



Project Manager/Estimator Meeting

Wheeling Country Club, Wheeling, WV
March 29, 2024

Emerging Technical Issues and Risks



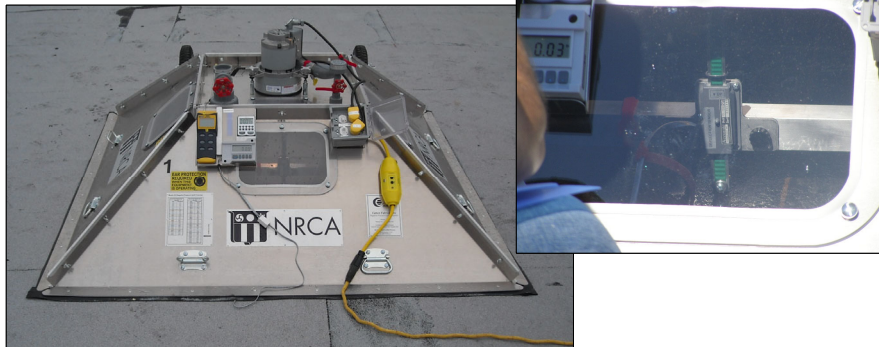
Mark S. Graham

Vice President, Technical Services
National Roofing Contractors Association
Rosemont, Illinois

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Field wind-uplift testing

- ASTM E907, "Standard Test Method for Field Testing Uplift Resistance for Adhered membrane Roofing Systems"
- FM 1-52, "Field Verification of Roof Wind Uplift Resistance"



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INDUSTRY ISSUE UPDATE

NRCA Member Benefit


Field-uplift testing

ASTM E907 and FM 1-52 tests continue to be problematic

June 2015

NRCA continues to receive a significant number of reports from roofing contractors, manufacturers and designers regarding the use of and problems associated with field uplift tests as pre-installation quality assurance measures for membrane roof systems. NRCA has addressed these testing issues a number of times during the years. Following is a summary of NRCA previous discussions, as well as updated information and recommendations.

ASTM E907/FM 1-52
There are two recognized field test methods for determining adhered membrane roof systems uplift resistance: ASTM E907, "Standard Test Method for Field Testing Uplift Resistance of Adhered Membrane Roofing Systems," and FM Global Loss Prevention Data Sheet 1-52 (FM 1-52), "Field Verification of Roof Wind Uplift Resistance."



Both test methods are similar and provide for affixing a 5- by 5-foot dome-like chamber to a roof surface and applying a defined negative (uplift) pressure inside the chamber to the roof system's membrane side surface using a vacuum pump (see photo). During the test, membrane surface deflection inside the chamber is visually monitored and measured to determine whether a roof system passes or is "suspect."

Using ASTM E907, a roof system is considered to be suspect if the deflection measured during the test is 25 mm (about 1 inch) or greater. During FM 1-52 testing, a roof system is suspect if the measured deflection is between 1/8 of an inch and 3/8 of an inch depending on the maximum test pressure: 1 inch where a thin topping board (solar board) is used, or 2 inches where a thin cover board or flexible, mechanically attached insulation is used.

If an ASTM E907 or FM 1-52 test yields a suspect result, a test rerun should be taken in the test area to determine whether failure has occurred and the specific failure mode.

ASTM E907 and FM 1-52 differ notably in their test cycles and maximum test pressures for determining roof system deflections and whether a roof system passes or is suspect. ASTM E907 testing is conducted in 15-pounds-per square foot (psf) pressure intervals up to the calculated design wind (uplift) pressure for the specific roof system being evaluated. FM 1-52 testing is conducted using an initial 15-pounds psf pressure followed by 7.5-pound psf increments up to a maximum test pressure of 1.25 times the design uplift pressure for the specific roof system being evaluated.

Considering maximum test loading and allowable test deflections in combination, FM 1-52 requires 25 percent higher test loads per unit area as well as is the test deflection of ASTM E907. The fact FM 1-52 is a significantly more stringent test than ASTM E907. ASTM E907 originally was published as a recognized consensus standard in 1983, and it was revised in 1996, in 2003. ASTM withdrew ASTM E907 because a consensus could not be reached regarding necessary revisions—most significantly, defining the test methods' precision and bias (accuracy). ASTM E907, as well as available for use and can be obtained directly from ASTM's website, www.astm.org.

FM 1-52 is an FM Global-proprietary evaluation method and not a recognized industry-consensus test standard. FM 1-52's scope indicates it only is intended to confirm acceptable wind-uplift resistance on completed roof systems in hurricane-prone regions, where a partial blow-off has occurred or where inferior roof system construction is suspected or known to be present.

FM 1-52 originally was published by FM Global in October 1970. The negative-pressure uplift test was added in August 1980 and has been revised several times. The current edition is dated July 2012 and includes an option for "visual construction observation (VCO)" as an alternative to negative-pressure uplift testing. VCO provides for full-time, third-party monitoring of a roof system application to verify roof system installation in accordance with contract documents.

NRCA "Industry Issue Update," June 2015


NRCA members' experience:

- Most tests not conducted in accordance with ASTM E907 or FM 1-52.
- No correlation between field test vs. lab. results/classifications
- NRCA survey: 55% passing

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RESEARCH+ TECH



Revisiting field uplift testing

NRCA's long-standing concerns continue with this issue

by Mark S. Graham

Professional Roofing

December/January 2022-23

[Link](#)

I t has been a while since I have written about NRCA's concerns with field uplift testing, which sometimes is inappropriately used as a way to assess the quality of an adhered membrane roof system installation. Despite the time that has passed, NRCA continues to have reservations about field uplift testing, and the test procedure has not yet been revised to address NRCA's concerns.

ASTM E907
In 2014, ASTM International withdrew its consensus-based test method for field uplift testing, ASTM E907, "Standard Test Method for Field Testing Uplift Resistance of Adhered Membrane Roofing Systems."

ASTM International requires its test method standards to include a precision statement addressing two things:

- Known within-laboratory variability, referred to as "repeatability"
- Relative variability of test results obtained from different laboratories, referred to as "reproducibility"

Test methods also are required to include an estimate of bias in test results.

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ASTM Interlaboratory study (ILS)

"Testing the test"

- Built three identical test decks allowing for 24 tests total
- FM Class 90 roof system (FM tested to 90 psf)
- 8 testing entities conducted 3 test each
- Each test run at 15 psf increments up to 90 psf classification
- Membrane deflection is measured
- ASTM ILS staff planned the study and analyzed the test results
- At FM Global's research center in Glocester, RI

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ILS results

"Testing the test"

- Statistical outliers 15-, 30-, 45-, 60- and 90-psf test increments
- Outlier data excluded at 30-, 45- and 90-psf test increments
- 16 of the 24 specimens exhibited failure before completing the 90-psf test increment.
- 5 results at the 45-psf increment and all the tests' results at 60, 75- and 90-psf test increments exceeded FM 1-52's maximum allowable deflection.

All specimens should have exceeded 90 psf

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RESEARCH+TECH



Putting the test to the test
Substantial variability has been found in field-uplift testing
by Mark S. Graham


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RESEARCH+TECH



Putting the test to the test
Substantial variability has been found in field-uplift testing
by Mark S. Graham

22 professionalroofing.net SEPTEMBER 2023

The ASTM International interlaboratory study clearly illustrates NRCA's long-standing position that field-uplift testing should not be relied upon as an indicator of an adhered roof assembly's in situ uplift resistance or as a quality-assurance measure of roof assembly installation. Continuing to use it as such is irresponsible.

Since the study results were released, NRCA's Technical Operations Committee has asked FM Global to immediately discontinue use of FM 1-52's field-uplift test as a quality-assurance measure for roof assembly installation. 🌱🌿🍀

Test Method for Field Testing Uplift Resistance of Adhered Membrane Roofing Systems" and FM Global Loss Prevention Data Sheet 1-52, FM 1-52, "Field Verification of Roof Wind Uplift Resistance." In each of these test methods, a vacuum is created inside a test chamber mounted on a roof surface and membrane deflections resulting from the induced negative uplift pressures inside the chamber are measured. ASTM E907 has been a consensus-based standard since it was originally published in 1983. ASTM International withdrew the standard in 2013 because it lacked a precision statement, which is required for all ASTM International test methods.

[Link](#)

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The 2024 I-codes have already been published and are available, except for the *International Residential Code, 2024 Edition* and *International Energy Conservation Code, 2024 Edition*

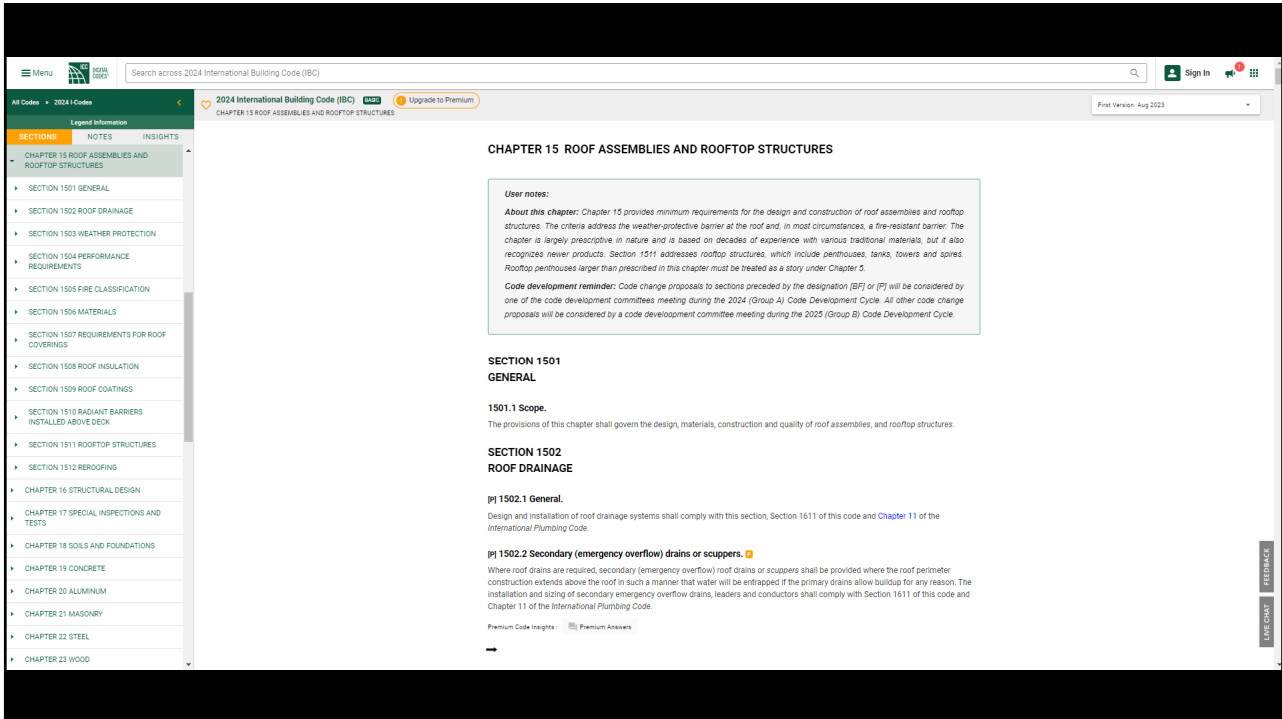
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Accessing the I-codes

codes.iccsafe.org




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Purchasing the I-codes

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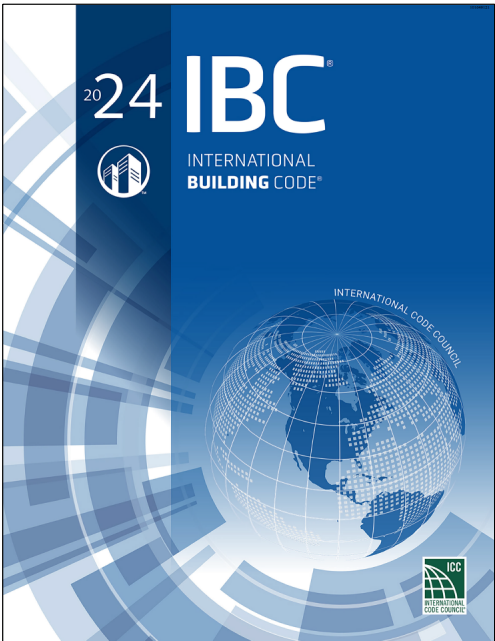
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0	Soft Cover & PDF/Redline Download Item #: 3000SPR24	\$248.00	\$186.00	\$62.00
0	Loose Leaf & PDF/Redline Download Item #: 3000LPR24	\$267.00	\$200.00	\$67.00

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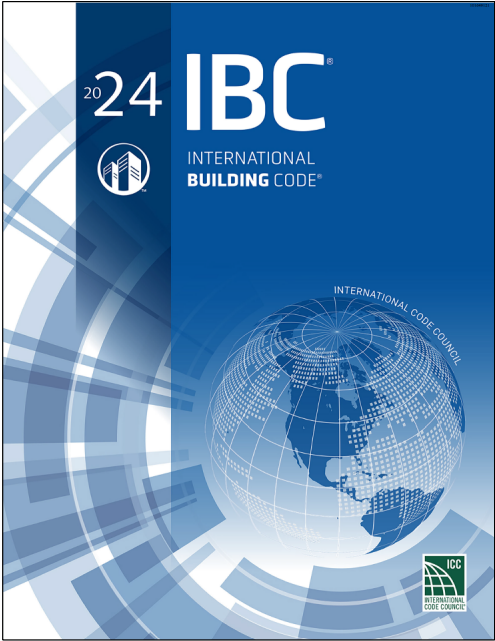


New to the 2024 I-codes

- Single column text format
- Updated font styles
- QR codes identifying changes
- Streamlined lists
- Consistent grouping of related text (e.g., tables follow parent sections)
- Shaded table headers and notes

iccsafe.org/design-updates

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IBC 2024

- Ch. 15: Roof Assemblies and Rooftop Structures
- Ch. 27: Electrical
- Ch. 13: Interior Environment
- Ch. 16: Structural Design

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ROOF ASSEMBLIES AND ROOFTOP STRUCTURES

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1507.1 Scope. *Roof coverings* shall be applied in accordance with the applicable provisions of this section and the manufacturer's installation instructions.

1507.1.1 Underlayment. *Underlayment* in accordance with this section is required for asphalt shingles, clay and concrete tile, *metal roof shingles*, mineral-surfaced roll roofing, slate and slate-type shingles, wood shingles, wood shakes, metal roof panels and *BIPV roof coverings*. Such underlayment shall conform to the applicable standards listed in this chapter. *Underlayment* materials required to comply with ASTM D226, D1970, D2626, D4869, D6380 Class M, D6757 or D8257 shall bear a label indicating compliance with the standard designation and, if applicable, type classification indicated in Table 1507.1.1(1). *Underlayment* shall be fastened in accordance with Table 1507.1.1(2). *Underlayment* shall be attached in accordance with Table 1507.1.1(3).

Exception: Structural metal panels that do not require a substrate or underlayment.

TABLE 1507.1.1(1)—UNDERLAYMENT TYPES

ROOF COVERING	SECTION	MAXIMUM BASIC WIND SPEED, V < 130 MPH IN HURRICANE-PRONE REGIONS OR V < 140 MPH OUTSIDE HURRICANE-PRONE REGIONS	MAXIMUM BASIC WIND SPEED, V ≥ 130 MPH IN HURRICANE-PRONE REGIONS OR V ≥ 140 MPH OUTSIDE HURRICANE-PRONE REGIONS
Asphalt shingles	1507.2	ASTM D226 Type I or II ASTM D1970 ASTM D4869 Type I, II, III or IV ASTM D6757 ASTM D8257	ASTM D226 Type II ASTM D1970 ASTM D4869 Type III or IV ASTM D8257
Wood shingles	1507.8	ASTM D226 Type I or II ASTM D4869 Type I, II, III or IV	ASTM D226 Type II ASTM D4869 Type III or IV
Wood shakes applied to a solid sheathing roof deck	1507.9	ASTM D226 Type I or II ASTM D4869 Type I, II, III or IV	ASTM D226 Type II ASTM D4869 Type III or IV

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	<p style="text-align: center;">ROOF ASSEMBLIES AND ROOFTOP STRUCTURES</p> <p>[BG] 1511.6 Mechanical equipment screens. Mechanical equipment screens shall be constructed of the materials specified for the exterior walls in accordance with the type of construction of the building. Where the fire separation distance is greater than 5 feet (1524 mm), mechanical equipment screens shall not be required to comply with the fire-resistance rating requirements.</p> <p>[BG] 1511.6.1 Height limitations. Mechanical equipment screens shall not exceed 18 feet (5486 mm) in height above the roof deck, as measured to the highest point on the mechanical equipment screen.</p> <p>Exception: Where located on buildings of Type IA construction, the height of mechanical equipment screens shall not be limited.</p> <p>[BG] 1511.6.2 Type I, II, III or IV construction. Regardless of the requirements in Section 1511.6, mechanical equipment screens that are located on the roof decks of buildings of Type I, II, III or IV construction shall be permitted to be constructed of combustible materials in accordance with any one of the following limitations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The fire separation distance shall be not less than 20 feet (6096 mm) and the height of the mechanical equipment screen above the roof deck shall not exceed 4 feet (1219 mm) as measured to the highest point on the mechanical equipment screen. 2. The fire separation distance shall be not less than 20 feet (6096 mm) and the mechanical equipment screen shall be constructed of fire-retardant-treated wood complying with Section 2303.2 for exterior installation. 3. Where exterior wall covering panels are used, the panels shall have a flame spread index of 25 or less when tested in the minimum and maximum thicknesses intended for use, with each face tested independently in accordance with ASTM E84 or UL 723. The panels shall be tested in the minimum and maximum thicknesses intended for use in accordance with, and shall comply with the acceptance criteria of, NFPA 285 and shall be installed as tested. Where the panels are tested as part of an exterior wall assembly in accordance with NFPA 285, the panels shall be installed on the face of the mechanical equipment screen supporting structure in the same manner as they were installed on the tested exterior wall assembly. <p>[BG] 1511.6.3 Type V construction. The height of mechanical equipment screens located on the roof decks of buildings of Type V construction, as measured from grade plane to the highest point on the mechanical equipment screen, shall be permitted to exceed the maximum building height allowed for the building by other provisions of this code where complying with any one of the following limitations, provided that the fire separation distance is greater than 5 feet (1524 mm):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where the fire separation distance is not less than 20 feet (6096 mm), the height above grade plane of the mechanical equipment screen shall not exceed 4 feet (1219 mm) more than the maximum building height allowed. 2. The mechanical equipment screen shall be constructed of noncombustible materials. 3. The mechanical equipment screen shall be constructed of fire-retardant-treated wood complying with Section 2303.2 for exterior installation. 4. Where the fire separation distance is not less than 20 feet (6096 mm), the mechanical equipment screen shall be constructed of materials having a flame spread index of 25 or less when tested in the minimum and maximum thicknesses intended for use with each face tested independently in accordance with ASTM E84 or UL 723. <p>[BG] 1511.7 Other rooftop structures. Rooftop structures not regulated by Sections 1511.2 through 1511.6 shall comply with Sections 1511.7.1 through 1511.7.6, as applicable.</p>	
<p>[BG] 1511.7.6 Lightning protection systems. Lightning protection system components shall be installed in accordance with Sections 1511.7.6.1, 1511.7.6.2 and 2703.</p> <p>[BG] 1511.7.6.1 Installation on metal edge systems or gutters. Lightning protection system components attached to ANSI/SPRI/FM 4435/ES-1 or ANSI/SPRI GT-1 tested metal edge systems or gutters shall be installed with compatible brackets, fasteners or adhesives, in accordance with the metal edge systems or gutter manufacturer's installation instructions. Where the metal edge system or gutter manufacturer is unknown, installation shall be as directed by a <i>registered design professional</i>.</p> <p>[BG] 1511.7.6.2 Installation on roof coverings. Lightning protection system components directly attached to or through the roof covering shall be installed in accordance with this chapter and the roof covering manufacturer's installation instructions. Flashing shall be installed in accordance with the roof assembly manufacturer's installation instructions and Sections 1503.2 and 1507 where the lightning protection system installation results in a penetration through the roof covering. Where the roof covering manufacturer is unknown, installation shall be as directed by a <i>registered design professional</i>.</p>		
<p style="font-size: small;">230 2024 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE® INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL</p>		

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	<p style="text-align: center;">ELECTRICAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SECTION 2703—LIGHTNING PROTECTION SYSTEMS</p> <p>2703.1 General. Where provided, lightning protection systems shall comply with Sections 2703.2 through 2703.3.</p> <p>2703.2 Installation. Lightning protection systems shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 780 or UL 96A. UL 96A shall not be utilized for buildings used for the production, handling or storage of ammunition, <i>explosives, flammable liquids, flammable gases</i> or other <i>explosive</i> ingredients including dust.</p> <p>2703.2.1 Surge protection. Where lightning protection systems are installed, surge protective devices shall also be installed in accordance with NFPA 70 and either NFPA 780 or UL 96A, as applicable.</p> <p>2703.3 Interconnection of systems. All lightning protection systems on a <i>building or structure</i> shall be interconnected in accordance with NFPA 780 or UL 96A, as applicable.</p>	
<p style="font-size: large; font-weight: bold; color: red;">NFPA 780 and UL 96A are the technical basis for LPS installer certification</p>		
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ROOF ASSEMBLIES AND ROOFTOP STRUCTURES	
<p>[BG] 1511.8 Structural fire resistance. The structural frame and roof construction supporting loads imposed upon the roof by any rooftop structure shall comply with the requirements of Table 601. The fire-resistance reduction permitted by Table 601, Note a, shall not apply to roofs containing rooftop structures.</p> <p>[BG] 1511.9 Raised-deck systems installed over a roof assembly. Raised-deck systems installed above a roof assembly shall comply with Sections 1511.9.1 through 1511.9.5.</p> <p>[BG] 1511.9.1 Installation. The installation of a raised-deck system shall comply with all of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The perimeter of the raised-deck system shall be surrounded on all sides by walls or by a noncombustible enclosure approved to prevent fire intrusion below the raised-deck system. The wall or enclosure shall extend at least from the roof assembly to the top surface of the raised-deck system. The enclosure shall not impede roof drainage in accordance with Section 1511.9.5. 2. A raised-deck system shall be installed above a listed roof assembly. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exception: Where the roof assembly is not required to have a fire classification in accordance with Section 1505.2. 3. A raised-deck system shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions. 4. A raised-deck system shall not impede the operation of plumbing or mechanical vents, exhaust, air inlets or roof drains. Where required, access for inspection, cleaning or maintenance shall be provided. <p>[BG] 1511.9.2 Fire classification. The raised-deck system shall be listed and identified with a fire classification in accordance with Section 1505 and shall be tested in accordance with either Section 1511.9.2.1 or 1511.9.2.2.</p> <p>[BG] 1511.9.2.1 Fire testing of the raised deck system installed over a classified roof assembly. The raised-deck system shall be tested separately from the roof assembly over which it is installed. The fire classification of the raised-deck system shall be not less than the fire classification for the roof assembly over which it is installed.</p> <p>Exception: Where the decking or pavers of the raised-deck system consists of brick, masonry, concrete or other noncombustible materials, fire testing of the raised-deck system is not required.</p> <p>[BG] 1511.9.2.2 Fire testing of the raised deck system together with the roof assembly. The roof assembly and the raised-deck system shall be tested together.</p> <p>[BG] 1511.9.3 Pedestals or supports. The pedestals or supports for the raised-deck system shall be installed in accordance with manufacturer's installation instructions.</p> <p>[BG] 1511.9.4 Structural requirements. The raised-deck system shall be designed for all applicable loads in accordance with Chapter 16 and performance requirements in Section 1504.5.</p> <p>[BG] 1511.9.5 Roof drainage. The raised-deck system, including the wall or enclosure between the roof assembly and the raised-deck, shall be designed and installed to allow for the operation of the roof drainage system as required by Section 1502 and the International Plumbing Code. The roof structure shall be designed to support any standing water resulting from the installation of the raised-deck system.</p> <p>[BG] 1511.9.6 Accessibility and egress. The raised-deck system shall be accessible in accordance with Chapter 11 and means of egress shall be provided in accordance with Chapter 10.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SECTION 1512—REROOFING</p> <p>1512.1 General. Materials and methods of application used for recovering or replacing an existing <i>roof covering</i> shall comply with the requirements of Chapter 15.</p> <p>Exceptions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Roof replacement or roof recover of existing low-slope roof coverings</i> shall not be required to meet the minimum design slope requirement of $1/4$ unit vertical in 12 units horizontal (2-percent slope) in Section 1507 for roofs that provide <i>positive roof drainage</i> and meet the requirements of Sections 1608.3 and 1611.2. 2. Recovering or replacing an existing <i>roof covering</i> shall not be required to meet the requirement for secondary (emergency overflow) drains or <i>scuppers</i> in Section 1502.2 for roofs that provide for <i>positive roof drainage</i> and meet the requirements of Sections 1608.3 and 1611.2. For the purposes of this exception, existing secondary drainage or <i>scupper</i> systems required in accordance with this code shall not be removed unless they are replaced by secondary drains or <i>scuppers</i> designed and installed in accordance with Section 1502.2. <div style="text-align: right;">  <p>Scan for Changes a4df0bb</p> </div>

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Considerations of “ponding instability”

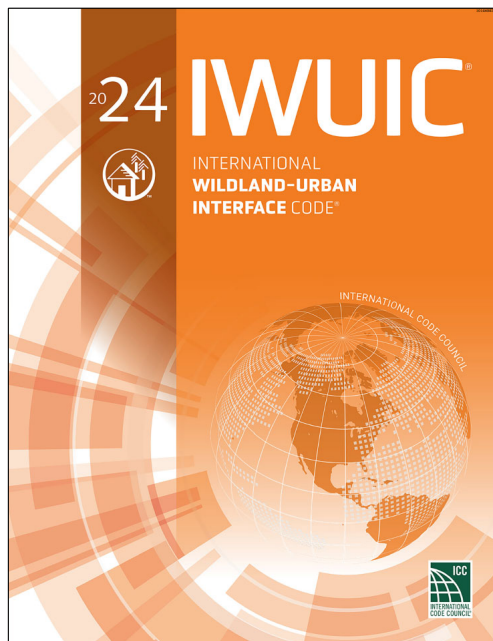
IBC 2024 and ASCE 7-22

- IBC’s reroofing provisions provide pointers to IBC Ch. 16-Structural Design
 - IBC Ch. 16 references ASCE 7-22
 - ASCE 7-22 addresses ponding instability in Sec. 7.11-Ponding Instability
- A complicated and costly analysis
 - Even more costly if drawings identifying the building’s structural components are not available
- If structural modifications are needed, added reroofing project complexity and cost

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A code-accepted way of circumventing IBC 2024's (and ASCE 7-22's) ponding instability provisions is to add tapered insulation to achieve ¼-in-12 or greater slope.

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IWUIC 2024

- Overlays the Building Code
- Ch. 5: Special Building Construction Regulations
- Ignition-resistant Construction Class 1, 2 or 3
- Class 1 and 2: Class A roof
- Class 3: Class B roof
- Valley, eave, gutter and downspout and roof vent requirements

[Link](#)

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RESEARCH+TECH



Wildfire mitigation
The International Code Council® provides mitigation regulations in code document by Mark S. Graham

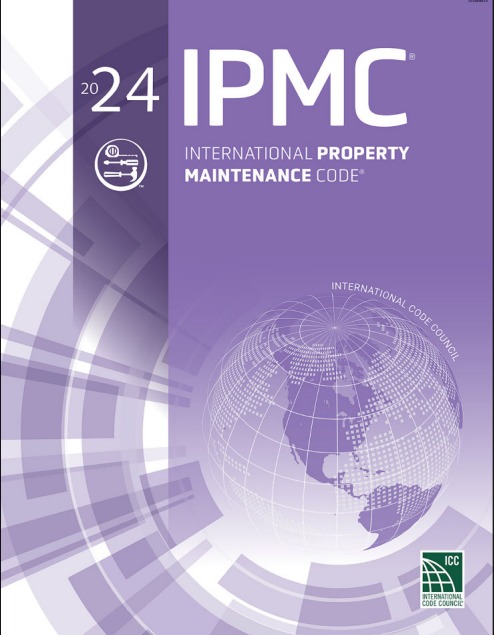
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IPMC 2024

- Sec. 304-Exterior Structure
- Sec. 507-Storm Drainage

[Link](#)

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RESEARCH+TECH



Maintaining compliance
IPMC* provides code requirements for building maintenance
by Mark S. Graham

The International Code Council's International Property Maintenance Code* establishes minimum requirements for the maintenance of existing buildings, including their roof systems, through model code regulations. IPMC 2024 has several roofing-related requirements and can be used as a basis for roofing contractors performing periodic roof system maintenance.

IPMC 2024

The IPMC originated in 1996 when a committee consisting of representatives of the three legacy code organizations (Building Officials and Code Administrators International, International Conference of Building Officials and Southern Building Code Congress International) drafted comprehensive guidelines for existing buildings based on the legacy code's requirements for existing buildings.

In 2000, ICC published the first edition of IPMC using ICC's code development process. New editions have been published every three years since with the most current edition being IPMC 2024.

IPMC 2024 has eight chapters and two appendices (see figure). The appendices are not mandatory unless specifically referenced in

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Updates to FM Global datasheets

www.FMGlobalDataSheets.com

- FM 1-15, “Roof-mounted Solar Photovoltaic Panels”
- FM 1-28, “Wind Design”
- FM 1-54, “Roof Loads and Drainage”

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Wind Design

FM Global Property Loss Prevention Data Sheets

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1.0 SCOPE

This data sheet provides general guidance to building designers regarding wind considerations with regard to property protection at highly protected buildings. This includes recommended wind pressures for common building shapes for the following:

1.1 Changes

January 2024. Interim revision. The following changes were made:

A. The tornado guidance formerly in Appendix D has been transferred to new Sections 2.11 and 3.12, and to existing Section 4.2. All tables, figures and equations have been re-numbered to the new sections. Appendix D has been deleted in its entirety.

B. Guidance on FM Approved Roof Anchors was added to Sections 2.6 and 3.8. FM Approved Roof Anchors are now available and can be used to provide additional securement for roof mounted equipment to prevent overturning.

C. Modifications were made to the pressure coefficient for the vertical force equation in Section 2.6. Conditions where the ratio of the distance of elevated roof mounted equipment from the roof surface to the bottom of the equipment in relation to the mean roof height for the building (C/H) is ≥ 0.03 allows for a lower pressure coefficient.

D. The map in Figure 11-b "Basic wind speeds for areas in Canada in a tropical cyclone prone region" was added and replaces certain select cities in Canada within the Canadian Maritimes.

- Windows, doors, and lightweight wall cladding can be broken by windborne debris, such as tree branches, parts of wood-framed structures, and roof tiles or gravel from nearby roofs.
- Windows and doors and lightweight wall cladding can be blown in or out by the pressures exerted on the building.
- Roofing and roof deck materials can be torn and/or peeled off structures.
- Inadequately secured roof-mounted equipment can be blown out of place, damaging the roof cover.

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Wind Design

FM Global Property Loss Prevention Data Sheets

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2.6.5 One of the following may be done to account for the higher wind pressures in the perimeter and corner areas:

A. Use wind design pressures for the field, perimeter and corner areas based on the Eurocode, or

B. Use wind design pressures for the field-of-roof as determined by the Eurocode and provide prescriptive enhancements for the securement of above-deck roof components and metal deck securement for the perimeter and corner areas per DS 1-29 or DS 1-31.

2.6.6 Do not credit parapets for reducing roof design uplift pressures unless the parapet height (h_p) is at least 3 ft (0.9 m). In addition, use design pressures based on the Eurocode that are at least equal to that required for an h_p/h ratio of 0.025, regardless of the actual ratio.

2.6.7 Use Figure 30.3.7 of ASCE 7-16 for external pressure coefficients (GC_p) for domed roofs with an EWA of 10 ft² or 1 m² (CPE-1).

2.6.8 Design all structural framing, including beams, columns, trusses, purlins, and girts, using load factors and capacity-reduction factors specified in the Eurocode.

2.6.9 Use Eurocode factors that are modified by National Annexes only if they make the design more conservative.

2.11 Tornadoes

2.11.1 The following section provides guidance for building owners or occupants who have important facilities that warrant additional protection to reduce potential property damage and business interruption as a result of a tornado.

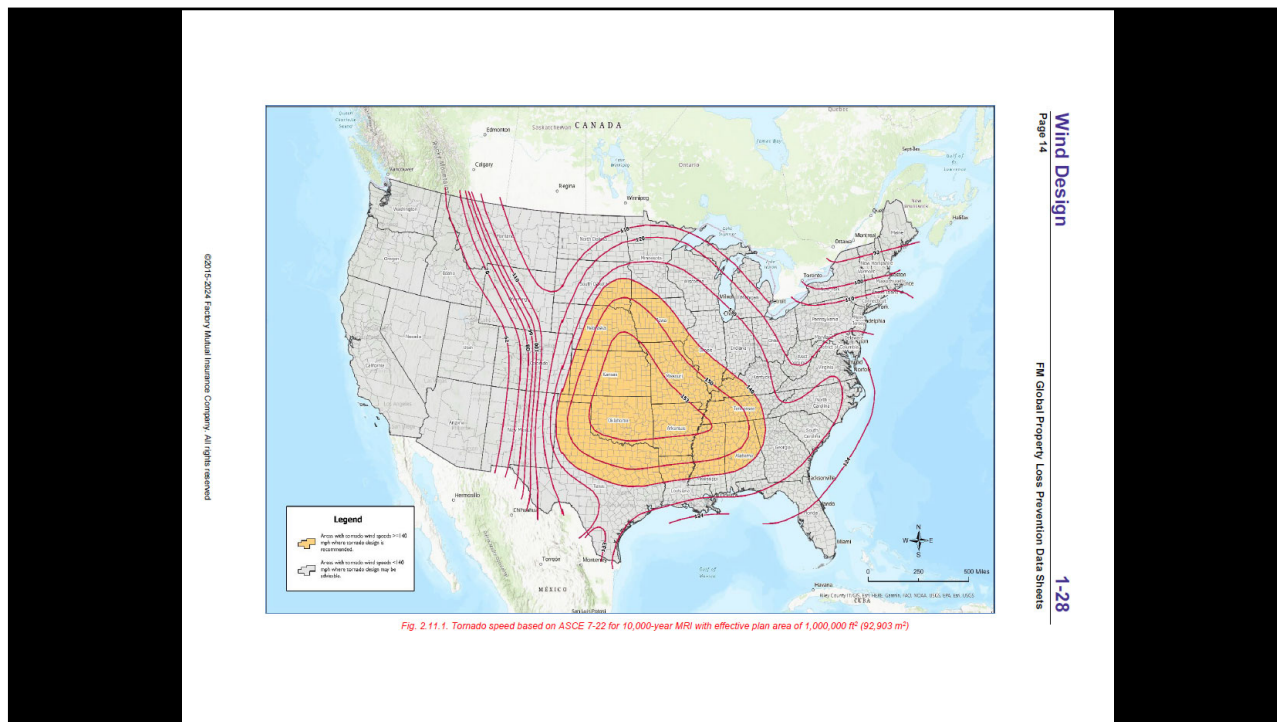
The tornado guidance in this standard should be applied to locations with tornado wind speeds ≥ 140 mph (63 m/s) as defined by the wind contours in the tornado wind speed map in Figure 2.11.1.

Design the building envelope, including walls, doors, windows, skylights, roof-mounted equipment and roofs to resist tornado wind speeds in accordance with Figure 2.11.1 and Section 3.0. Higher design wind speeds may also be used if desired.

Note for Figure 2.11.1: Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico and Guam have a very low probability of tornado occurrence. The non-tornado design wind speeds exceed 100 mph (45 m/s) for all of Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Guam, and much of Alaska. One difference is that Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Guam are prone to tropical storms and should normally be designed for windborne debris, which is not true for Alaska.

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3.12.4.8 Building Materials Used for Roof Construction

Wind loss experience has been more favorable with structural concrete roof decks than with steel decks. Steel deck may be used, but should be designed for higher pressures. This design could involve the use of any or all of the following:

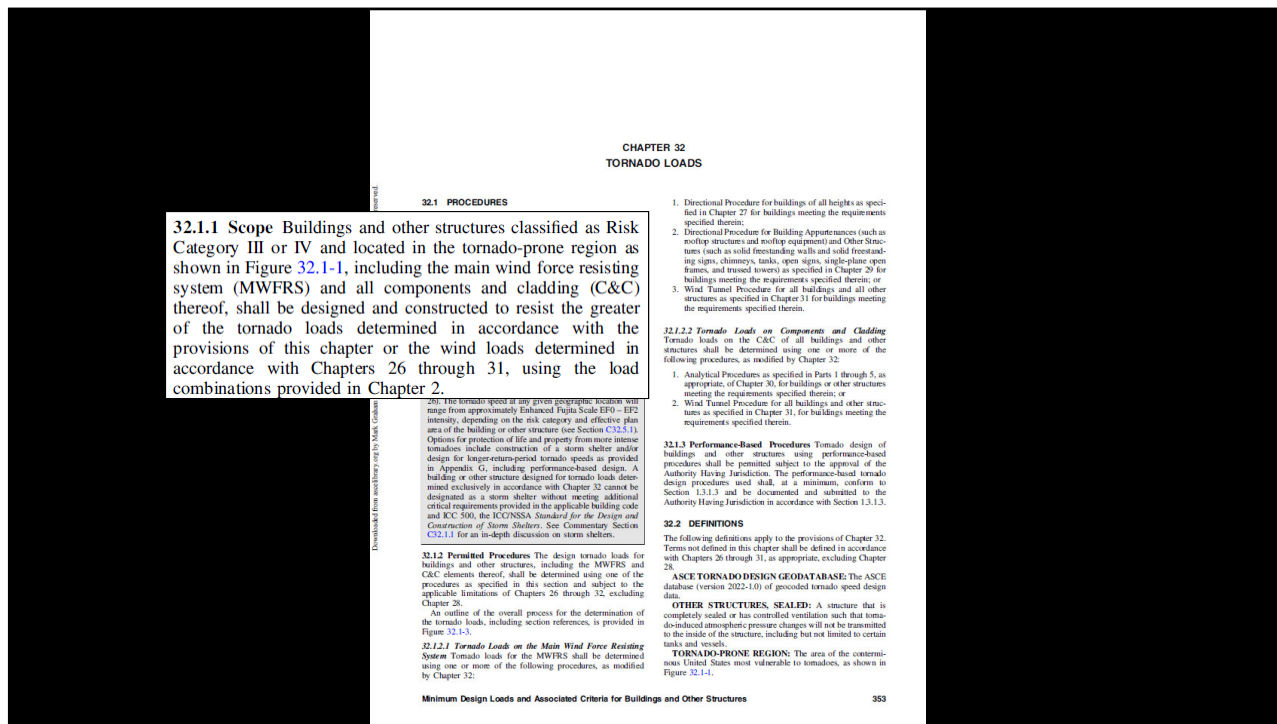
- Shorter deck spans
- Stiffer (deeper, thicker, etc.) deck
- Increased securement to joists/purlins

Experience has also shown that steel joists may buckle due to the transfer of lateral loads to them, or from compressive stresses that develop in their lower chords while uplift pressures are applied to the roof deck. This buckling could be resolved by enhancing the joist resistance, improving the joist bridging and/or adding lower chord extensions.

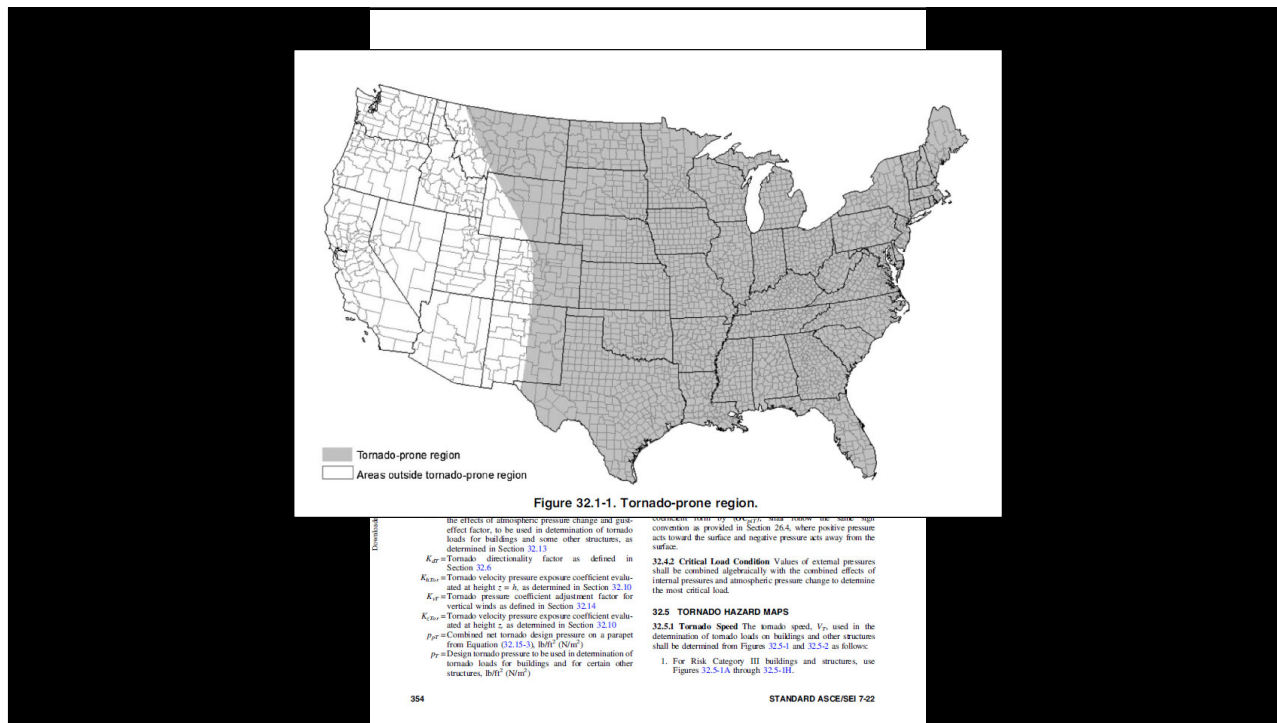
Insulated roof assemblies with very high wind resistance can be found in RoofNav[®], a publication of FM Approvals. Some assemblies, including those using insulated steel deck, have wind uplift ratings up to approximately 465 psf (22 kPa). These assemblies provide a cost-effective design for higher wind speeds associated with tornados, including the application of pressure coefficients to reflect areas of the roof with higher wind pressures, and a reasonable safety factor.

Note: The cost increase to change from a 90 mph (40 m/s) design wind speed (as is the case with the majority of the central United States) to a higher tornado wind design will vary, depending on geography, the specific design criteria, percentage of windows, etc. Increased construction costs for components and cladding are expected in areas not normally designed for increased wind speeds. This cost increase could be as high as 50%.

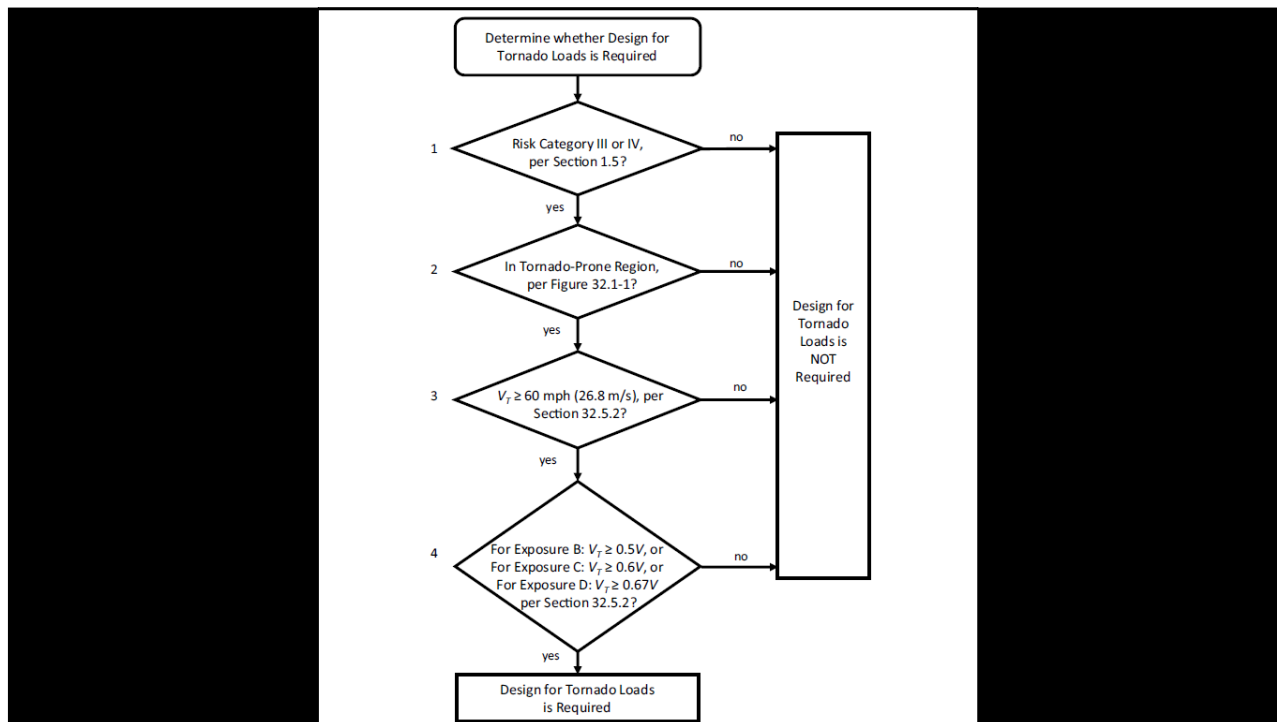
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Chapter 32: General Requirements. The basic parameters used in determination of tornado loads are both the NFWRFS and CBC are:

- Tornado speed, V_T , see Section 32.5.1
- Effective plan area, A_e , see Section 32.5.4
- Tornado directionality factor, K_d , see Section 32.6
- Ground elevation factor, K_e , see Section 32.9
- Tornado velocity pressure exposure coefficients, $K_{z,w}$ and $K_{z,e}$, see Section 32.10
- Tornado gust effect factor, G_e , see Section 32.11
- Tornado enclosure classification, see Section 32.12
- Tornado internal pressure coefficient, $G_{p,i}$, see Section 32.13
- Tornado pressure coefficient adjustment factor, $K_{a,i}$, see Section 32.14.

Tornado loads on the NFWRFS shall be determined by one or more of:

- Chapter 27: Directional procedure for buildings of all heights as modified by Section 32.15.
- Chapter 29: Directional procedure for building apparatuses (rooftop structures and equipment, roof overhangs, and parapets) and other structures as modified by Section 32.16.
- Chapter 31: Wind tunnel procedure for any building or other structure as modified by Section 32.18.

Tornado loads on the CBC shall be determined by one or more of:

- Chapter 30: Part 1, Buildings with $h < 60$ ft (18.3 m), or Part 2, Buildings with $h < 60$ ft (18.3 m), or Part 3, Open buildings, or Part 4, Building apparatuses, rooftop structures, and equipment, or Part 5, Nonbuilding structures, with all parts as modified by Section 32.17.
- Chapter 31: Wind tunnel procedure for any building or other structure as modified by Section 32.18.

Figure 32.1-1. Outline of process for determining tornado loads.

2. For Risk Category IV buildings and structures, use Figures 32.5-2A through 32.5-2H.

To select the appropriate tornado hazard map to use for the assigned risk category, the effective plan area, A_e , of the building, other structure, or facility, shall be determined in accordance with Section 32.5.4 and shall be rounded up to next available mapped A_e , including 1; 2,000; 10,000; 50,000; 100,000; 250,000; 1,000,000; and 4,000,000 ft² (0.1; 186; 929; 3,716; 9,290; 23,226; 92,903; and 111,612 m²). Alternatively, linear interpolation of tornado speed between maps using the logarithm of the effective plan area size is permitted.

Alternatively, it shall be permitted to use the tornado speeds from the ASCE Tornado Design Geodatabase. The ASCE Tornado Design Geodatabase is available at the ASCE 7 Hazard Tool (<https://asce7hazardtool.online>) or approved equivalent.

32.5.2 Design for Tornado Loads Not Required For Risk Category III and IV buildings and other structures determined to have tornado speeds $V_T < 60$ mph (26.8 m/s), design for tornado loads shall not be required. Where $V_T \geq 60$ mph (26.8 m/s) but is less than the following threshold speeds then design for tornado loads shall not be required:

- For Exposure B: $V_T < 0.5V$, or
- For Exposure C: $V_T < 0.6V$, or
- For Exposure D: $V_T < 0.67V$,

where V is the basic wind speed determined in accordance with Section 26.5 and the exposure category is determined in accordance with Section 26.7.3, based on the exposure resulting in the greatest wind loads for any wind direction at the site.

32.5.3 Direction of Tornadoic Wind The tornadoic wind shall be assumed to come from any horizontal direction.

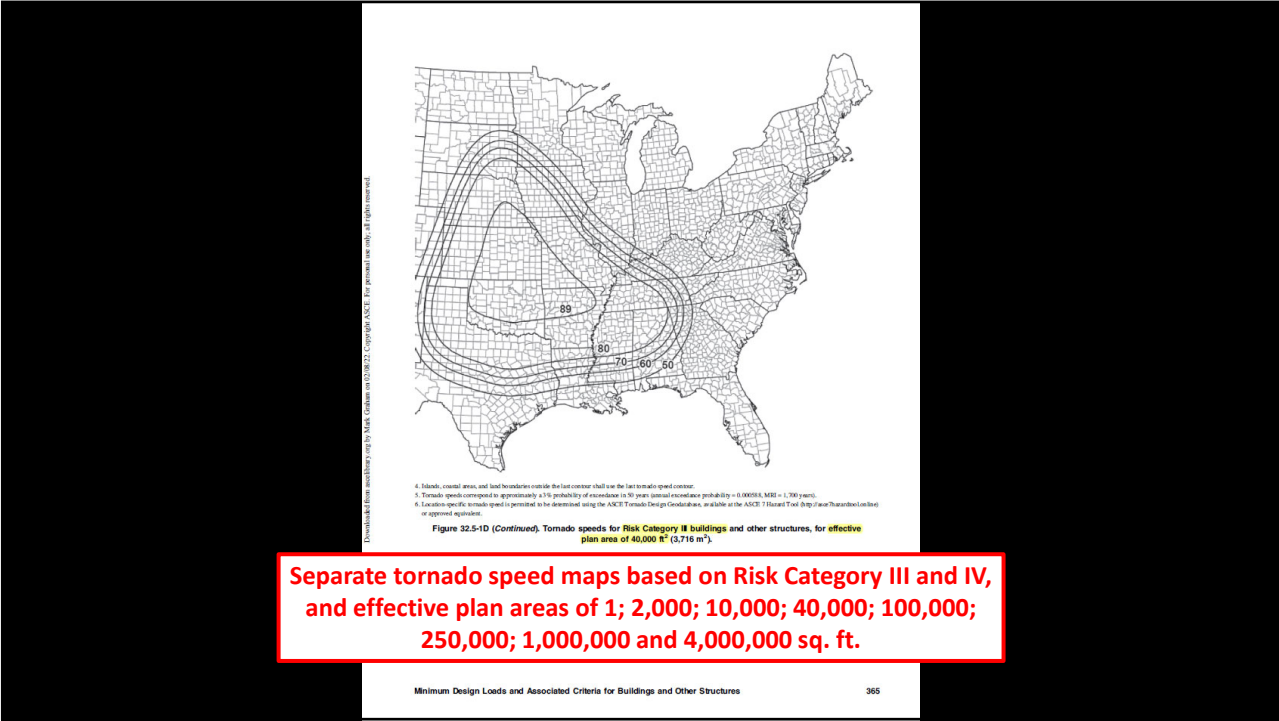
32.5.4 Effective Plan Area The effective plan area, A_e , of the building or other structure shall be determined in accordance with this section.

32.5.4.1 Essential Facilities For Essential Facilities and buildings and other structures required to maintain the functionality of Essential Facilities, the effective plan area shall be equal to the area of the smallest convex polygon enclosing both the Essential Facility and all of the buildings and other structures that maintain the functionality of the Essential Facility.

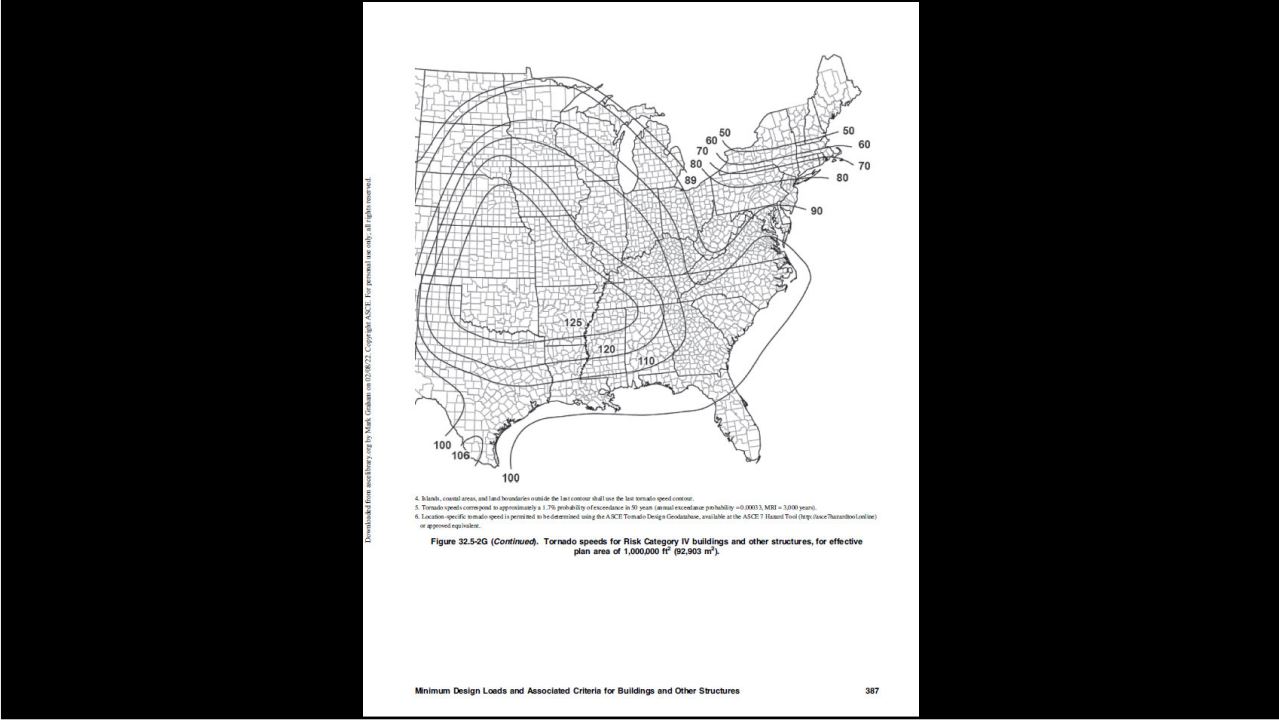
32.5.4.2 Other than Essential Facilities For buildings and structures that are not designated as Essential Facilities and are not required to maintain the functionality of Essential Facilities, the effective plan area shall be equal to the area of the smallest convex polygon enclosing the plan of the building, other structure, or facility. It is permitted to reduce the effective plan area to that of the effective plan area of the largest structurally independent building or other structure, which does not share structural components with adjacent buildings or other structures.

32.5.4.3 Ground-Mounted Photovoltaic Panel Systems The effective plan area, A_e , of ground-mounted photovoltaic

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	<p>panel systems shall be equal to the effective plan area of the lightest structurally independent photovoltaic support structure that does not share structural components with other adjacent structures.</p> <p>32.6 TORNADO DIRECTIONALITY FACTOR The tornado directionality factor, K_{DT}, shall be determined from Table 32.6-1 and shall be used to determine the tornado loads in accordance with Sections 32.15 through 32.17.</p> <p>32.7 TORNADO EXPOSURE Tornado velocity pressure exposure coefficients K_{zT} and K_{zT0} are determined in Section 32.10.1. Exposure requirements in Section 26.7 shall not apply to the determination of K_{zT} and K_{zT0}.</p> <p>32.10 TORNADO VELOCITY PRESSURE</p> <p>32.10.1 Tornado Velocity Pressure Exposure Coefficient A tornado velocity pressure exposure coefficient, K_{zT0} or K_{HT0}, as applicable, shall be determined from Table 32.10-1.</p> <p>32.10.2 Tornado Velocity Pressure Tornado velocity pressure, q_{zT}, evaluated at height z above ground, shall be determined in accordance with the following equation:</p> $q_{zT} = 0.00256K_{zT0}K_eV_T^2 \text{ (lb/ft}^2\text{); } V_T \text{ in mi/h} \quad (32.10-1)$ $q_{zT} = 0.613K_{zT0}K_eV_T^2 \text{ (N/m}^2\text{); } V_T \text{ in m/s} \quad (32.10-1.SI)$ <p>where K_{zT0} = Tornado velocity pressure exposure coefficient, see Section 32.10.1; K_e = Ground elevation factor, see Section 32.9; V_T = Tornado speed, see Section 32.5; and q_{zT} = Tornado velocity pressure at height z.</p> <p>The velocity pressure at mean roof height shall be computed as $q_{HT} = q_{zT}$ evaluated from Equation (32.10-1) using K_{zT0} at mean roof height h.</p>	<p>32.12 TORNADO ENCLOSURE CLASSIFICATION</p> <p>32.12.1 General For the purpose of determining internal pressure coefficients for tornadoes, buildings and other structures for which tornado internal pressure coefficients, (GC_{pi}), apply shall have an enclosure classification assigned in accordance with this section. If a building or other structure satisfies both the "open" and "partially enclosed" tornado enclosure classification definitions, it shall be classified as a "partially open" building or other structure.</p> <p>32.12.2 Openings To assign the tornado enclosure classification, the amount of openings in the building envelope shall be determined by taking each wall of the building or other structure, assuming it functions as the windward wall, and summing the total area of openings present with respect to the area of the remaining building envelope. Buildings shall be classified as enclosed, partially enclosed, partially open, or open as defined in Section 26.2. Other structures shall be classified as sealed, as defined in Section 32.2, or enclosed, partially enclosed, partially open, or open as defined in Section 26.2.</p> <p>Where not required by Section 32.12.3 to protect glazed openings, enclosed buildings and other structures shall either (1) be reevaluated for classification as partially enclosed, with all unprotected glazed openings on each assumed windward wall considered as openings; or (2) be protected in accordance with Section 32.12.3.1.</p> <p>32.12.3 Protection of Glazed Openings Glazed openings shall be protected as specified in this section for Essential Facilities and for buildings and other structures required to maintain the functionality of Essential Facilities.</p> <p>32.12.3.1 Protection Requirements for Glazed Openings Glazing in buildings requiring protection shall be protected with an impact-protective system or shall be impact-resistant glazing. Impact-protective systems shall be either (a) permanently affixed non-operable systems or (b) permanently affixed operable systems capable of being fully deployed from inside the building within five minutes and used in buildings that are staffed 24 hours per day.</p> <p>Impact-protective systems and impact-resistant glazing shall be subjected to missile tests in accordance with ASTM E1996 using missile level D or E as described in Table 2 of ASTM E1996. Testing to demonstrate compliance with ASTM E1996 shall be in accordance with ASTM E1886. Impact-resistant glazing and impact-protective systems shall comply with the pass/fail criteria of Section 7 of ASTM E1996. Glazing in sectional doors, rolling doors, and flexible doors shall be subjected to missile tests in accordance with ANSI/ASMA 115 as applicable. Glazing and impact-protective systems shall comply with the "Enhanced Protection" requirements of Table 3 of ASTM E1996, with tornado speed used in place of basic wind speed for determination of wind zone.</p> <p>EXCEPTIONS: Other testing methods and/or performance criteria are permitted to be used where approved.</p> <p>32.13 TORNADO INTERNAL PRESSURE COEFFICIENTS Tornado internal pressure coefficients, (GC_{pi}), shall be determined from Table 32.13-1 based on building and other structure enclosure classifications determined in accordance with Section 32.12.1.</p>
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	<p>$F_{HT} = q_{HT}K_{DT}K_{zT}(GC_e)A_r$ (32.16-4)</p> <p>$F_{HT} = q_{HT}K_{DT}K_{zT}(GC_e)A_r$ (N) (32.16-4.SI)</p> <p>where q_{HT} = Tornado velocity pressure from Section 32.10.2 evaluated at mean roof height h, lb/ft² (N/m²); K_{DT} = Tornado directionality factor from Section 32.6; K_{zT} = Tornado pressure coefficient adjustment factor from Section 32.14; (GC_e) = Product of external pressure coefficient and gust-effect factor from Section 29.4.1, and A_r = Horizontal projected area of rooftop structure or equipment, ft² (m²).</p> <p>32.16.3.3 Roofs of Isolated Circular Bins, Silos, and Tanks Section 29.4.2.2 shall apply for determination of MWFRS loads on the roofs of isolated circular bins, silos, and tanks, as modified in this section. The net design tornado pressures shall be determined in accordance with the following equation, which replaces Equation (29.4-1):</p> $p_T = q_{HT}[G_1K_{DT}K_{zT}C_p - (GC_{piT})] \text{ (lb/ft}^2\text{)} \quad (32.16-5)$ $p_T = q_{HT}[G_1K_{DT}K_{zT}C_p - (GC_{piT})] \text{ (N/m}^2\text{)} \quad (32.16-5.SI)$ <p>where q_{HT} = Tornado velocity pressure from Section 32.10.2 evaluated at mean roof height h, lb/ft² (N/m²); G_1 = Tornado gust-effect factor from Section 32.11; K_{DT} = Tornado directionality factor from Section 32.6; K_{zT} = Tornado pressure coefficient adjustment factor from Section 32.14; C_p = External pressure coefficient from Section 29.4.2.2, and (GC_{piT}) = Tornado internal pressure coefficient from Section 32.13.</p> <p>32.16.3.4 Rooftop Solar Panels for Buildings of All Heights with Flat Roofs or Gable or Hip Roofs with Slopes Less Than 7 Degrees Section 29.4.3 shall apply for determination of MWFRS loads on rooftop photovoltaic panels for buildings of all heights with flat roofs or gable or hip roofs with slopes less than 7 degrees, as modified in this section. The design tornado pressure, p_T, for rooftop photovoltaic panels shall be determined by the following equation, which replaces Equation (29.4-5):</p> $p_T = q_{HT}K_{DT}(GC_{pi}) \text{ (lb/ft}^2\text{)} \quad (32.16-6)$ $p_T = q_{HT}K_{DT}(GC_{pi}) \text{ (N/m}^2\text{)} \quad (32.16-6.SI)$ <p>where q_{HT} = Tornado velocity pressure from Section 32.10.2 evaluated at mean roof height h, lb/ft² (N/m²); K_{DT} = Tornado directionality factor from Section 32.6, and (GC_{pi}) = Net pressure coefficient from Section 29.4.3.</p> <p>32.16.3.5 Rooftop Solar Panels Parallel to the Roof Surface on Buildings of All Heights and Roof Slopes Section 29.4.4 shall apply for determination of MWFRS loads on rooftop photovoltaic panels parallel to the roof surface on buildings of all heights and roof slopes as modified in this section. The design tornado pressure, p_T, for rooftop photovoltaic panels shall be</p>	<p>32.17.1 Low-Rise Buildings Section 30.3 shall apply for determination of component and cladding tornado loads on low-rise buildings, as modified in this section. The design tornado pressures, p_T, on C&C elements in low-rise buildings and buildings with $h \leq 60$ ft ($h \leq 18.3$ m) shall be determined in accordance with the following equation, which replaces Equation (30.3-1):</p> $p_T = q_{HT}[K_{DT}K_{zT}(GC_p) - (GC_{piT})] \text{ (lb/ft}^2\text{)} \quad (32.17-1)$ $p_T = q_{HT}[K_{DT}K_{zT}(GC_p) - (GC_{piT})] \text{ (N/m}^2\text{)} \quad (32.17-1.SI)$ <p>where q_{HT} = Tornado velocity pressure from Section 32.10.2 evaluated at mean roof height h, lb/ft² (N/m²); K_{DT} = Tornado directionality factor from Section 32.6; K_{zT} = Tornado pressure coefficient adjustment factor from Section 32.14; (GC_p) = External pressure coefficient from Section 30.3; and (GC_{piT}) = Tornado internal pressure coefficient from Section 32.13.</p> <p>32.17.1.1 Bottom Horizontal Surfaces of Elevated Buildings Section 30.3.2.1 shall apply for determination of C&C loads on bottom horizontal surfaces of elevated buildings, as modified in this section. The design tornado pressure, p_T, for the effects of tornado pressure on C&C shall be determined in accordance with Equation (32.17-1), where $K_{zT} = 1.0$.</p> <p>32.17.2 Buildings with $h > 60$ ft ($h > 18.3$ m) Section 30.4 shall apply for the determination of component and cladding tornado loads on buildings with $h > 60$ ft ($h > 18.3$ m), as modified in this section. The design tornado pressures, p_T, on C&C elements for all buildings with $h > 60$ ft ($h > 18.3$ m) shall be determined in accordance with the following equation, which replaces Equation (30.4-1):</p> $p_T = qK_{DT}K_{zT}(GC_p) - q_i(GC_{piT}) \text{ (lb/ft}^2\text{)} \quad (32.17-2)$ $p_T = qK_{DT}K_{zT}(GC_p) - q_i(GC_{piT}) \text{ (N/m}^2\text{)} \quad (32.17-2.SI)$ <p>where $q = q_{zT}$ For external pressure on all walls evaluated at height z above the ground, lb/ft² (N/m²);</p>
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FEMA/NIST Design Guide

Design Guide for New Tornado Load Requirements in ASCE 7-22

Figure 5: Effective plan areas for buildings that are not essential facilities (Adapted from ASCE 7, Figure C32.5-1; used with permission from ASCE)

Figure 6: Effective plan area for essential facilities (Adapted from ASCE 7, Figure C32.5-2; used with permission from ASCE)

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NIST Technical Note 2214

Economic Analysis of ASCE 7-22 Tornado Load Requirements

Legend

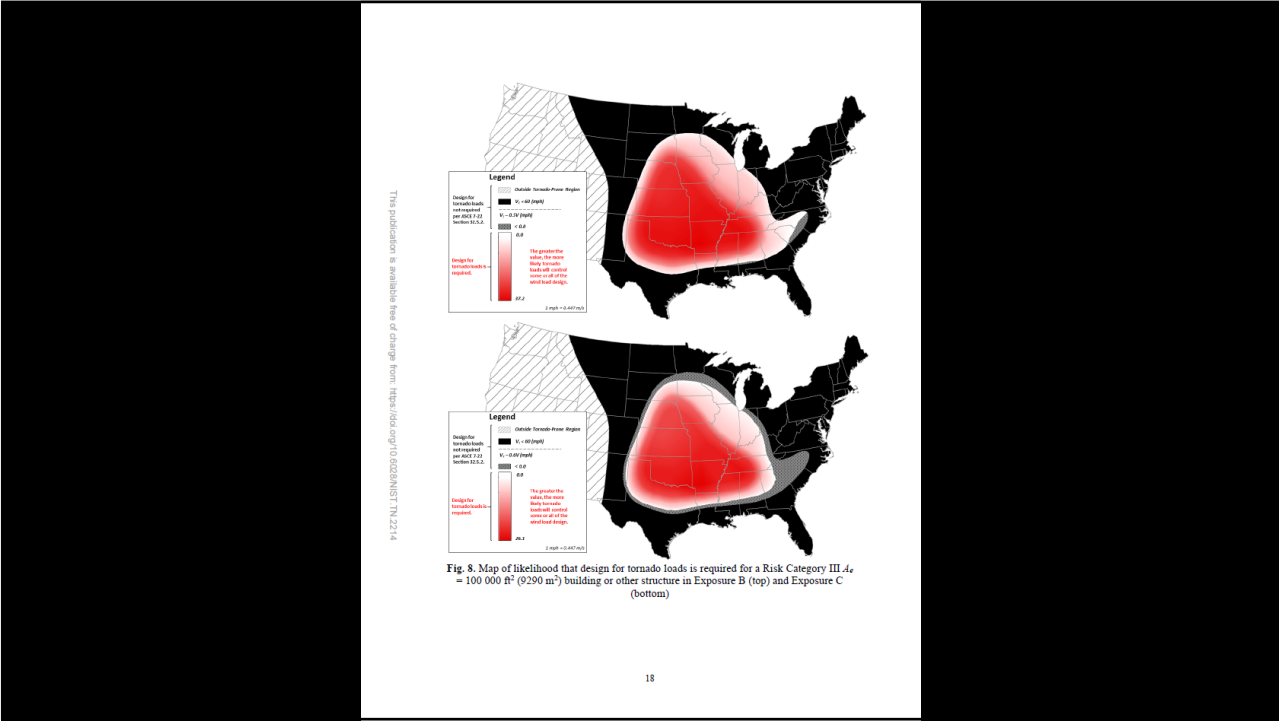
- Tornado Wind Speeds (mph) $A_s = 100,000 \text{ ft}^2 (9,290 \text{ m}^2)$
- Basic Wind Speeds (mph)
- Special Wind Region

Note: 1 mph = 0.447 m/s

Basic wind speeds shown are based on Risk Category IV

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More information on tornado design will be forthcoming...

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Roof Wind Designer

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PROFILE
ADMIN
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ROOF WIND DESIGNER

ASCE 7-08, ASCE 7-10, ASCE 7-16 AND ASCE 7-22

Roof Wind Designer is intended to provide users with an easy-to-use means for determining roof systems' design wind loads for many commonly encountered building types that are subject to building code compliance.

Design wind loads are derived using the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Standard ASCE 7, "Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures." This standard is a widely recognized consensus standard and is referenced in and serves as the technical basis for wind load determination in the International Building Code and NFPA 5000: Building Construction and Safety Code. Roof Wind Designer allows users to choose between ASCE 7's 2005, 2010, 2016, and 2022 editions. Roof Wind Designer uses ASCE 7-05's Method 1—Simplified Method, ASCE 7-10's Envelope Procedure, Part 2: Low-rise Buildings (Simplified) of Chapter 30, ASCE 7-16's Envelope Procedure, Part 2: Low-rise Buildings (Simplified) of Chapter 30, and Part 4: Buildings with 60ft < h ≤ 160ft (Simplified), and ASCE 7-22's Part 1: Low-rise Buildings, Part 2: Buildings with h > 60 ft [(h > 18.3 m)], and Part 4: Building appurtenances, rooftop structures and equipment. A more detailed explanation of ASCE 7's four editions.

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	<p>STRUCTURAL DESIGN</p> <p>6. Design load-bearing values of soils.</p> <p>7. Rain load data.</p> <p>1603.1.1 Floor live load. The uniformly distributed, concentrated and impact floor live load used in the design shall be indicated for floor areas. Use of live load reduction in accordance with Section 1607.1.3 shall be indicated for each type of live load used in the design.</p> <p>1603.1.2 Roof live load. The roof live load used in the design shall be indicated for roof areas.</p> <p>1603.1.3 Roof snow load data. The ground snow load, p_g, shall be indicated. In areas where the ground snow load, p_g, exceeds 15 pounds per square foot (psf) (0.72 kN/m²), the following additional information shall also be provided, regardless of whether snow loads govern the design of the roof:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Flat-roof snow load, p_s. 2. Snow exposure factor, C_e. 3. Risk category. 4. Thermal factor, C_t. 5. Slope factor(s), C_s. 6. Drift surcharge load(s), p_d, where the sum of p_d and p_s exceeds 30 psf (1.44 kN/m²). 7. Width of snow drift(s), w. 8. Winter wind parameter for snow drift, W. 	
<p>1603.1.4 Wind and tornado design data. The following information related to wind loads and, where required by Section 1609.5, tornado loads shall be shown, regardless of whether wind or tornado loads govern the design of the lateral force-resisting system of the structure:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Basic wind speed, V, mph (m/s), tornado speed, V_T, mph (m/s), and allowable stress design wind speed, V_{std}, mph (m/s), as determined in accordance with Section 1609.3.1. 2. Risk category. 3. Effective plan area, A_e, for tornado design in accordance with Chapter 32 of ASCE 7. 4. Wind exposure. Applicable wind direction if more than one wind exposure is utilized. 5. Applicable internal pressure coefficients, and applicable tornado internal pressure coefficients. 6. Design wind pressures and their applicable zones with dimensions to be used for exterior component and cladding materials not specifically designed by the registered design professional responsible for the design of the structure, pounds per square foot (kN/m²). Where design for tornado loads is required, the design pressures shown shall be the maximum of wind or tornado pressures. 		
<p>1603.1.6 Flood design data. For buildings located in whole or in part in flood hazard areas as established in Section 1612.3, the documentation pertaining to design, if required in Section 1612.4, shall be included and the following information, referenced to the datum on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), shall be shown, regardless of whether flood loads govern the design of the building:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Flood design class assigned according to ASCE 24. 2. In flood hazard areas other than coastal high hazard areas or coastal A zones, the elevation of the proposed lowest floor, including the basement. 3. In flood hazard areas other than coastal high hazard areas or coastal A zones, the elevation to which any nonresidential building will be dry floodproofed. 4. In coastal high hazard areas and coastal A zones, the proposed elevation of the bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member of the lowest floor, including the basement. 		
<p>434</p> <p style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL 2024 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE® </p>		

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Continuing concerns with steel roof decks

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March 2017

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CONSTRUCTION ISSUES

discussion of construction issues and techniques

Are Your Roof Members Overstressed?

By James M. Fisher, Ph.D., PE, Dist. M.A.S.C.E. and Thomas Span, Ph.D., PE, S.E., A.A.S.P.

James M. Fisher is Vice President Emeritus, Commercial Structural Design, Mechanics, W, and Consulting Engineer to the Steel Joint Institute. He may be reached at jfisher@rdieng.com. Thomas Span is President of Span and Lammert Engineering, LLC, Gainesville, FL, and Technical Director of the Steel Deck Institute. He may be reached at tspan51@gmail.com.



Membrane roof systems installed on steel roof decks traditionally result in a uniform transfer of wind (uplift) loads from the roof membrane to the steel roof deck and underlying supporting structure (e.g., steel joists). For example, in a built-up membrane roof system – which has been used commonly in the U.S. roofing industry for more than 125 years – the built-up membrane is continuously adhered to rigid board insulation. The rigid board insulation, which is used to span the steel deck flutes, is mechanically attached to the steel roof deck in a closely-spaced pattern (e.g., 1 fastener per every 3 square feet), resulting in a near uniform uplift load path. Polymer-modified bitumen roof systems and adhered single-ply membrane roof systems are installed in similar configurations and result in a similar uniform uplift load path.

In the 1960s, single-ply membrane roof systems were first introduced into the U.S. roofing market. By the late 1970s, the seam-fastened, mechanically attached method of installation was first introduced. With this installation method, the single-ply membrane sheet is mechanically attached along its outer edges into the roof deck, which results in a larger tributary uplift load per fastener and placement of fasteners in linear, non-uniform loading configurations of the roof deck and underlying supporting structure. When first introduced, membrane sheet widths in seam-fastened single-ply membrane roof systems typically were five feet wide, resulting in rows of mechanical fasteners spaced at four feet on-center. Since the early 2000s, single-ply membrane sheet widths have become wider, with 10-foot-wide sheets now commonplace – resulting in rows of mechanical fasteners spaced at 10 feet on-center. Currently, single-ply membrane roof systems have clearly overtaken conventional built-up and polymer-modified bitumen membrane systems in market share. The seam-fastened, mechanically attached method of installation also has overtaken traditionally adhered methods of application. The National Roofing Contractors Association (NRCA) annual market survey shows seam-fastened, mechanically attached single-ply membrane roof systems make up the majority of all membrane roof systems currently installed.

With the present emphasis on wind resistance in design, a closer look at how seam-fastened, mechanically attached single-ply membrane roof systems interact with steel roof deck and joint construction is in order.

A common method of single-ply membrane sheet layout is shown in Figure 1. A common placement of mechanical fasteners is shown in Figure 2. These concentrated line loads can severely overstress the steel deck and may also cause the steel joint below the deck to be overstressed under uplift loading. The behavior of such fastening systems, when the roof system is subjected to uplift loading, is shown in Figure 3. The current trend in securement is for the membrane installer to mechanically fasten the membrane to the deck only along the edge of the sheet rolls to speed up the roof installation, thereby lowering installation costs. Unfortunately, the Structural Engineer of Record, and the steel deck and joint supplier, are usually unaware of the concentrated load pattern of the roof membrane attachment. In fact, the architect of record may not be aware of the ramifications of such attachments. The Architectural roofing specifications may simply state that the roof membrane shall be installed per manufacturers recommendations. The roofing installer/foreman is the one who generally decides on the exact layout of the membrane sheets on the roof. That decision is made based on what layout can be installed in the fastest and least expensive

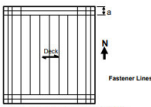


Figure 1. Typical membrane layout by rolls.

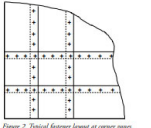


Figure 2. Typical fastener layout at corner seams.

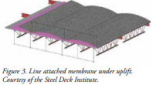


Figure 3. Line attached membrane under uplift. Courtesy of the Steel Deck Institute.

Structure magazine

March 2017

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Interim Revision July 2022
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ROOF DECK SECUREMENT AND ABOVE-DECK ROOF COMPONENTS


Note to Insureds of Factory Mutual Insurance Company: Contact the local FM Global office before beginning any roofing work.

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Roof Deck Securement and Above-Deck Roof Components

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2.2.2.5 Prevent over-stressing of the roof deck due to possible high concentrated loads during construction. This includes rolls of membrane and gravel carts. When the weight of individual rolls of single-ply membrane exceeds 1100 lb (500 kg), use precautions such as plywood sheets over steel deck to reduce point loads.

2.2.2.6 Protect roof expansion joints by filling the space between nailers with noncombustible, compressible insulation, such as mineral wool. Cover the expansion joint with flashing made of galvanized steel, zinc-aluminum-coated steel, or stainless steel secured in accordance with Data Sheet 1-45. An example is shown in Figure 2. Similar details can be found in the *NRCA Roofing Manual: Membrane Roof Systems*.

2.2.2.7 Provide adequate separation and/or noncombustible insulation between hot exhaust stacks and combustible roof components. See DS 1-13, *Chimneys*, for details.

2.2.2.8 Ensure all above-deck components are dry and surfaces are free of debris or dirt prior to adhering roof covers to them. This will help ensure complete adhesion of the cover to its substrate.

2.2.2.9 In locations that are prone to tropical cyclones, plan roof installations that use cold-process adhesives to ensure adequate curing time prior to potential exposure from a tropical cyclone. Also, see Section 3.1.2.2.

2.2.2.10 Apply adhesives in accordance with the manufacturer's temperature limitations.

2.2.3 Steel Roof Deck

2.2.3.1 Select a RoofNav assembly after determining the needed wind, hail, and interior and exterior fire ratings. Use the center-to-center spacing of supports to determine the deck span.

2.2.3.2 When designing the steel deck, give consideration to the needed wind rating, and how the load is applied (concentrated vs. uniformly distributed) from the above-deck components to the deck. Where the distance between rows of roof cover fasteners is greater than half the deck span, treat as a concentrated load.

As an alternative to using Tables 1A or 1B for concentrated loads, a performance-based approach may be used if calculations are conducted by a licensed S.E. or P.E. in structural engineering. This applies to situations where the distance between rows of roof cover fasteners is greater than one-half the deck span. Make the following assumptions:

- A. Assume a 3-span structural condition.
- B. Assume the first row of roof cover fasteners is located at mid-point of the first deck span.
- C. Assume maximum allowable strength is determined using allowable strength design (ASD) in accordance with AISI S100-2016, or comparable standard outside the United States.

Due to the more brittle nature of higher grade steels, the maximum yield stress used in the analysis is 60,000 psi (414 MPa), even for 80,000 psi (552 MPa) yield stress steel. Use Tables 1A through 1E as follows to facilitate deck selection:

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Table 1A. Use for roof covers or base plies that are mechanically fastened to the steel deck when the distance between rows of roof cover fasteners is more than half the deck span and the deck is 1-1/2 in. (38 mm) deep, wide rib (Type B) with a minimum yield stress of 33,000 psi (228 MPa).

Table 1B. Use for roof covers or base plies that are mechanically fastened to the steel deck when the distance between rows of roof cover fasteners is more than half the deck span and the deck is 1-1/2 in. (38 mm) deep, wide rib (Type B) with a minimum yield stress of 60,000 psi (414 MPa).

Note: Where the minimum specified yield stress is between 33,000 psi (228 MPa) and 60,000 psi (414 MPa), it is reasonably accurate to interpolate the maximum deck span linearly based on Tables 1A and 1B.

Table 1C. Use for roof covers or base plies that are adhered to insulation or cover board, or mechanically fastened to the steel deck when the distance between rows of roof cover fasteners is one-half the deck span or less and the deck is 1-1/2 in. (38 mm) deep, wide rib (Type B) with minimum yield stresses of 33,000 psi (228 MPa) and ultimate wind ratings of from 60 to 225 psf (2.9 to 10.8 kPa).

Table 1D. Use for roof covers or base plies that are adhered to insulation or cover board, or mechanically fastened to the steel deck when the distance between rows of roof cover fasteners is one-half the deck span or less and the deck is 1-1/2 in. (38 mm) deep, wide rib (Type B) with minimum yield stresses of 33,000 psi (228 MPa) and ultimate wind ratings of from 240 to 405 psf (11.5 to 19.4 kPa).

Table 1E. Use for roof covers or base plies that are adhered to insulation or cover board, or mechanically fastened to the steel deck when the distance between rows of roof cover fasteners is one-half the deck span or less and the deck is 3 in. (75 mm) deep, with an 8 in. (200 mm) rib spacing (Type N) with minimum yield stresses of 33,000 psi (228 MPa) and ultimate wind ratings of from 60 to 225 psf (2.9 to 10.8 kPa).

NOTE for Tables 1A through 1E: Maximum spans may vary slightly depending on the exact section properties for the specific deck.

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Table 1C. Maximum Steel Deck Span (ft) for 1½ in. (38 mm) Deep, Wide Rib (Type B) Steel Deck with an Adhered Roof Cover, for Wind Ratings from 60 to 225 psf (2.9 to 10.8 kPa)
 (NOTE: Use this table when the distance between rows of roof cover fasteners is one-half the deck span or less. Green font indicates that deflection governs over bending stress.)

Yield Stress psi	Deck Gauge	Ultimate Wind Rating per RoofNav (psf)												
		Maximum Span (ft)												
		60	75	90	105	120	135	150	165	180	195	210	225	
33,000	22	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.07	6.67	6.33	6.03	5.78	5.55	5.35	5.17	
	20	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.43	7.05	6.72	6.44	6.18	5.96	5.76	
	18	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	8.66	8.22	7.84	7.50	7.21	6.95	6.71	
	16	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	9.89	9.38	8.94	8.56	8.23	7.93	7.66	
40,000	22	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	6.96	6.64	6.35	6.10	5.88	5.68	
	20	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.76	7.40	7.08	6.80	6.56	6.33	
	18	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.04	8.62	8.25	7.93	7.64	7.38	
	16	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.32	9.84	9.42	9.05	8.72	8.43	
45,000	22	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.04	6.74	6.48	6.24	6.03	
	20	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.51	7.22	6.95	6.72	
	18	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	8.76	8.41	8.11	7.83	
	16	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	9.99	9.60	9.25	8.94	
50,000	22	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	6.93	6.66	6.42	6.20	
	20	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.72	7.42	7.15	6.91	
	18	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.00	8.65	8.33	8.05	
	16	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.28	9.87	9.51	9.19	
55,000	22	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	6.90	6.67	
	20	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.69	7.43	
	18	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	8.97	8.66	
	16	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.24	9.89	
60,000 +	22	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	6.97	
	20	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.78	7.77	
	18	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.08	9.06	
	16	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.36	10.34	

Green font indicates that deflection governs over bending stress.

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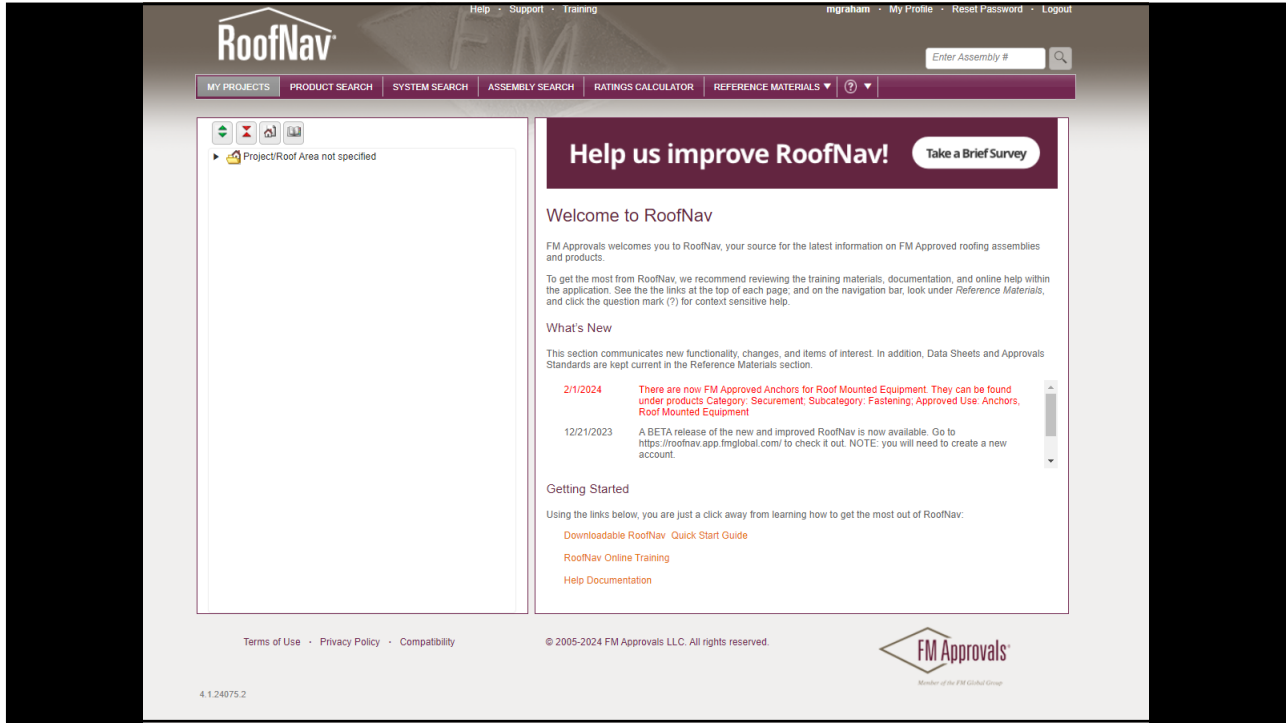
1-29 Roof Deck Securement and Above-Deck Roof Components

Table 1B. Maximum Steel Deck Span (ft) for 1½ in. (38 mm) Deep, Yield Stress ≥ 60,000 psi (414 MPa) with a mechanically fastened Roof Cover (continued)
 (Note: Use this table when the distance between rows of roof cover fasteners is more than one-half the deck span.)

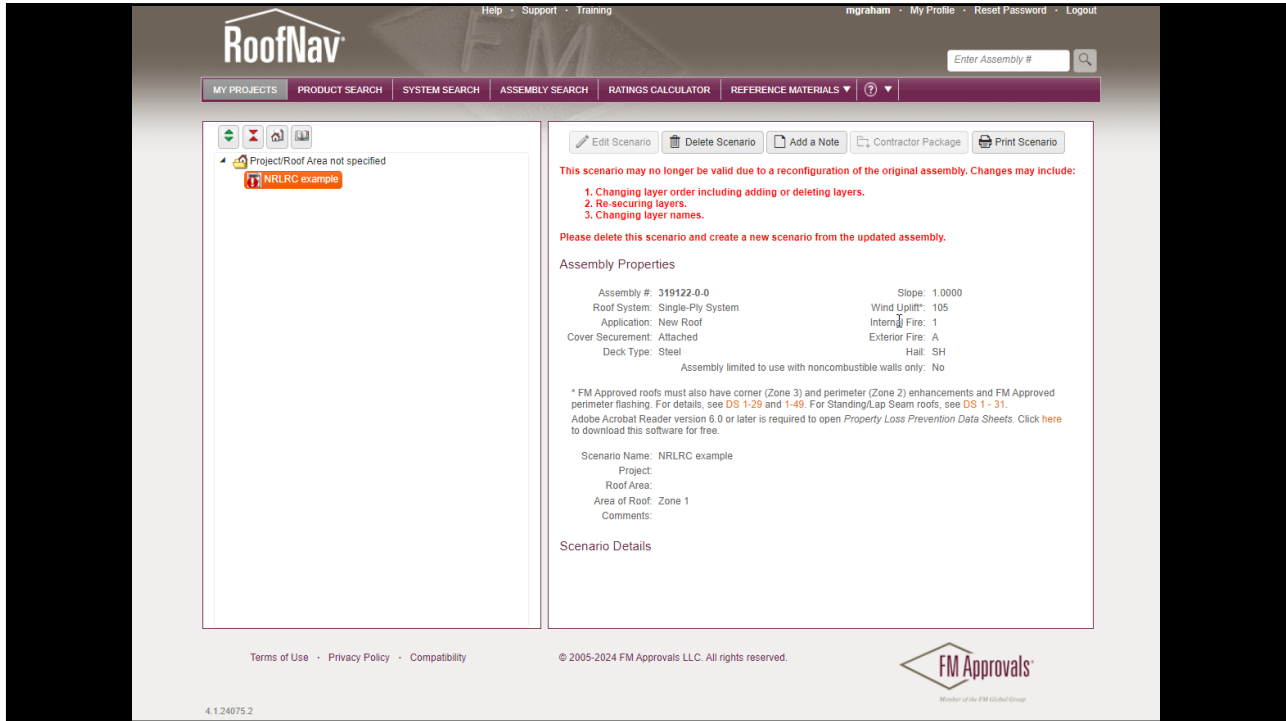
Roof Cover Fastener Row Spacing (ft)	Gauge	Wind Rating [psf]																		
		330	315	300	285	270	255	240	225	210	195	180	165	150	135	120	105	90	75	60
		8.5	18	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4.5	5	5.5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
9	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4.5	5.5	6	6	6	6	6	6
	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4.5	5	5.5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4.5	5	5.5	6	6	6	6	6
9.5	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4	4.5	5	5.5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4.5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6
	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4.5	5	6	6	6	6
10	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4.5	4.5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4.5	4.5	5.5	6	6	6	6
	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4.5	5.5	6	6
10.5	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4.5	4.5	5	5.5	6	6	6	6	6	6
	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4.5	5	6	6	6	6	6
	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4.5	5.5	6	6	6
11	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4.5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4.5	5	5.5	6	6	6	6
	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4.5	5	6	6	6
11.5	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4.5	5	5.5	6	6	6	6	6
	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4.5	5	5.5	6	6	6	6
	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4.5	5	6	6	6
12	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4.5	5	5.5	6	6	6	6	6
	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4.5	5	6	6	6	6
	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	5	5.5	6	6
Roof Cover Fastener Row Spacing	Gauge	330	315	300	285	270	255	240	225	210	195	180	165	150	135	120	105	90	75	60

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The screenshot shows the RoofNav software interface. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Help', 'Support', and 'Training'. The user's name 'mgraham' and options for 'My Profile', 'Reset Password', and 'Logout' are visible. A search bar labeled 'Enter Assembly #' is present. Below the navigation bar, there are tabs for 'MY PROJECTS', 'PRODUCT SEARCH', 'SYSTEM SEARCH', 'ASSEMBLY SEARCH', 'RATINGS CALCULATOR', and 'REFERENCE MATERIALS'. The main content area is titled 'Assembly Properties' and includes fields for Assembly # (319122-0-0), Roof System (Single-Ply System), Application (New Roof), Cover Securement (Attached), Deck Type (Steel), Slope (1.0000), Wind Uplift (105), Internal Fire (1), Exterior Fire (A), and Hail (SH). A note states: 'Assembly limited to use with noncombustible walls only: No'. Below this, there is a section for 'Assembly Details' with a table of components:

1. Cover (Single-ply)			
<input type="radio"/>	BMI	Everguard TPO	View
<input type="radio"/>	BMI Group Operations S.a.r.l.	Everguard Extreme TPO	View
<input type="radio"/>	BMI Group Operations S.a.r.l.	Everguard TPO	View
<input type="radio"/>	GAF	Everguard Extreme TPO	View
<input type="radio"/>	GAF	Everguard TPO	View
<input type="radio"/>	Siplast Inc.	Parasolo TPX Membrane	View
<input type="radio"/>	Tremco CPG Inc.	TremPly Max TPO	View
<input type="radio"/>	Tremco CPG Inc.	TremPly TPO	View
Securement (Sheet Lap)			
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Generic	weld, hot air	View
2. Securement (Cover) from 1. Cover (Single-ply) to 8. (Deck) Steel			
<input type="radio"/>	GAF	Drill-Tec Extra Heavy Duty ASAP Assembled Screw and 2-3/8 in. Steel Plate	View
<input type="radio"/>	SSSP15641		View
<input type="radio"/>	GAF	Drill-Tec 2 3/8 in. Barbed XHD Plate	
<input type="radio"/>	GAF	Drill-Tec XHD Fastener	

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The screenshot shows a list of deck steel options in the RoofNav software. The list includes various manufacturers and their products, each with a 'View' link. Below the list, there is a section titled '8. (Deck) Steel' with three radio button options:

- See Separate Steel Deck Manufacturer Listing steel deck, 18 ga., wide rib (>90 psf) [View](#)
- See Separate Steel Deck Manufacturer Listing steel deck, min 80 ksi, 20 to 18 ga., wide rib (>90 psf) [View](#)
- See Separate Steel Deck Manufacturer Listing steel deck, min 80 ksi, 22 ga., wide rib (>90 psf) [View](#)

Below these options, there is a table of specific steel deck products:

<input type="radio"/>	ROCKWOOL	MULTIFIX	View
<input type="radio"/>	ROCKWOOL	ROXUL MONOBOARD (unfaced)	View
<input type="radio"/>	ROCKWOOL	ROXUL MONOBOARD Plus (bitumen faced)	View
<input type="radio"/>	ROCKWOOL	ROXUL MONOBOARD Plus Tapered (bitumen faced)	View
<input type="radio"/>	ROCKWOOL	ROXUL MONOBOARD Tapered (unfaced)	View
<input type="radio"/>	ROCKWOOL	TOPROCK DD (unfaced)	View
<input type="radio"/>	ROCKWOOL	TOPROCK DD Plus (bitumen faced)	View
<input type="radio"/>	ROCKWOOL	TOPROCK DD Plus Tapered (bitumen faced)	View
<input type="radio"/>	ROCKWOOL	TOPROCK DD Tapered (unfaced)	View
<input type="radio"/>	United States Gypsum Company	SECUROCK Gypsum-Fiber Roof Board	View
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	None		

Below the table, there is a section titled '9. Securement (Deck) from 8. (Deck) Steel to 10. Structure' with a 'Comments' link. It lists various fasteners and their specifications:

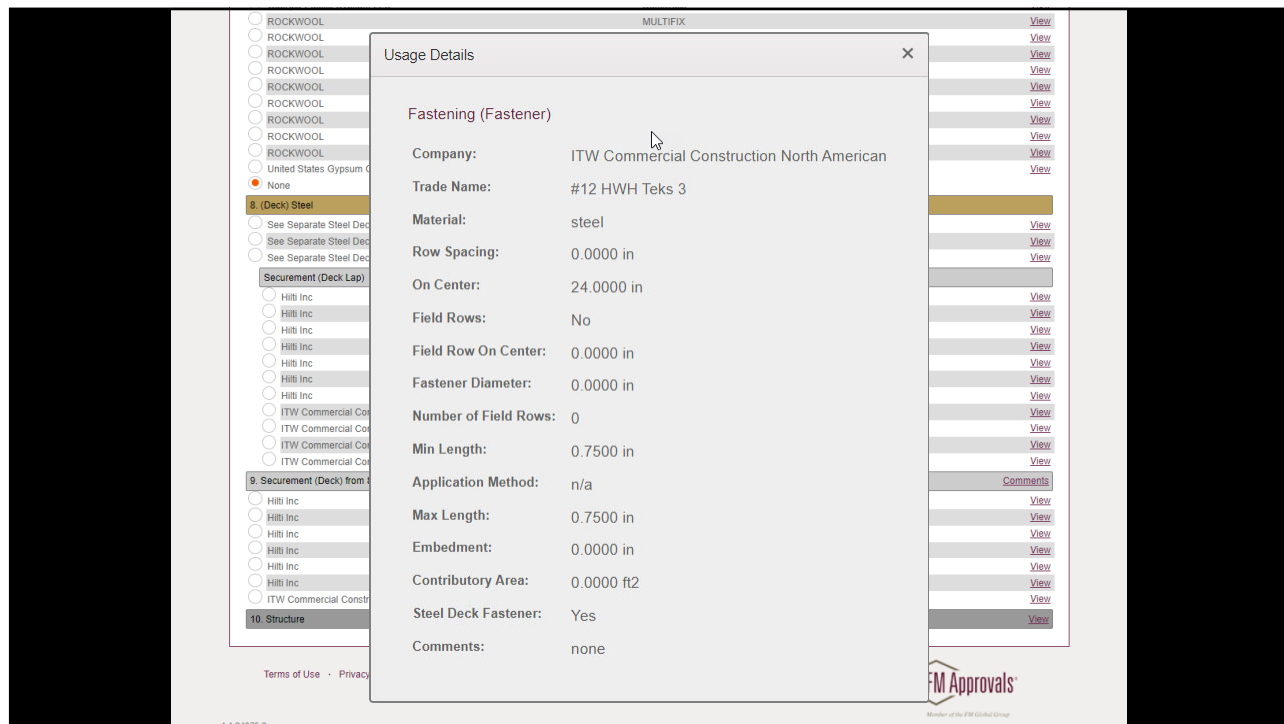
<input type="radio"/>	Hilti Inc.	S-MS 01 Z4.8 x 20	View
<input type="radio"/>	Hilti Inc.	S-MS 01 Z4.8 x 20 M	View
<input type="radio"/>	Hilti Inc.	S-SLC 01 HWH	View
<input type="radio"/>	Hilti Inc.	S-SLC 01 M HWH	View
<input type="radio"/>	Hilti Inc.	S-SLC 02 HWH	View
<input type="radio"/>	Hilti Inc.	S-SLC 02 M HWH	View
<input type="radio"/>	ITW Commercial Construction North American	#10 HWH Tekls 1	View
<input type="radio"/>	ITW Commercial Construction North American	#10 HWH Tekls 3	View
<input type="radio"/>	ITW Commercial Construction North American	#12 HWH Tekls 1	View
<input type="radio"/>	ITW Commercial Construction North American	#12 HWH Tekls 3	View

Below this, there is a section titled '10. Structure' with a 'View' link. It lists various fasteners and their specifications:

<input type="radio"/>	Hilti Inc.	S-MD 12-24 x 1-5/8 M HWH5	View
<input type="radio"/>	Hilti Inc.	S-RT5+ M9	View
<input type="radio"/>	Hilti Inc.	X-ENP-19 L15	View
<input type="radio"/>	Hilti Inc.	X-ENP-19 L15MX	View
<input type="radio"/>	Hilti Inc.	X-ENP-19 L15MXR	View
<input type="radio"/>	Hilti Inc.	X-HSN 24	View
<input type="radio"/>	ITW Commercial Construction North American	#12 HWH Tekls 5	View

At the bottom of the page, there are links for 'Terms of Use', 'Privacy Policy', and 'Compatibility'. The copyright notice reads '© 2005-2024 FM Approvals LLC. All rights reserved.' The FM Approvals logo is also present.

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Steel roof deck considerations

- Be cautious of deck overstress with using mechanically-attachment membrane systems
 - Thicker deck
 - Reduced deck spans
 - Higher yield strength steel
- Roof deck to structure (e.g., joists) attachment is dictated by the roof assembly's wind uplift classification
 - Many classifications require specific mechanical fasteners
- Be cautious of "acceptance" of steel roof decks

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Radio frequency radiation

Rooftop cell phone transmitters



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CRCA **Advisory Bulletin**  JUNE 2023

Radiofrequency Radiation and Electromagnetic Fields

The increased number of cellular antennas and other communication equipment that generates radiofrequency radiation (RF) and electromagnetic fields (EMF) may be exposing roofers and other contractors to harmful levels of radiations when working on rooftops, sides of buildings and other locations where RF generating antennas are located. This bulletin will focus on radiation types, safety limits and mitigating exposure.

With the ever-increasing use and development of communication technology, there is an increased risk for those working in and around communication devices and equipment that emit radiofrequency electromagnetic fields (EMF) such as smart meters, cell phone towers and equipment using 5G technology. Roof areas are often prime locations for this type of equipment and anyone accessing these roof areas for any reason should be aware of the Occupational Health and Safety requirements and the Safety Code 6. Consult with provincial and/or federal authorities having jurisdiction for further information/guidance for most stringent requirements.

What is Radiofrequency (RF) Radiation?

There are two types of radiation – ionizing radiation and non-ionizing radiation. Both are forms of electromagnetic energy, but ionizing radiation has more energy than non-ionizing radiation. Ionizing radiation, like x-rays or gamma rays, has enough energy to cause chemical changes by breaking chemical bonds. Sources of this type of radiation can be found in hospitals, nuclear energy plants, and nuclear weapons facilities. Non-ionizing radiation causes molecules to vibrate, which generates heat. RF radiation is a type of non-ionizing radiation and is the energy used to transmit wireless information. RF radiation is invisible and power levels of equipment and amount of RF radiation can fluctuate without warning.

About Safety Code 6

Health Canada publishes Safety Code 6^{*} which sets out recommended safety limits for human exposure to radiofrequency electromagnetic fields (EMF) in the frequency range from 3 kHz to 300 GHz. This range covers the frequencies used by communications devices and equipment that emit radiofrequency EMF such as: Wi-Fi, cell phones, smart meters, cell phone towers, those using 5G technology.

Safety Code 6 is reviewed on a regular basis to confirm that it continues to provide protection against all known potentially adverse health effects. If new scientific evidence were to show that exposure to radiofrequency EMF below the levels found in Safety Code 6 poses a risk, the Government of Canada would take steps to protect the health of Canadians.

* <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/health-risks-safety/radiation/occupational-exposure-to-radiofrequency-code-6-radiofrequency-exposure-guidelines.html>


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Email: crca@roofingcanada.com | www.roofingcanada.com

CRCA Advisory Bulletin

June 2023

[Link](#)

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How protect yourself from RF radiation
 The risks associated with RF radiation increases with the number of devices present, the closer a worker is to the equipment/device(s), and the more time that is spent in the area. Workers can protect themselves by the following:

How protect yourself from RF radiation
 The risks associated with RF radiation increases with the number of devices present, the closer a worker is to the equipment/device(s), and the more time that is spent in the area. Workers can protect themselves by the following:


- Complete a visual assessment of the area to determine if cellular antennas or other RF radiation generating antennas are present. If you are not sure, ask your supervisor, the building owner, or the property manager if RF-generating antennas are present where you need to work. The building owner or property manager should have the information, or know whom to contact for information about antennas, their locations, and the RF radiation levels.
- Look for warning signs posted near RF antennas; the signs should identify the hazard and tell you where to get more information.
- Contact the building owner/manager and the antenna licensee to have the equipment temporarily powered down or moved.

The opinions expressed herein are those of the CRCA National Technical Committee. This Advisory Bulletin is circulated for the purpose of bringing roofing information to the attention of the reader. The data, commentary, opinions and conclusions, if any, are not intended to provide the reader with conclusive technical advice and the reader should not act only on the roofing information contained in this Advisory Bulletin without seeking specific professional, engineering or architectural advice. Neither the CRCA nor any of its officers, directors, members or employees assumes any responsibility for any of the roofing information contained herein or the consequences of any interpretation which the reader may take from such information.

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Recognize the signage



Photos courtesy of Peter Shackford—Hetrick, Cyr & Associates, Inc.

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How protect yourself from RF radiation
The risks associated with RF radiation increases with the number of devices present, the closer a worker is to the equipment/devices, and the more time that is spent in the area. Workers can protect themselves by the following:

- Complete a visual assessment of the area to determine if cellular antennas or other RF radiation generating antennas are present. If you are not sure, ask your supervisor, the building owner, or the property manager if RF-generating antennas are present where you need to work. The building owner or property manager should have the information, or know whom to contact for information about antennas, their locations, and the RF radiation levels.
- Look for warning signs posted near RF antennas; the signs should identify the hazard and tell you where to get more information.
- Contact the building owner/manager and the antenna licensee to have the equipment temporarily powered down or moved.

If work needs to be performed within a potentially hazardous area:

- Check the site survey or roof plan for potential exposure levels
- Pre-plan work tasks and travel routes so you can limit trips through the RF field and time spent on tasks there – the goal is to get in and out as quickly as possible.
- Avoid standing directly in front of or close to an antenna. As a rule of thumb, stay 1.5 m (6 feet) away from a single antenna and 3 m (10 feet) away from a group of antennas.
- Use a personal RF monitor. The monitor will warn you if you are in an area where RF radiation is at a dangerous level. There are several handheld EMF personal safety monitors available on the market that measure exposure and allow workers to work in an exposed area for a limited time. Use personal monitors and protective clothing while work is being performed and if an alarm sounds, stop work and leave the area immediately.

When personal monitoring is used, the user should be aware of the limitations of the device and the information the reader may take from such information.

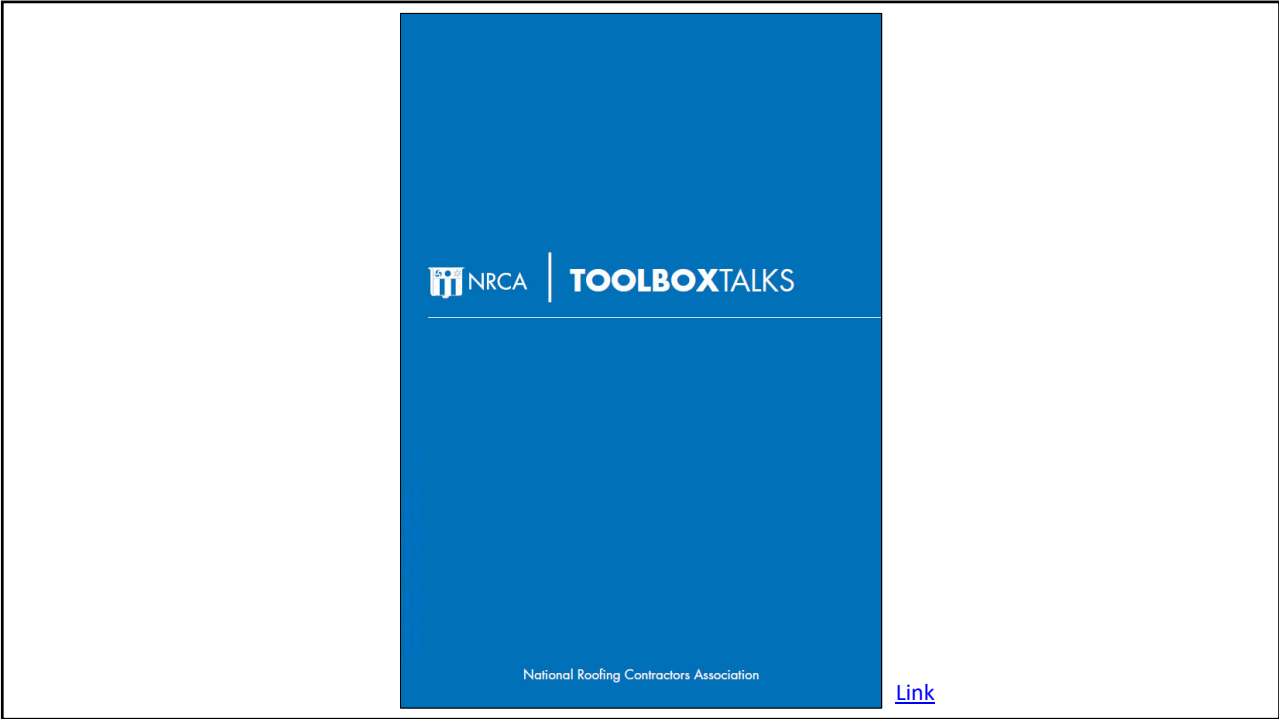
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Some useful references

- CRCA Advisory Bulletin ([Link](#))
- Health Canada's Safety Code 6 ([Link](#))
- Federal Communications Commission ([Link](#))
- Center for Construction Research and Training ([Link](#))

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TOOLBOXTALKS

Radio frequency (RF) hazards

According to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), radio waves and microwaves emitted by transmitting antennae are one form of electromagnetic energy that harm people. Harm from RF exposure will vary according to power levels, length of exposure time and distance from the antennae. Sources of RF energy on a roofing site are not obvious and usually are not properly marked or defined as danger zones by warning signs. In many cases, antennae are hidden by building elements so workers may not be aware of their presence. Here are some important facts about RF energy and things that you can do to avoid it:

- High levels of RF may heat body tissue and increase body temperature, causing tissue damage because the body cannot cool quickly enough to prevent damage. This is called RF's thermal effects, and your eyes are the most vulnerable part of your body. Actual contact may cause a shock or burn.
- At lower, nonthermal levels of RF exposure, nervous system and immune system problems, kidney damage, neurological disorders and even some cancers may occur.
- Become familiar with what RF transmitters or antennae look like and the dangers of working near them. Be aware that warning signs for RF transmitters may not always be present on a roof.
- Your employer must inquire as to the presence of RF equipment and whether it may be shut down or shielded or other barrier device installed for the duration of the work period roofing workers will be in proximity to the transmitter.
- Symptoms of RF exposure often seem the same as physical exertion and can become heat exhaustion or heat stroke. Removing a worker from the area and cooling the body is important. Trained, professional medical care of the symptoms is critical.

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“Moisture” meter concerns



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*These meters do not read moisture...
...they are reading relative conductivity, which can be
correlated to specific materials in specific conditions
when properly calibrated.*

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Considerations

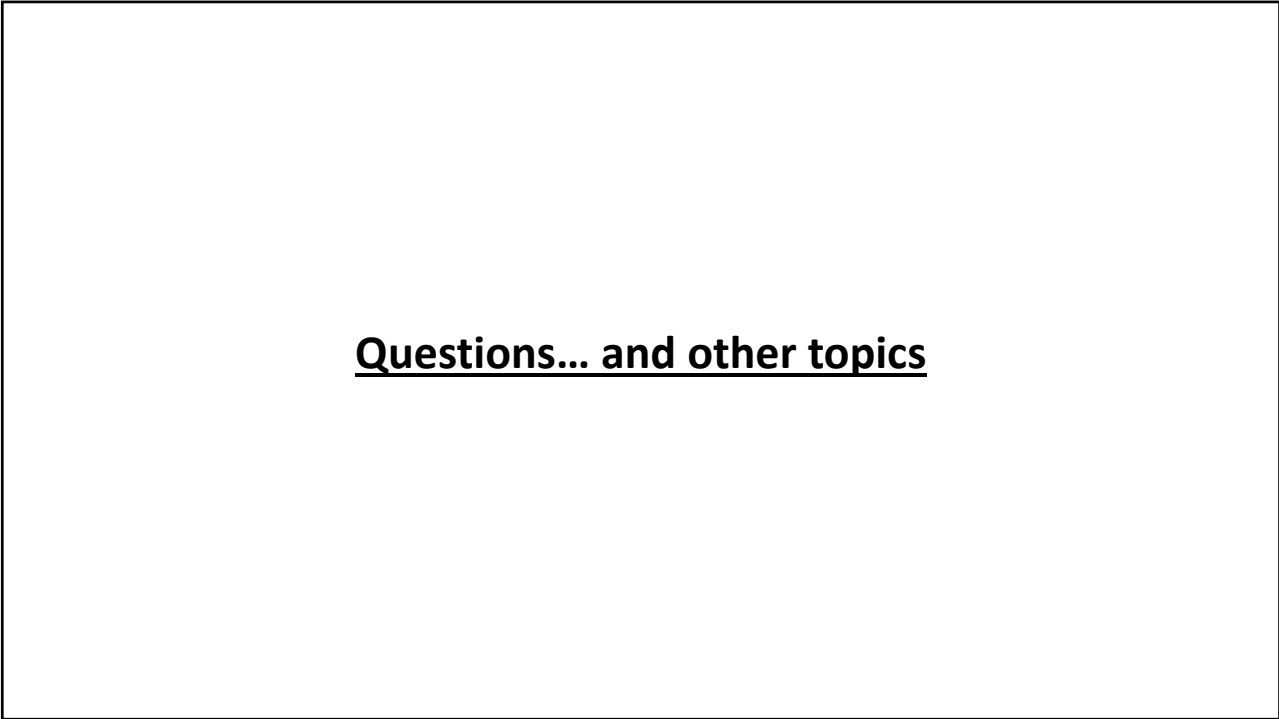
"Moisture" meters

- Read/understand the instruction manual
- Understand device sensitivity
- Understand proper operating conditions
- Proper calibration/recalibration is critical
- Don't overstate the meter's capability
- Verify job-specific results with gravimetric analysis

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Contractor-reported problems...

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Questions... and other topics

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