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NC ACCESSIBILITY CODE

2009 NC Bldg Code Ch. 11
2003 ICC/ANSI A117.1
Mandatory: 1 Jan 2010

2012 NC Bldg Code Ch. 11
2009 ICC/ANSI A117.1
Effective date: 1 Sept 2011
Mandatory: 1 March 2012

2010 ADA STANDARDS:

- Published in Federal Register 9/15/10
- Effective 3/15/11
- Mandatory 3/15/12
- Copy available: www.ada.gov

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2012 Codes + 2011 NC Elect Code

The **2012 NC Building Codes** are in effect as of September 1st of this month! There is a 6 month transition period until March 1, 2012 when they become mandatory. We are waiting for them to arrive as ICC is still printing them. The 2012 amendments to the 2009 ICC model codes are on the NCDOT website. Any project receiving a permit on or after 3/1/12 will be required to design to the 2012 codes listed below.

http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/Engineering/engineering_newsletter.asp

Effective Dates for the 2012 Codes and 2011 NC Electrical Code

NC Code	Effective Date	Mandatory Effective Date
2011 Electrical	Delayed for 2012 Legislative Review	
2012 Building	9/1/2011	3/1/2012
2012 Fire	9/1/2011	3/1/2012
2012 Fuel Gas	9/1/2011	3/1/2012
2012 Mechanical	9/1/2011	3/1/2012
2012 Plumbing	9/1/2011	3/1/2012
2012 Administration	No Technical Changes	
2012 Energy Conservation	1/1/2012	3/1/2012
2012 Residential	1/1/2012	3/1/2012
2012 Rehabilitation	No Technical Changes	

New Appendix B is being updated as we speak...

The **Energy Code** and **Residential Code** were passed by the Legislature at the end of the session so that they will both go into effect on 1/1/2012. The **Electrical Code** was not.

EVSE + EV Charging Stations

One of the main topics this month seems to be EV Supply Equipment (EVSE) and Electric Vehicle Charging Stations. These appear to be expanding exponentially across the state. In the past few months, this office has had discussions with Raleigh, Durham and Jacksonville about the stations.

Neither the NC Building Code nor the ADA has any provisions or requirements addressing EVSE or the Charging Stations.

Installations of EV charging stations shall be done in such a way that the charging cord does not obstruct a handicapped access aisle. The mounting heights of the controls shall be within ANSI 308 reach ranges.



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Send an e-mail to Laurel.Wright@ncdoi.gov if you have a topic that you would like addressed in a future newsletter.

- Pictures,
- sketches,
- photos

All are welcome!

I try to answer all comments, as the time permits.

NCBC 421.x Lic'd Res Care Facilities

How do you address **NCBC 421 Residential Care Facilities** or Group Homes, typically constructed under the **NC Residential Code** for 'methods and materials' so that the home has a 'residential' appearance and is home-like in a residential neighborhood?

As Licensed Residential Care Facilities, the various categories under **NCBC 421** all get treated as **Group I-2** occupancies, which is the minimum licensing requirement that DHHS [The Department of Health and Human Services] recognizes. This may seem out of character with the description of **NCBC 421.x** being categorized, but look for the term 'licensable' in the charging paragraph.

You will find it in:

- 421.2** Residential care homes
- 421.3** Small residential care homes
- 421.4** Small nonambulatory care facilities
- 421.5** Large residential care facilities

NCBC 421.X gives you the basic requirements, but unless you are familiar with the DHHS requirements, you would not know they are all addressed as **Group I-2** occupancies, no matter how small they are.

Then comes the matter of how to determine the accessibility of the bedrooms.

RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES
FOR THE RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITY



NCBC 1107.5.2 Grp I-2 Nursing Homes

So we go to **NCBC 1107.5.2** Yes, it says Nursing Homes in the title and that's what we are stuck with. Unless you want to go to 5.3 for Hospitals or 5.4 for Rehabilitation Facilities, which seem even less correct. So, this is where we are now for the **Residential Care Facilities**.

Let's start with **NCBC 1107.5.2.1** which requires that 50%, but not less than one of each type of dwelling and sleeping unit, be capital A - Accessible units.

In structures with four or more dwelling and sleeping units, **NCBC 1107.5.2.2** goes on to require that all the remaining dwelling and sleeping units be Type B units.

The end result is now that every sleeping or dwelling unit within the building is now either an Accessible dwelling unit or a Type B dwelling unit. So there you have it, finally.



3 Row Standard
Non-integrated Seating



Integrated Seating

Integrate W/C Seating Into Bleachers

Whenever bleachers are provided as part of the seating plan, the wheelchair seating is required to be integrated into the seating plan of the bleacher.

NCBC 1108.2.2 Wheelchair spaces states *in theaters,*

bleachers, grandstands, stadiums, arenas, and other fixed seating assembly areas, accessible wheelchair spaces complying with ICC A117.1 shall be provided in accordance with Sections 1108.2.2.1 through 1108.2.2.4.

It is not acceptable to pour a separate pad outside and adjacent to the bleacher, even a small one, simply to provide a location for a wheelchair seating location and a companion seat. This is not considered "integrated seating".

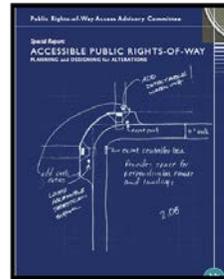
Proposed Rights-of-Way Guidelines [PROW]

NCDOT received the following notice that some of the rest of you may have received as well from the **US Access Board** [www.access-board.gov]:

On July 26, the **U.S. Access Board** will hold a briefing for the public and a press conference on newly proposed guidelines for accessible public rights-of-way that will be released for comment that day. These guidelines will address access for people with disabilities [related] to streets and sidewalks, pedestrian signals, on-street parking, street furniture, and other elements. Board representatives will review requirements of the rule and will field questions from members of the media. All our welcome to attend this event which will take place 11:00 to 12:30 (ET) at the Board's meeting space at 1331 F Street, NW, Suite 800, in downtown Washington, D.C. Copies of the proposed guidelines and related information will be made available at the briefing.

While the hearing will have occurred by the time you receive this, you may wish to check back with the website for the final public rights of way [PROW]

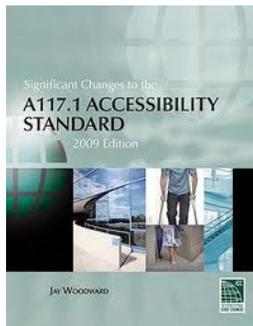
guidelines. This is important for university campuses, multi-building business sites and other such locations with interlinking roads containing pedestrian, vehicular and bus transitions. Since the issues are addressed generically through the **NC Building Code**, but not specifically, they can be addressed using the proposed Rights-of-Way Guidelines as an alternate method under **NC Admin Code Section 105.1** as an alternate method.



Accessible PROW Guideline



Sidewalk Example



Significant Changes to A117.1 Std

If you have been waiting to purchase the new **2009 ANSI A117.1 Standard** until the **ANSI A117.1 Standard + Commentary** comes out, you may be waiting for a while. At the beginning of August, during a discussion at the NCBA Annual Meeting in Asheville, an ICC representative mentioned that the 2009 Commentary may be delayed for some time.

What is available and what has all the same information

is a wonderful book titled: *Significant Changes to the A117.1 Accessibility Standard 2009 Edition*.

This book is written with the previous language in strike out [~~strikeout~~] format and the new language underlined [underlined], so that you can tell just what has been removed and what has been added.

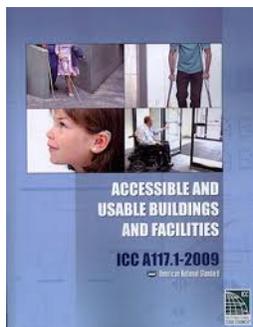
There are the same additional sketches and photos that you have grown accustomed to seeing in the in the Commentary, along with the Commentary language.

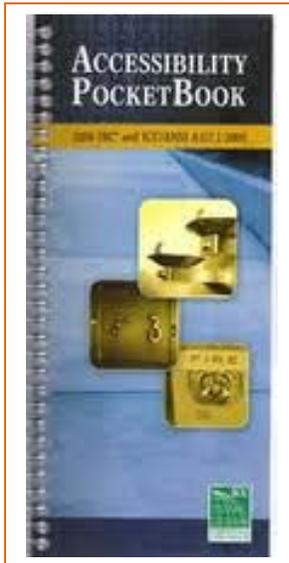
Plus, it adds some information on the new Chapter 11 on *Recreational Facilities*.

So what you have is all the same information that we are used to seeing in the Commentary. It just has not been incorporated together with the 2003 edition into a 2009 edition. So, my recommendation is to purchase this and use it along with your **2003 ANSI A117.1 Standard + Commentary** and you should be fine.

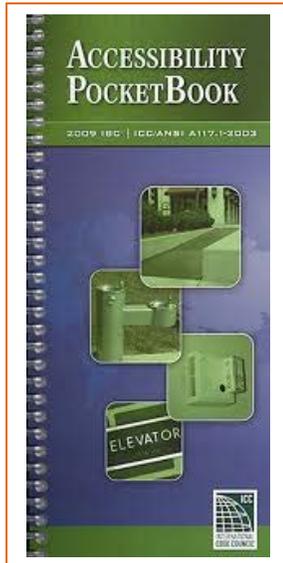
If you don't have the 2003 Commentary, it's not too late to get them both! ©

Last thing: you can purchase the softbound book from www.iccsafe.org at the **STORE** or I think that it is even available at **AMAZON**, if you check with them.





2006 IBC – 2003 ANSI



2009 IBC – 2003 ANSI

Accessibility Pocket Book

If you have inspectors, field staff, designers, contractors or anyone else who goes out in the field on a regular or semi-regular basis, it is a very handy thing to have the 'cliff notes' version of the accessibility code requirements. For many, that has been provided over the last year and a half by the **Accessibility Pocket Book** put out by ICC. This is a nifty 3.5" x 8" (if you don't count the oversize rings) volume, that includes **2006 IBC Ch. 9**

(907), Ch. 10 (1002, 1003, 1007, 1011), Ch. 11 Ch. 34 and App. E. Really great!

This is the issue: the **2012 NCBC** (remember, the **2009 IBC**) adopted the **2009 ANSI**, whereas the **2009 Accessibility Pocket Book** will have the **2009 IBC** with the **2003 ANSI** in it, not the newer **2009 ANSI**. If you order it, you will be missing all the changes, plus the new Ch.11 – Recreational Facilities, that addresses pools.

ANSI 502.6 Van Pkg Ht 98"

There has not been much in the way of residential construction of late, so it is quite possible that the van height in parking garages has slipped your attention.

If so, you will be absolutely delighted to know that the old **1999/2002/2004 NCAC** requirement of 108" quietly slipped by the wayside on December 31, 2009. Since January 1, 2010, the **ANSI 502.6** vertical clearance of *98 inches minimum* has become the NC standard for van clearance throughout the state.

This makes it so very much simpler to design those garages, town homes, condominiums and parking areas everywhere, don't you think?



DOI Engineering Newsletter – Have You Subscribed?

The Engineering Division of DOI has a separate newsletter that you may be interested in, if you are not already subscribed. Typical topics each month include:

1. A list of new interpretations posted online.
2. New legislative bills on interest (when the legislature is in session).
3. What is under review by the Research and Development Group.
4. Building Code Council information.
5. This month's interesting topic is Qualification Board Investigations.
6. Other relevant topics.

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