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COLD-FORMED STEEL ENGINEERS INSTITUTE – NEWS AND UPDATES

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NEW MEMBERS

- Bassett Engineers & Constructors, Inc.
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- Hardin Engineering
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A new sound assembly has been added to the latest edition of "A Guide to Fire and Acoustic Data for Steel Floor, Wall and Roof Assemblies," which is available for free download at www.steelframing.org. The guide was updated in February 2017.

The guide is a “living document” and is updated regularly. We encourage users to submit their recently tested and approved fire and sound assemblies for review and consideration for future updates. For additional information or to submit recently tested and approved fire and sound assemblies, please contact info@steelframing.org.

Editor, Framework Online
TOP STORIES

MASFA Website Gets a Makeover

The Mid-Atlantic Steel Framing Alliance website, http://www.masfa.com/, has a new look, more resources and functionality. The new site makes it easy to find information about MASFA and its benefits; training programs available for architects, contractors, code officials and engineers; membership opportunities; events; and a list of resources, including publications and research materials as well as access to expert assistance.

The home page prominently lists MASFA’s 2017 sponsors. Visitors can also connect to MASFA’s Facebook and LinkedIn pages. Be sure to like MASFA on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/masfapage/ and join in the conversation on LinkedIn at https://www.linkedin.com/company/mid-atlantic-steel-framing-alliance-masfa-

Best of all, the new site is mobile-friendly, so users can access it at any time for news and updates. Check it out and let us know what you think at info@masfa.com.

Editor, Framework Online
CFSEI to Host Webinar on Blast Design on Cold-Formed Steel Components, Walls and Roof Systems on August 24, 2017

CFSEI will host a webinar on “Blast Design of Cold-Formed Steel Components, Walls and Roof Systems” on Thursday, August 24, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. ET. The webinar is designed for architects, engineers, building officials and contractors. Participants are eligible for 1.5 PDHs.

The webinar will cover several topics relevant to the blast design and analysis of cold-formed steel wall and roof components, connections and systems, including:

- Blast design criteria for typical projects (GSA, VA, DoD),
- General background on blast loading and application to structures,
- Analysis of cold-formed steel members for blast,
- Concentrated loads and loads near supports, and
- Connection design considerations.

Cliff Jones, P.E., S.E., Structures Lead at Protection Engineering Consultants (PEC) will conduct the webinar. He has more than 10 years of experience in the design of structures for extreme loading. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in Texas and a licensed Structural Engineer in Illinois. Cliff leads and supports a range of projects related to the design and retrofit of structures for blast, shock, impact, fire, seismic and extreme weather events such as tornados, tsunamis, storm surges and hurricanes. He also has extensive experience in structures-related research and the design of novel structural materials, components and energy-absorbing systems.

More information on the webinar and registration details is available at www.cfsei.org.
CFSEI Names Recipient of the 2017 CFSEI John P. Matsen Award for Distinguished Service

CFSEI has named Jeffrey Klaiman, P.E., Principal of ADTEK Engineers, Inc. as the recipient of the 2017 CFSEI John P. Matsen Award for Distinguished Service. The award recognizes the significant contributions of an individual who has volunteered time, talent and resources to the cold-formed steel industry. It was renamed in 2016 to honor John P. Matsen, P.E., Founder and Principal of Matsen Ford Design Associates in Waukesha, Wisconsin, who passed away in June 2015. Jeffrey Klaiman was recognized during the 2017 CFSEI Expo held May 22-23 at the Sheraton Fort Worth Downtown Hotel in Fort Worth, Texas.

“Jeff is nationally recognized as an expert in the design and construction of cold-formed steel framing,” said Maribeth Rizzuto, LEED AP – BD+C, Managing Director of the Cold-Formed Steel Engineers Institute. “He generously shares his knowledge and experience through industry webinars, seminars and other speaking engagements to promote the most efficient use of cold-formed steel framing, its design and inspection. This is the highest award that we present for individual achievement, and it is an honor to recognize Jeff, who shares the passion John Matsen had for demonstrating innovative design solutions available with cold-formed steel framing to other design professionals.”

Jeff Klaiman, P.E., is Principal of ADTEK Engineers and leads the company’s structural engineering and specialty engineering (cold-formed steel) practices. He is licensed in multiple states. He currently serves as president of the Mid-Atlantic Steel Framing Alliance and is a member and past president of CSFEI; chairman of the Standard Practices Subcommittee of the AISI Committee on Framing Standards; a member of the AISI Committee on Specifications for the Design of Cold-Formed Steel Structural Members; and a member of ASTM Committees A05, C02 and C03.

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The 2017 CFSEI Expo was attended by more than 100 architects, builders/contractors, engineers and other construction industry professionals. The event provided opportunities for education, networking, and an exposition featuring state-of-the-art innovations, technologies and principles in cold-formed steel framing. This annual event is the only one of its kind dedicated to the cold-formed steel framing industry and is held on an annual basis.

Editor, Framework Online

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CFSEI Presents Five Awards for Projects Demonstrating Design Excellence and Innovative Detail

CFSEI presented four Design Excellence awards and one Innovative Detail award during the 2017 Expo in Fort Worth, Texas.

CFSEI Design Excellence Awards recognize small and large projects that exemplify excellence in the structural design of new or renovated structures utilizing cold-formed steel products.

This year, four first-place awards were given to recognize residential, municipal and commercial projects, with two projects tied in the municipal category. The CFSEI Design Excellence Award winners were: 1) Residential – Excel Engineering, Inc. for Collegetown Terrace Building 7 in Ithaca, New York; 2) Municipal – Radius Track Corporation and McClure Engineering Company for Faena Forum in Miami Beach, Florida; 3) Municipal – Matsen Ford Design Associates, Inc. for The Cade Museum for Creativity and Invention in Gainesville, Florida, and 4) Commercial – Shaffer Wilson Sarver & Gray, PC for MGM National Harbor in Oxon Hill, Maryland.

A new Innovative Detail Award was introduced this year to recognize a cold-formed steel detail that exemplifies creativity or ingenuity to solve a design challenge. The CFSEI Innovative Detail Award was presented to ADTEK Engineers, Inc. for the Bedford Square project in Westport, Connecticut.

Maribeth Rizzuto, LEED AP-BD+C, Managing Director of CFSEI, commended the award winners, commenting that their projects demonstrate the versatility of cold-formed steel design in solving some very challenging design issues and the efficient use of time and resources.

Continued next page …

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“We think these award winners and their projects will inspire other design professionals to creatively use cold-formed steel for their own projects,” she said. Several entries were submitted, and CFSEI appreciates the efforts of everyone who submitted them.

About the Projects

Design Excellence First Place/Residential – Excel Engineering, Inc. - Collegetown Terrace Building 7 - Ithaca, New York
Collegetown Terrace is a student apartment rental complex near Cornell University. Building 7 is the third stage in a multi-building complex situated on a 12-acre site and is the largest residential building in Tompkins County. The apartments include dorm-style rooms, studios and two- and three-bedroom apartments, with a total of 247 units and 344 bedrooms. Its design challenges included sweeping curves and merging floor joists to the exterior walls, which required innovative cold-formed steel solutions from the design team.

Design Excellence First Place/Municipal (tied) – Radius Track Corporation and McClure Engineering Company - Faena Forum - Miami Beach, Florida
Faena Forum is a 43,000-square-foot facility designed as a public cultural center for large performance and art gatherings. The focal point of the structure is the upper assembly hall for art programs and private events. This hall is crowned with a 40-foot-high dome with a center oculus which is designed with radiused cold-formed steel. Originally specified as concrete, the dome created several design challenges but proved cold-formed steel dome structures can compete with radiused structural steel and concrete and provide more open architectural solutions.

Design Excellence First Place/Municipal (tied) – Matsen Ford Design Associates, Inc. - The Cade Museum for Creativity and Invention - Gainesville, Florida
The Cade Museum for Creativity and Invention showcases the history of Gatorade and its inventor, Dr. J. Robert Cade. The museum's mission is to create classes, programs and exhibits that challenge visitors to use their creativity to change the world.

Continued next page …
The circular and stepped shape of the building presented several design challenges, especially the wing walls that slant out from the building with structural support stopping short of the outermost wall studs. Another challenge involved areas at walls where no structural steel support is present, including large curtain walls at a radius.

**Design Excellence First Place/Commercial - Shaffer Wilson Sarver & Gray, PC - MGM National Harbor - Oxon Hill, Maryland**

MGM National Harbor has a footprint of over 800,000 square feet and consists of a casino, a theater with seating for 3,000 people, and a 23-story hotel. Cold-formed steel was used for the external walls and as a replacement for structural steel in some places. The most challenging design was the West Prow, which required the complete framing to be hung from structural steel beams and intense team coordination.

**Innovative Detail First Place – ADTEK Engineers, Inc. - Bedford Square – Westport, Connecticut**

Bedford Square is a new mixed-use community combining a renovated/converted historical firehouse and residential and commercial facilities, with each building ranging from two to four stories. The project has many unique architectural features, including complex roof geometry and several curved architectural openings and canopies. Innovative design solutions were needed for one of the balcony features, which included a large brick “eyebrow” requiring an extremely large radius while supporting roof rafter framing.

Case studies for each of these projects will be posted soon on the CFSEI website, www.cfsei.org. Stay tuned!

*Editor, Framework Online*
AISI and MBMA to Host Webinar on Being the Engineer of Record on Metal Building Projects

The American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) and the Metal Building Manufacturers Association (MBMA) are co-hosting a webinar on the responsibilities of an Engineer of Record for metal building projects on July 20, 2017 from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. ET. It will award 1.5 Continuing Education Credits/Learning Units. This is the second in a series of webinars co-hosted by both organizations for architects, engineers, building code officials and contractors.

The metal building segment of the low-rise construction market continues to build solid market share in every category—from shopping centers, to car dealerships, office complexes, schools and more. This webinar is designed to help attendees become more familiar with this market segment by equipping them to:

- Recognize the differences between metal building systems and conventional steel buildings,
- Understand the shared design responsibilities that are unique to a metal building system,
- Identify requirements and special considerations when specifying a metal building, and
- Appreciate the design considerations for a metal building system foundation.

The presenter is W. Lee Shoemaker, Ph.D., P.E., F.SEI, Director of Research and Engineering at MBMA since 1994.
Lee directs MBMA’s technical research and educational programs as well as represents the organization on several technical committees, including ASCE 7-16, Committee on Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures; and the AISC Committee on Specifications for Structural Steel Buildings. He was recently inducted into the Metal Construction Hall of Fame.


Editor, Framework Online
MARKETPLACE

AISI Updates Design Guide for Standard on Profile Steel Diaphragm Panels


Approved by the AISI Committee on Specifications Diaphragm Design Task Group, AISI D310-17 provides five design examples that illustrate the application of design provisions in AISI S310. The Standard provides design provisions for diaphragms consisting of profiled steel decks or panels which include fluted profiles and cellular deck profiles. The illustrative examples determine the strengths and stiffness of diaphragms formed with wide rib decks, profiled panels, and panels with insulation, and with various support materials and loading conditions. The updated design examples in AISI D310-17 provide consistent section references to AISI S310-16 and AISI S100-16 (North American Specification for the Design of Cold-Formed Steel Structural Members, 2016 Edition) and have been revised in accordance with the provision changes in those documents.

Source: American Iron and Steel Institute
MARKETPLACE

AISI is Reaccredited by ANSI as an American National Standards Developer

The American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) has been reaccredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) under its recently revised operating procedures for documenting consensus on AISI-sponsored American National Standards. The revised procedures replace the previous version that was approved in March 2014.

AISI has been involved in the support of research and the development and maintenance of cold-formed steel codes, standards and specifications for 85 years. It sought ANSI accreditation and was approved as a developer of American National Standards in 1999. AISI serves as Secretariat for two standards-developing committees: 1) the Committee on Specifications, which covers the broad range of cold-formed steel structural member behavior and design for building construction, and 2) the Committee on Framing Standards, which focuses on light-frame steel construction system behavior and design. These two committees facilitate a volunteer force of over 200 active participants through numerous subcommittees and task groups to develop and maintain a suite of nearly 30 design, installation and test standards, design guides and manuals.

The mission of AISI’s Codes and Standards team is to ensure that codes and standards for steel construction reflect state-of-the-art industry practices, are technically sound, permit the proper and safe use of steel, promote the recognition of concepts favorable to steel, and ensure that stakeholders have steel as a material of choice.

Source: American Iron And Steel Institute
MARKETPLACE

Fire Rips Through Building Under Construction In Dorchester

BOSTON (CBS) – A fire ripped through the top floor of a building under construction on Dorchester Ave. Wednesday afternoon. Heavy flames broke out on the sixth floor of the Treadmark Building around 2:30 p.m.

The fire quickly spread, forcing firefighters to attack it from the exterior only. More than 125 firefighters responded and crews remained at the scene overnight watching for hot spots.

Service at the Ashmont Red Line station was shut down due to thick smoke and residents in the neighborhood were told to stay inside due to the poor air quality.

Boston Fire Commissioner Joseph Finn says a “collapse zone” was established around the building as a precaution.

“The air conditioning units did collapse into the top floor,” Finn said. “They were buckling.”

It is too early to determine the cause of the fire, and crews will be unable to enter the building until at least Thursday afternoon.

Joe Greathead was among the construction workers who first spotted trouble, a little smoke on the sixth floor.

“At first it was just a little smoke out of the wall,” Greathead said. “Once everybody was out of the building and the fire department showed up and it started blazing, it was crazy.”

Continued next page …
The building, which is currently unoccupied, has 83 units. Finn says the sprinklers were not yet turned on and that contributed to the fire getting out of control. The fire alarm system was set to be tested on Thursday.

The building is a mix of condos and apartments and was set to open in July.

There were 32 condos on the top two floors of the building which were already sold. Almost all of the apartments on the lower floors were all rented out, and a business was set to move in on the first floor.

Commissioner Finn says the building is not a total loss and the developer plans to rebuild as soon as possible.

"We care deeply about the Ashmont neighborhood, and are heart-broken," said Jim Keefe of Trinity Financial. "The Boston Fire Department is working tirelessly and we are so grateful for their efforts. We are fully committed to making sure this project gets rebuilt as quickly as possible."

The building cost $45 million in total development.

No serious injuries have been reported. One construction worker was transported to the hospital for chest pain during the initial part of the fire.

Source: CBS Boston, June 28, 2017
MARKETPLACE

Nonresidential Construction Spending Falls in 13 of 16 Segments in April

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 1—Nonresidential construction spending fell 1.7 percent in April 2017, totaling $696.3 billion on a seasonally adjusted, annualized basis, according to analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data released today by Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC).

In April, private nonresidential construction spending fell 0.6 percent for the month, but has increased 4.3 percent on a year-ago basis. Public nonresidential spending decreased by 3.4 percent and is down 4.2 percent year-over-year. Declines in nonresidential construction spending for the month were largely attributable to drops in spending in the highway and street and power segments, down $3.5 billion and $2.1 billion, respectively.

“A staggering 13 of 16 nonresidential construction segments experienced spending declines in April,” said ABC Chief Economist Anirban Basu. “While poor weather interrupted a considerable amount of economic activity in the Northeast in March—which produced March’s weak jobs report, among other things—weather generally improved in April. This would normally suggest expansion in nonresidential construction spending in on a monthly basis; however, that is not reflected in the April data.

“Instead, public nonresidential construction spending continued to demonstrate substantial weakness with one noteworthy exception, water supply, which produced a small increase,” said Basu. “Among the private categories only office, which was flat, and commercial, which sustained only a small monthly decline, reported stable spending amounts. Both categories have seen a year-over-year spending expansion of 12.4 percent.
“There are a number of explanatory factors,” said Basu. “First, there are survey data from the Federal Reserve indicating that bank lending to commercial real estate has begun to tighten, perhaps because of growing fears of overbuilding in certain markets. Uncertainty at the federal agency level is also likely having an impact, including in public segments like highway and street that depend heavily on federal outlays. Finally, certain economic decision-makers may have ratcheted down their projections of economic growth in 2017 and 2018, resulting in more hesitation with respect to moving forward with projects at various stages of development.”

February’s initial estimate, which was revised higher last month, was revised lower this month. The revision translates into a decline of $9.6 billion, or 1.3 percent. March’s value was relatively unchanged at around $708.6 billion.

Source: Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc., June 2, 2017
MARKETPLACE

U.S. Unlikely to See Deadly ‘green’ Building Fire Like London’s

The deadly fire that engulfed London’s Grenfell Tower last week was fueled by commonly used “green energy” upgrades found on tens of thousands of buildings across the world, sparking concerns that a similar event could happen in the United States.

It’s unknown what sparked the Grenfell Tower fire, but the exterior cladding, or exterior insulation, added in 2015 to comply with “green energy” requirements, allowed the fire to quickly engulf the building, reports The Daily Caller.

Thousands of U.S. buildings also have cladding to increase energy efficiency, but that doesn’t mean that a Grenfell-like fire is likely to happen, said Robert Solomon, who heads the building fire protection division at the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

“I don’t see this happening in the U.S.,” Solomon told The Daily Caller News Foundation. “We actually apply a very constrictive and restrictive test protocol to those types of systems on buildings.”

“There’s not a comparable system applied to the cladding in the U.K.”

NFPA is a 121-year-old group founded by the insurance industry to set building and fire codes that local governments can adopt. The group puts any building efficiency upgrades through rigorous fire testing.

Experts say that flames were able to engulf Grenfell Tower so quickly because a space between the cladding and the building created a chimney effect through which the fire rapidly spread upward.

Continued next page …
Lots of high-rise buildings use cladding to increase energy efficiency and to give the building a more modern look. Drive through downtown Washington, D.C., for example, and you'll see dozens of high-rises with glassy exteriors. That's cladding.

U.S. builders have been using cladding since the 1970s, but mostly on low-rise buildings, so any fires were small and nothing on the scale of the recent London fire, which killed at least 30 people with dozens more wounded or missing.

Since that time, U.S. localities have developed strict fire safety testing programs and building codes to mitigate fire risks, Solomon said. There's no equivalent fire safety testing system in the U.K., he said.

“These cladding systems are put on to help energy efficiency, to help with moisture, to help with snow and rain,” he said. “They also have an aesthetic quality.”

Plans to add cladding to U.S. buildings go through a testing regime, called NFPA 285. The testing regime simulates how a fire would spread through various building materials used to make cladding.

 Builders then work to use materials that can limit the spread of fires. They must install cladding exactly how it’s laid out in the fire simulation.

“If you’re going to do this cladding system, this is the test protocol you have to pass,” Solomon said. “It’s very difficult to pass.”

As for the U.S., a Grenfell-style fire may be unlikely, but that doesn’t mean it could never happen or that officials and building owners shouldn't stay vigilant, The Daily Caller said.

_Source: Proud Green Building, June 19, 2017_
Commercial Construction Index indicates high revenue and employment expectations for 2017

USG Corporation (USG) and U.S. Chamber of Commerce release survey results gauging confidence among industry leaders.

Commercial construction is in high demand across the country and contractors are confident in the trajectory of the industry, according to the USG + U.S. Chamber of Commerce Commercial Construction Index (‘Index’), that launched recently. Nearly all contractors surveyed – 96 percent – expect revenues to grow or remain stable this year compared to 2016, with 40 percent expecting an increase and only 3 percent expecting a decrease in revenue.

The Index is a new quarterly economic indicator designed to gauge what drives the commercial construction industry and its leaders, including specific issues like backlog of work, new business pipeline, revenue projections, workforce issues, and access to financing. Given the sector’s importance to the U.S. economy and the outsized role it could play in years to come, the data contained in the Index will be vital to better understanding trends, challenges and opportunities. The research was developed with Dodge Data & Analytics (DD&A), the leading provider of insights and data for the construction industry, by surveying commercial and institutional contractors.

“This first-of-its-kind Index was born out of a need to understand the issues that affect commercial construction. The Index will deliver critical insights into the future health of the industry,” said Jennifer Scanlon, president and chief executive officer of USG Corporation. “USG is committed to providing solutions for our customers in order to help the entire industry make strong contributions to the U.S. economy. Through the Index we are able to identify areas of strength and pinpoint areas of improvement where industry leaders must focus.”
Two-thirds (66 percent) of contractors said they expect to employ more workers in the next six months, indicating growth in a sector that employs approximately 3 million Americans. But 61 percent of Index respondents reported difficulty finding skilled workers. The contractors reported the biggest shortages in the concrete, interior finishes/millwork, masonry, electrical and plumbing trades.

“The commercial construction industry is a vital engine for the American economy,” said Tom Donohue, president and CEO of the U.S. Chamber. “The projected growth uncovered in this research is good news for employers and workers, but there is reason for concern in the lack of qualified talent available in vital specialties. To get our economy growing to its full potential, we must ensure that we have a workforce that is ready to fill the available jobs. Each quarter, this first-of-its-kind research will make us smarter about future challenges and inform solutions for our country’s leaders.”

The report looks at the results of three leading indicators – backlog levels, new business opportunities and revenue forecasts – to generate a composite index on a scale of 0-100 that serves as an indicator of health for the contractor segment on a quarterly basis. The Q2 2017 composite index score was 76, representing continued health in the sector. This composite score is up two points from a 74 in the Q1 survey, driven primarily by a bump in the ratio between actual and ideal backlog. New business and revenue results also saw slight increases quarter-over-quarter.

The composite scores from the three drivers of confidence were:

**Backlog: 81, up four points in Q2 over Q1**

Contractors’ current average backlog levels represent 81 percent of their ideal backlog levels, up from 77 percent in Q1. On average, contractors currently hold 9.9 months of backlog, while the ideal amount is 12 months.

*Continued next page …*
New Business: 77, up two points in Q2
Nearly all contractors continue to report high or moderate confidence in the market. Well over half of contractors (59 percent) reported high confidence in new business over the next 12 months (up from 51 percent in Q1), indicating a shift to higher levels of confidence among some respondents.

Revenues: 71, up two points in Q2
An overwhelming 96 percent of contractors expect revenues to grow or remain stable in 2017 over 2016. Of those expecting revenue increases, the actual percentage of expected increases varies widely. Forty percent expect revenue increases of 7 percent or more in the next 12 months.

The Index findings are compiled using survey results from contractors within a DD&A panel of more than 2,700 decision makers from across key facets of the commercial construction industry. This first public report was developed using research from previous quarters, which puts into context the state of contractor sentiment in the U.S. building industry.

Source: Building Design + Construction, June 15, 2017
Massive Raleigh Fire Not a Factor at Building Code Meeting

RALEIGH (WTVD) -- The state’s top builders and firefighters made clear on Tuesday they see no need yet to address a massive downtown Raleigh fire in the next edition of the North Carolina building codes.

In its first meeting since the March blaze that burned down Metropolitan Apartments, the North Carolina Building Code Council (NCBCC) covered a wide range of issues related to the 2018 edition of the codes, but the downtown fire was not on the agenda. "Codes are designed for life safety systems and they're designed so when the building is complete and fully occupied that it's safe for people," council chairman Dan Tingen told ABC11. "The code is not addressing buildings such as [Metropolita Apartments] that was that's under construction."

Based on the International Code Council's industry standards, the North Carolina Building Code governs everything from building materials, design, accessibility, electric wiring and fire protections. The NCBCC meets four times a year, and works to update the codes every six years.

Though the Metropolitan fire provoked several questions about wood-framed construction of multi-story apartments, the fire wasn't even on Tuesday's agenda. "You think look at how catastrophic the fire was and you think someone must do something here," Tingen said. "But what do you do for a building under construction? That's the whole thing. It's not an occupiable building that hasn't met the proper inspections. Once it has and you have that kind of catastrophe - now you've got a serious question."

Chatham County fire chief Thomas Bender, who serves as chairman of the NC Fire Marshals Association, agreed with Tingen that the fire code as written fulfilled its purpose in the downtown fire in that no one died.

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He added that what's inside the building when occupied is also key to preventing fires - but not nearly as important as fire education.

"We often hear the fire was caused by cooking or was caused by candle, Chief Bender explained. "The candle didn't cause the fire and the cooking didn't cause the fire - unattended cooking caused the fire and a candle left unattended caused the fire."

In Tuesday's lengthy meeting, the NCBCC did address future changes to the code on energy consumption and design protocol. Committee members told ABC11 the changes in technology have been the biggest difference since the last code edition was printed in 2012.

"I think there's just a common sense understanding that your building needs to be energy efficient," Tingen added. "It's because of the effect on the environment and the effect on the pocketbook."


Source: ABC News, June 13, 2017