurisdictional prerequisites. While Oregon retained much of the *International Green Construction Code Public Version 2.0*'s structure, Chapter 7 is based on the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials *Green Plumbing and Mechanical Code Supplement*.

## Introduction

All levels of government and building safety professionals recognize the need for a mandatory baseline of codes addressing green construction, providing a framework linking sustainability with safety and performance. The 2012 *International Green Construction Code*<sup>™</sup> (IgCC<sup>™</sup>) is designed to meet these needs through model code regulations that promote safe and sustainable construction in an integrated fashion with the ICC Family of Codes.

This comprehensive code establishes minimum regulations for buildings and systems using prescriptive and performance-related provisions, working as an overlay to the International Codes (I-Codes). For example, the requirements of the 2012 *International Energy Conservation Code*<sup>®</sup> (IECC<sup>®</sup>) were targeted as a baseline for the *International Green Construction Code* energy provisions that are increased in the provisions of Chapter 6. It is founded on the principle that a model code must address the market segments beyond those captured by rating systems or other evaluation guides, and therefore, must be enforceable, useable and adoptable.

The *International Green Construction Code* provides many benefits, among which is the model code development process that offers an international forum for building professionals to discuss the science and performance of buildings and systems. This forum provides an excellent arena to debate improvements to the ICC Family of Codes and Standards. The ICC system promotes the mission of the ICC and consistency in the application of codes worldwide.

ASHRAE and its Standard 189 development partners, the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) and the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES), support the adoption of the *International Green Construction Code* (IgCC). ASHRAE/USGBC/IES Standard 189.1 is a Compliance Option of the IgCC. IgCC Section 301.1.1 allows selection of Standard 189.1, in conjunction with Chapter 1, to be applied as a compliance option for green building construction.

This is the first edition of ASHRAE/USGBC/IES Standard 189.1. This standard was created in a collaborative effort between ASHRAE, USGBC and IES. This standard is written in code-intended language (mandatory, enforceable language).

You can find more information about the IgCC at <http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/IGCC/Pages/default.aspx>

## Development

The 2012 *International Green Construction Code* is the culmination of an effort that started in 2010 with the drafting of Public Version 1.0 by the Sustainable Building Technology Committee (SBTC). Public Version 2.0 was based upon changes approved by the IgCC Public Comment Committee. Finally, revisions to Public Version 2.0 were made by successful code change proposals that were considered by two IgCC Code Development Committees and the ICC membership in accordance with the ICC Code Development Process, as outlined in ICC Council Policy #28 comprised of Code Development and Final Action Hearings in 2011.

Public Version 2.0 of the *International Green Construction Code* was issued on November 3, 2010 after the Public Comments submitted to Public Version 1.0 were considered by the IGCC Public Comment Committee at the Public Hearings held in Rosemont, IL, August 14 – 21, 2010. Public Version 2.0 contains the changes to Public Version 1.0 suggested in the Public Comments that were approved or approved with modifications by the Committee (see "Revision Indicators" on page iv). The hearing was conducted in accordance with the "2010 IGCC Public Comment Hearing Procedures" as published on page vi of the *2010 Public Comments to Public Version 1.0 of the International Green Construction Code*. The complete set of public comments and the report of hearing can be found at <http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/IGCC/Pages/PublicVersionDevelopment.aspx>.

Public Version 1.0 of the *International Green Construction Code* was developed in 2010 by the Sustainable Building Technology Committee (SBTC). SBTC members were appointed by the ICC Board of Directors, with the American Institute of Architects and ASTM International as Cooperating Sponsors. The SBTC was a broad-based committee representing a balance of interests consistent with the ICC Governmental Consensus process and revised OMB Circular A-119, which establishes policies on federal use and development of voluntary consensus codes and standards.

## Adoption

The *International Green Construction Code* is available for adoption and use by jurisdictions internationally. Its use within a governmental jurisdiction is intended to be accomplished through adoption by reference in accordance with proceedings establishing the jurisdiction's laws. At the time of adoption, jurisdictions should insert the appropriate information in provisions requiring specific local information, such as the name of the adopting jurisdiction. These locations are shown in bracketed words in small capital letters in the code and in the sample ordinance.

## **Maintenance**

The *International Green Construction Code* is kept up to date through the review of proposed changes submitted by code enforcing officials, industry representatives, design professionals and other interested parties. Proposed changes are carefully considered through an open code development process in which all interested and affected parties may participate.

For more information regarding the code development process, contact the Codes and Standards Development Department of the International Code Council.

While the development procedure of the *International Green Construction Code* ensures the highest degree of care, ICC, AIA, ASTM International and their members and those participating in the development of this code do not accept any liability resulting from compliance or noncompliance with the provisions given herein, for any restrictions imposed on materials or processes, or for the completeness of the text. ICC, AIA and ASTM International do not have the power or authority to police or enforce compliance with the contents of this code. Only the governmental body that enacts the code into law has such authority.

## **Italicized Terms**

Selected terms set forth in Chapter 2, Definitions, are italicized where they appear in code text. Such terms are not italicized where the definition set forth in Chapter 2 does not impart the intended meaning in the use of the term. The terms selected have definitions which the user should read carefully to facilitate better understanding of the code.