Continuous Insulation for Code-Compliant, High-Performance Walls in Types I-IV Construction Module 3: Energy Code Compliance

Revised 10/31/2016



### Topic #3 – Energy Code Compliance



### **U.S. Climate Zones**



## Why Energy Conservation?

- Even small improvements can have a big impact
  - 2009 IECC-C = 8.7% energy savings over 2006
    - Cost savings of \$0.15/ft2/year
  - 2012 IECC-C = 18.6% energy savings over 2006





### Understanding the Codes

Three Basic Approaches				
Cavity Insulation only	Cavity + Cl	Continuous Insulation Only		

Three Paths to Compliance				
Prescriptive	Performance U-factor	Total UA Analysis		



# Prescriptive Compliance Path (Walls)

Climate Zone	Metal Frame	Metal Bldg	Mass
1	R13+ R5ci	R13+ R6.5ci	R5.7ci
2	R13+ R5ci	R13+ R6.5ci	R5.7ci
3	R13+ R7.55ci	R13+R6.5ci	R7.6ci
4	R13+ R7.5ci	R13+R13ci	R9.5ci
5/4 Marine	R13+ R7.5ci	R13+ <mark>R13ci</mark>	R11.4ci
6	R13+ R7.5ci	R13+ <mark>R13ci</mark>	R13.3ci
7	R13+ R7.5ci	R13+ <b>R13</b> ci	R15.2ci
8	R13+ R7.5ci	R13+R13ci	R25ci

#### 2012 IECC Commercial Wall R-value

Simplest method – but may not work for all building types



## **U-factor Compliance Path**

- Use this approach to:
  - Explore alternatives to the prescriptive wall insulation
  - More CI, less CI; More cavity, less cavity; etc.
- Must use code-compliant insulation materials
- Must substantiate U-factor for assembly
- Must check moisture vapor control separately for U-factor analysis
- NOTE: U =  $1/R_{act} \neq 1/R_{nom}$



# U-factor Building Performance Path (cont'd)

CLIMATE ZONE 1 2 4 EXCEPT MARINE 5 AND MARINE 4 6 7 3 8 All other Group R Walls, Above Grade U-0.142 U-0.104 U-0.078 U-0.071 U-0.142 U-0.142 U-0.123 U-0.110 U-0.104 U-0.090 U-0.078 U-0.078 U-0.061 U-0.061 U-0.061 U-0.061 Mass U-0.052 U-0.079 U-0.079 U-0.079 U-0.079 U-0.052 U-0.052 U-0.052 U-0.052 U-0.052 U-0.052 U-0.052 U-0.039 Metal building U-0.079 U-0.052 U-0.039 U-0.077 U-0.064 U-0.064 U-0.064 U-0.064 U-0.064 U-0.064 U-0.064 U-0.064 U-0.057 U-0.064 U-0.052 U-0.045 U-0.045 Metal framed U-0.077 U-0.077 Wood framed and U-0.064 U-0.051 U-0.051 U-0.051 U-0.051 U-0.036 U-0.036 other

TABLE C402.1.2 OPAQUE THERMAL ENVELOPE ASSEMBLY REQUIREMENTS<sup>a</sup>

**C402.1.2** *U*-factor alternative. An assembly with a *U*-factor, *C*-factor, or *F*-factor equal or less than that specified in Table C402.1.2 shall be permitted as an alternative to the *R*-value in Table C402.2. Commercial buildings or portions of commercial buildings enclosing Group R occupancies shall use the *U*-factor, *C*-factor, or *F*-factor from the "Group R" column of Table C402.1.2. Commercial buildings or portions of commercial buildings enclosing occupancies other than Group R shall use the *U*-factor, *C*-factor, *C*-factor or *F*-factor from the "All other" column of Table C402.1.2.



# U-factor Building Performance Path (cont'd)

- U-factor is the reciprocal of Rvalue (lower is better)
- For exterior wall assembly (assuming framing factor 0.25):

 $R_{Stud} = 0.17 + 0.08 + 0.79 + 0.45 + 6.5 + 0.68 = 8.67$ 

$$R_{Cavity} = 0.17 + 0.08 + 10.8 + 0.45 + 6.5 + 0.68 = 18.68$$

$$U = \frac{1}{0.25R_{stud} + 0.75R_{cavity}}$$
$$U = \frac{1}{0.25(8.67) + 0.75(18.68)} = 0.062$$

 $U=~0.062<0.064~\rightarrow OK$ 

• Assembly works for zone 4

Material	Metal framing	Cavity
Outside air film	0.17	0.17
Stucco	0.08	0.08
Stud cavity (16" oc)	0.79	х
SPF open cell 3"	х	10.8
Gyp board, 1/2"	0.45	0.45
Polyiso, 1"	6.5	6.5
Inside air film	0.68	0.68
Total R- value	8.67	18.68



### Total UA Performance Path

- Make full use of tradeoffs or demonstrate whole-building compliance
- Requires approved energy modeling (e.g. COMcheck, WUFI, or other software as allowed by state/local jurisdiction)





**C407.3 Performance-based compliance.** Compliance based on total building performance requires that a proposed building (*proposed design*) be shown to have an annual energy cost that is less than or equal to the annual energy cost of the *standard reference design*. Energy prices shall be taken from a source *approved* by the *code official*, such as the Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration's *State Energy Price and Expenditure Report. Code officials* shall be permitted to require time-of-use pricing in energy cost calculations. Nondepletable energy collected off site shall be treated and priced the same as purchased energy. Energy from nondepletable energy sources collected on site shall be omitted from the annual energy cost of the *proposed design*.

