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IFC®

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INTERNATIONAL
FIRE CODE®



2018 International Fire Code®

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PREFACE

Introduction

The *International Fire Code*® (IFC®) establishes minimum requirements for fire prevention and fire protection systems using prescriptive and performance-related provisions. It is founded on broad-based principles that make possible the use of new materials and new system designs. This 2018 edition is fully compatible with all of the *International Codes*® (I-Codes®) published by the International Code Council® (ICC®), including the *International Building Code*®, *International Energy Conservation Code*®, *International Existing Building Code*®, *International Fuel Gas Code*®, *International Green Construction Code*®, *International Mechanical Code*®, *International Plumbing Code*®, *International Private Sewage Disposal Code*®, *International Property Maintenance Code*®, *International Residential Code*®, *International Swimming Pool and Spa Code*®, *International Wildland-Urban Interface Code*®, *International Zoning Code*® and *International Code Council Performance Code*®.

The I-Codes, including this *International Fire Code*, are used in a variety of ways in both the public and private sectors. Most industry professionals are familiar with the I-Codes as the basis of laws and regulations in communities across the U.S. and in other countries. However, the impact of the codes extends well beyond the regulatory arena, as they are used in a variety of nonregulatory settings, including:

- Voluntary compliance programs such as those promoting sustainability, energy efficiency and disaster resistance.
- The insurance industry, to estimate and manage risk, and as a tool in underwriting and rate decisions.
- Certification and credentialing of individuals involved in the fields of building design, construction and safety.
- Certification of building and construction-related products.
- U.S. federal agencies, to guide construction in an array of government-owned properties.
- Facilities management.
- “Best practices” benchmarks for designers and builders, including those who are engaged in projects in jurisdictions that do not have a formal regulatory system or a governmental enforcement mechanism.
- College, university and professional school textbooks and curricula.
- Reference works related to building design and construction.

In addition to the codes themselves, the code development process brings together building professionals on a regular basis. It provides an international forum for discussion and deliberation about building design, construction methods, safety, performance requirements, technological advances and innovative products.

Development

This 2018 edition presents the code as originally issued, with changes reflected in the 2003 through 2015 editions and further changes approved through the ICC Code Development Process through 2017. A new edition such as this is promulgated every 3 years.

This code is founded on principles intended to establish provisions consistent with the scope of a fire code that adequately protects public health, safety and welfare; provisions that do not unnecessarily increase construction costs; provisions that do not restrict the use of new materials, products or methods of construction; and provisions that do not give preferential treatment to particular types or classes of materials, products or methods of construction.

Maintenance

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

The ICC Code Development Process reflects principles of openness, transparency, balance, due process and consensus, the principles embodied in OMB Circular A-119, which governs the federal government's use of private-sector standards. The ICC process is open to anyone; there is no cost to participate, and people can participate without travel cost through the ICC's cloud-based app, *cdp-Access*[®]. A broad cross section of interests are represented in the ICC Code Development Process. The codes, which are updated regularly, include safeguards that allow for emergency action when required for health and safety reasons.

In order to ensure that organizations with a direct and material interest in the codes have a voice in the process, the ICC has developed partnerships with key industry segments that support the ICC's important public safety mission. Some code development committee members were nominated by the following industry partners and approved by the ICC Board:

- American Institute of Architects (AIA)
- International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC)
- National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)
- National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM)

The code development committees evaluate and make recommendations regarding proposed changes to the codes. Their recommendations are then subject to public comment and council-wide votes. The ICC's governmental members—public safety officials who have no financial or business interest in the outcome—cast the final votes on proposed changes.

The contents of this work are subject to change through the code development cycles and by any governmental entity that enacts the code into law. For more information regarding the code development process, contact the Codes and Standards Development Department of the International Code Council.

While the I-Code development procedure is thorough and comprehensive, the ICC, its members and those participating in the development of the codes disclaim any liability resulting from the publication or use of the I-Codes, or from compliance or noncompliance with their provisions. The ICC does not have the power or authority to police or enforce compliance with the contents of this code.

Code Development Committee Responsibilities (Letter Designations in Front of Section Numbers)

In each code development cycle, proposed changes to the code are considered at the Committee Action Hearings by the International Fire Code Development Committee, whose action constitutes a recommendation to the voting membership for final action on the proposed change. Proposed changes to a code section that has a number beginning with a letter designation in brackets are considered by a different code development committee. For example, proposed changes to code sections that have [BE] in front of them (e.g., [BE] 606.3) are considered by the appropriate International Building Code Development Committee (IBC—Egress) at the code development hearings.

The content of sections in this code that begin with a letter designation is maintained by another code development committee in accordance with the following:

- [A] = Administrative Code Development Committee;
- [BE] = IBC—Egress Code Development Committee;
- [BF] = IBC—Fire Safety Code Development Committee;
- [BG] = IBC—General Code Development Committee;

- [BS] = IBC—Structural Code Development Committee;
- [EB] = International Existing Building Code Development Committee;
- [FG] = International Fuel Gas Code Development Committee;
- [M] = International Mechanical Code Development Committee; and
- [P] = International Plumbing Code Development Committee.

For the development of the 2021 edition of the I-Codes, there will be two groups of code development committees and they will meet in separate years.

Group A Codes (Heard in 2018, Code Change Proposals Deadline: January 8, 2018)	Group B Codes (Heard in 2019, Code Change Proposals Deadline: January 7, 2019)
International Building Code – Egress (Chapters 10, 11, Appendix E) – Fire Safety (Chapters 7, 8, 9, 14, 26) – General (Chapters 2–6, 12, 27–33, Appendices A, B, C, D, K, N)	Administrative Provisions (Chapter 1 of all codes except IECC, IRC and IgCC, administrative updates to currently referenced standards, and designated definitions)
International Fire Code	International Building Code – Structural (Chapters 15–25, Appendices F, G, H, I, J, L, M)
International Fuel Gas Code	International Existing Building Code
International Mechanical Code	International Energy Conservation Code—Commercial
International Plumbing Code	International Energy Conservation Code—Residential – IECC—Residential – IRC—Energy (Chapter 11)
International Property Maintenance Code	International Green Construction Code (Chapter 1)
International Private Sewage Disposal Code	International Residential Code – IRC—Building (Chapters 1–10, Appendices E, F, H, J, K, L, M, O, Q, R, S, T)
International Residential Code – IRC—Mechanical (Chapters 12–23) – IRC—Plumbing (Chapters 25–33, Appendices G, I, N, P)	
International Swimming Pool and Spa Code	
International Wildland-Urban Interface Code	
International Zoning Code	
Note: Proposed changes to the ICC <i>Performance Code</i> ™ will be heard by the code development committee noted in brackets [] in the text of the ICC <i>Performance Code</i> ™.	

The majority of the sections of Chapter 1 of this code are designated as the responsibility of the Administrative Code Development Committee, and that committee is part of the Group B portion of the hearings. This committee will conduct its code development hearings in 2019 to consider most code change proposals for Chapter 1 of this code and proposals for Chapter 1 of all I-Codes except the *International Energy Conservation Code*, *International Residential Code* and *International Green Construction Code*. Therefore, any proposals received for the sections of Chapter 1 preceded by the designation [A] will be deferred for consideration in 2019 by the Administrative Code Development Committee.

It is very important that anyone submitting code change proposals understands which code development committee is responsible for the section of the code that is the subject of the code change proposal. For further information on the Code Development Committee responsibilities, please visit the ICC website at www.iccsafe.org/scoping.

Marginal Markings

Solid vertical lines in the margins within the body of the code indicate a technical change from the requirements of the 2015 edition. Deletion indicators in the form of an arrow (➡) are provided in the margin where an entire section, paragraph, exception or table has been deleted or an item in a list of items or a table has been deleted.

A single asterisk [*] placed in the margin indicates that text or a table has been relocated within the code. A double asterisk [**] placed in the margin indicates that the text or table immediately following it has been relocated there from elsewhere in the code. The following table indicates such relocations in the 2018 edition of the *International Fire Code*.

2015 LOCATION	2018 LOCATION
606.12.1 and 606.12.1.1	605.1.1 and 605.1.2
806.2	807.4.1
904.12.5	906.4
908.3–908.7	916
605.11	1204
604	1203
608	1206.2
3104.5–3104.22	3107
5003.2.2.1, Item 6	5005.1.12

Coordination between the International Building and Fire Codes

Because the coordination of technical provisions is one of the benefits of adopting the ICC family of model codes, users will find the ICC codes to be a very flexible set of model documents. To accomplish this flexibility some technical provisions are duplicated in some of the model code documents. While the *International Codes* are provided as a comprehensive set of model codes for the built environment, documents are occasionally adopted as a stand-alone regulation. When one of the model documents is adopted as the basis of a stand-alone code, that code should provide a complete package of requirements with enforcement assigned to the entity for which the adoption is being made.

The model codes can also be adopted as a family of complementary codes. When adopted together, there should be no conflict of any of the technical provisions. When multiple model codes are adopted in a jurisdiction it is important for the adopting authority to evaluate the provisions in each code document and determine how and by which agency(ies) they will be enforced. It is important, therefore, to understand that where technical provisions are duplicated in multiple model documents that enforcement duties must be clearly assigned by the local adopting jurisdiction. ICC remains committed to providing state-of-the-art model code documents that, when adopted locally, will reduce the cost to government of code adoption and enforcement and protect the public health, safety and welfare.

Italicized Terms

Words and terms defined in Chapter 2, Definitions, are italicized where they appear in code text and the Chapter 2 definition applies. Where such words and terms are not italicized, common-use definitions apply. The words and terms selected have code-specific definitions that the user should read carefully to facilitate better understanding of the code.

Adoption

The International Code Council maintains a copyright in all of its codes and standards. Maintaining copyright allows ICC to fund its mission through sales of books, in both print and electronic formats. The ICC welcomes adoption of its codes by jurisdictions that recognize and acknowledge the ICC's copyright in the code, and further acknowledge the substantial shared value of the public/private partnership for code development between jurisdictions and the ICC.

The ICC also recognizes the need for jurisdictions to make laws available to the public. All I-Codes and I-Standards, along with the laws of many jurisdictions, are available for free in a nondownloadable form on the ICC's website. Jurisdictions should contact the ICC at adoptions@iccsafe.org to learn how to adopt and distribute laws based on the *International Fire Code* in a manner that provides necessary access, while maintaining the ICC's copyright.

To facilitate adoption, several sections of this code contain blanks for fill-in information that needs to be supplied by the adopting jurisdiction as part of the adoption legislation. For this code, please see:

Section 101.1. Insert: [NAME OF JURISDICTION]

Section 110.4. Insert: [OFFENSE, DOLLAR AMOUNT, NUMBER OF DAYS]

Section 112.4. Insert: [DOLLAR AMOUNT IN TWO LOCATIONS]

Section 1103.5.3. Insert: [DATE BY WHICH SPRINKLER SYSTEM MUST BE INSTALLED]

Section 5704.2.9.6.1. Insert: [JURISDICTION TO SPECIFY]

Section 5706.2.4.4. Insert: [JURISDICTION TO SPECIFY]

Section 5806.2. Insert: [JURISDICTION TO SPECIFY]

Section 6104.2. Insert: [JURISDICTION TO SPECIFY]

EFFECTIVE USE OF THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE

The *International Fire Code*® (IFC®) is a model code that regulates minimum fire safety requirements for new and existing buildings, facilities, storage and processes. The IFC addresses fire prevention, fire protection, life safety and safe storage and use of hazardous materials in new and existing buildings, facilities and processes. The IFC provides a total approach of controlling hazards in all buildings and sites, regardless of the hazard being indoors or outdoors.

The IFC is a design document. For example, before one constructs a building, the site must be provided with an adequate water supply for fire-fighting operations and a means of building access for emergency responders in the event of a medical emergency, fire or natural or technological disaster. Depending on the building's occupancy and uses, the IFC regulates the various hazards that may be housed within the building, including refrigeration systems, application of flammable finishes, fueling of motor vehicles, high-piled combustible storage and the storage and use of hazardous materials. The IFC sets forth minimum requirements for these and other hazards and contains requirements for maintaining the life safety of building occupants, the protection of emergency responders, and to limit the damage to a building and its contents as the result of a fire, explosion or unauthorized hazardous material discharge.

As described, the IFC has many types of requirements for buildings and facilities. The applicability of these requirements varies. An understanding of the applicability of requirements, as addressed in Sections 102.1 and 102.2, is necessary. Section 102.1 addresses when the construction and design provisions are applicable whereas Section 102.2 addresses when the administrative, operational and maintenance provisions are applicable. Generally, the construction and design provisions only apply to new buildings or existing buildings and occupancies as addressed by Chapter 11. The administrative, maintenance and operational requirements are applicable to all buildings and facilities whether new or existing.

Arrangement and Format of the 2018 IFC

Before applying the requirements of the IFC it is beneficial to understand its arrangement and format. The IFC, like other codes published by the International Code Council, is arranged and organized to follow sequential steps that generally occur during a plan review or inspection. In the 2012 edition, the IFC was reorganized into seven parts as illustrated in the tables below. Each part represents a broad subject matter and includes the chapters that logically fit under the subject matter of each part. It is also foreseeable that additional chapters will need to be added in the future as regulations for new processes or operations are developed. Accordingly, the reorganization was designed to accommodate such future chapters by providing reserved (unused) chapters in several of the parts. This will allow the subject matter parts to be conveniently and logically expanded without requiring a major renumbering of the IFC chapters.

ORGANIZATION OF THE IFC	
Parts and Chapters	Subject Matter
Part I—Chapters 1 and 2	Administrative and definitions
Part II—Chapters 3 and 4	General safety provisions
Part III—Chapters 5 through 12	Building and equipment design features
Part III—Chapters 13 through 19	Reserved for future use
Part IV—Chapters 20 through 39	Special occupancies and operations
Part IV—Chapters 40 through 49; 52	Reserved for future use
Part V—Chapters 50, 51 and 53 through 67	Hazardous materials
Part V—Chapters 68 through 79	Reserved for future use
Part VI—Chapter 80	Referenced standards
Part VII—Appendices A through N	Adoptable and informational appendices

The IFC requirements for fire-resistive construction, interior finish, fire protection systems, means of egress and construction safeguards are directly correlated to the chapters containing parallel requirements in the IBC, as follows:

IFC Chapter	Subject
7	Fire and smoke protection features
8	Interior finish, decorative materials and furnishings
9	Fire protection and life safety systems
10	Means of egress
33	Fire safety during construction and demolition

The following is a chapter-by-chapter synopsis of the scope and intent of the provisions of the *International Fire Code*:

PART I—ADMINISTRATIVE

Chapter 1 Scope and Administration. This chapter contains provisions for the application, enforcement and administration of subsequent requirements of the code. In addition to establishing the scope of the code, Chapter 1 identifies which buildings and structures come under its purview. Chapter 1 is largely concerned with maintaining “due process of law” in enforcing the regulations contained in the body of the code. Only through careful observation of the administrative provisions can the code official reasonably expect to demonstrate that “equal protection under the law” has been provided.

Chapter 2 Definitions. All terms that are defined in the code are listed alphabetically in Chapter 2. While a defined term may be used in one chapter or another, the meaning provided in Chapter 2 is applicable throughout the code.

Where understanding of a term’s definition is especially key to or necessary for understanding of a particular code provision, the term is shown in *italics* wherever it appears in the code. This is true only for those terms that have a meaning that is unique to the code. In other words, the generally understood meaning of a term or phrase might not be sufficient or consistent with the meaning prescribed by the code; therefore, it is essential that the code-defined meaning be known.

Guidance regarding tense, gender and plurality of defined terms as well as guidance regarding terms not defined in this code are also provided.

PART II—GENERAL SAFETY PROVISIONS

Chapter 3 General Requirements. The open burning, ignition source, vacant building, miscellaneous storage, roof gardens and landscaped roofs, outdoor pallet storage and hazards to fire fighters requirements and precautions, among other general regulations contained in this chapter, are intended to improve premises safety for everyone, including construction workers, tenants, operations and maintenance personnel, and emergency response personnel. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 302 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 4 Emergency Planning and Preparedness. This chapter addresses the human contribution to life safety in buildings when a fire or other emergency occurs. The requirements for continuous training and scheduled fire, evacuation and lockdown drills can be as important as the required periodic inspections and maintenance of built-in fire protection features. The level of preparation by the occupants also improves the emergency responders’ abilities during an emergency. The *International Building Code* (IBC) focuses on built-in fire protection features, such as automatic sprinkler systems, fire-resistance-rated construction and properly designed egress systems, whereas this chapter fully addresses the human element. As with other chapters of the *Inter-*

national Fire Code, Section 402 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

PART III—BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT DESIGN FEATURES

Chapter 5 Fire Service Features. The requirements of this chapter apply to all buildings and occupancies and pertain to access roads; access to building openings and roofs; premises identification; key boxes; fire protection water supplies; fire command centers; fire department access to equipment and emergency responder radio coverage in buildings. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 502 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 6 Building Services and Systems. This chapter focuses on building systems and services as they relate to potential safety hazards and when and how they should be installed. This chapter brings together all building system- and service-related issues for convenience and provides a more systematic view of buildings. The following building services and systems are addressed: fuel-fired appliances (Section 603), electrical equipment, wiring and hazards (Section 604), mechanical refrigeration (Section 605), elevator recall and maintenance (Section 606), commercial kitchen hoods (Section 607), commercial kitchen cooking oil storage (608) and hyperbaric facilities (609). As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 602 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents. Note that building systems focused on energy systems and components are addressed by Chapter 12.

Chapter 7 Fire and Smoke Protection Features. The maintenance of assemblies required to be fire-resistance rated is a key component in a passive fire protection philosophy. Chapter 7 sets forth requirements to maintain required fire-resistance ratings of building elements and limit fire spread. Section 701 addresses the basics of what construction elements such as fire barriers and smoke barriers need to be maintained as well as defining the owner's responsibility. The rest of the chapter, Sections 703 through 706, deals with various fire and smoke protection features that must also be maintained. These features include penetrations, joint protection, door and window openings and duct and air transfer opening protection. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 702 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 8 Interior Finish, Decorative Materials and Furnishings. The overall purpose of Chapter 8 is to regulate interior finishes, decorative materials and furnishings in new and existing buildings so that they do not significantly add to or create fire hazards within buildings. The provisions tend to focus on occupancies with specific risk characteristics, such as vulnerability of occupants, density of occupants, lack of familiarity with the building and societal expectations of importance. This chapter is consistent with Chapter 8 of the *International Building Code* (IBC), which regulates the interior finishes of new buildings. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 802 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 9 Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems. Chapter 9 prescribes the minimum requirements for active systems of fire protection equipment to perform the functions of detecting a fire, alerting the occupants or fire department of a fire emergency, controlling smoke and controlling or extinguishing the fire. There are provisions relating to gas detection and associated alarms. Mass notification systems are also addressed. Generally, the requirements are based on the occupancy, the height and the area of the building, because these are the factors that most affect fire-fighting capabilities and the relative hazard of a specific building or portion thereof. This chapter parallels and is substantially duplicated in Chapter 9 of the *International Building Code*; however, this chapter also contains periodic testing criteria that are not contained in the IBC. In addition, the special fire protection system requirements based on use and occupancy found in Chapter 4 of the IBC are duplicated in Chapter 9 of the IFC as a user convenience. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 902 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 10 Means of Egress. The general criteria set forth in Chapter 10 regulating the design of the means of egress are established as the primary method for protection of people in buildings by allowing timely relocation or evacuation of building occupants. Both prescriptive and performance language is utilized in this chapter to provide for a basic approach in the determination of a safe exiting system for all occupancies. It addresses all portions of the egress system (i.e., exit access, exits and exit discharge) and includes design requirements as well as provisions regulating individual components. The requirements detail the size, arrangement, number and protection of means of egress components. Functional and operational characteristics also are specified for the components that will permit their safe use without special knowledge or effort. The means of egress protection requirements work in coordination with other sections of the code, such as protection of vertical openings (see Chapter 7), interior finish (see Chapter 8), fire suppression and detection systems (see Chapter 9) and numerous others, all having an impact on life safety. Sections 1002 through 1030 duplicate text from Chapter 10 of the IBC; however, the IFC contains an additional Section 1031 on maintenance of the means of egress system in existing buildings. Retroactive minimum means of egress requirements for existing buildings are found in Chapter 11.

Chapter 11 Construction Requirements for Existing Buildings. Chapter 11 applies to existing buildings constructed prior to the adoption of the code and intends to provide a minimum degree of fire and life safety to persons occupying existing buildings by providing for alterations to such buildings that do not comply with the minimum requirements of the *International Building Code*. Prior to the 2009 edition, its content existed in the IFC but in a random manner that was neither efficient nor user-friendly. In the 2007/2008 code development cycle, a code change (F294-07/08) was approved that consolidated the retroactive elements of IFC/2006 Sections 607, 701, 704, 903, 905, 907 and 3406 (then 2506) and all of then-Section 1027 (Means of Egress for Existing Buildings) into a single chapter for easier and more efficient reference and application to existing buildings. The provisions address general fire safety features such as requirements for fire alarm systems, CO detection and automatic sprinkler systems in some existing buildings, general means of egress, and finally, the chapter contains a section dedicated to existing Group I-2 occupancies. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 1102 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 12 Energy Systems. Chapter 12 was added to address the current energy systems found in the IFC. It introduces a wide range of systems that generate and store energy in, on and adjacent to buildings and facilities. The expansion of such energy systems is related to meeting today's energy, environmental and economic challenges. Ensuring appropriate criteria to address the safety of such systems in building and fire codes is an important part of protecting the public at large, building occupants and emergency responders. Previously, requirements for energy systems, such as standby power systems, PV systems and stationary battery systems, were scattered about in various locations in Chapter 6, which addresses building services and systems. However, with the addition of fuel cells and capacitor energy storage systems to the IFC, a chapter dedicated to such related issues needed to be created. This chapter provides an appropriate location for the addition of future energy systems.

Chapters 13 through 19. Reserved for future use.

PART IV—SPECIAL OCCUPANCIES AND OPERATIONS

Chapter 20 Aviation Facilities. Chapter 20 specifies minimum requirements for the fire-safe operation of airports, heliports and helistops. The principal nonflight operational hazards associated with aviation involve fuel, facilities and operations. Therefore, safe use of flammable and combustible liquids during fueling and maintenance operations is emphasized. Availability of portable Class B:C-rated fire extinguishers for prompt control or suppression of incipient fires is required. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 2002 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 21 Dry Cleaning. The provisions of Chapter 21 are intended to reduce hazards associated with use of flammable and combustible dry cleaning solvents. These materials, like all volatile organic chemicals, generate significant quantities of static electricity and are thus readily ignitable. Many flammable and nonflammable dry cleaning solvents also possess health hazards when involved in a fire. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 2102 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 22 Combustible Dust-producing Operations. The requirements of Chapter 22 seek to reduce the likelihood of dust explosions by managing the hazards of ignitable suspensions of combustible dusts associated with a variety of operations including woodworking, mining, food processing, agricultural commodity storage and handling and pharmaceutical manufacturing, among others. Ignition source control and good housekeeping practices in occupancies containing dust-producing operations are emphasized. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 2202 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 23 Motor Fuel-dispensing Facilities and Repair Garages. This chapter provides provisions that regulate the storage and dispensing of both liquid and gaseous motor fuels at public and private automotive, marine and aircraft motor fuel-dispensing facilities, fleet vehicle motor fuel-dispensing facilities and repair garages. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 2302 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 24 Flammable Finishes. Chapter 24 requirements govern operations where flammable or combustible finishes are applied by spraying, dipping, powder coating or flow-coating processes. As with all operations involving flammable or combustible liquids and combustible dusts or vapors, controlling ignition sources and methods of reducing or controlling flammable vapors or combustible dusts at or near these operations are emphasized. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 2402 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 25 Fruit and Crop Ripening. Chapter 25 provides guidance that is intended to reduce the likelihood of explosions resulting from improper use or handling of ethylene gas used for crop-ripening and coloring processes. This is accomplished by regulating ethylene gas generation; storage and distribution systems and controlling ignition sources. Design and construction of facilities for this use are regulated by the *International Building Code* to reduce the impact of potential accidents on people and buildings.

Chapter 26 Fumigation and Insecticidal Fogging. This chapter regulates fumigation and insecticidal fogging operations which use toxic pesticide chemicals to kill insects, rodents and other vermin. Fumigants and insecticidal fogging agents pose little hazard if properly applied; however, the inherent toxicity of all these agents and the potential flammability of some makes special precautions necessary when they are used. Requirements of this chapter are intended to protect both the public and fire fighters from hazards associated with these products. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 2602 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 27 Semiconductor Fabrication Facilities. The requirements of this chapter are intended to control hazards associated with the manufacture of electrical circuit boards or microchips, commonly called semiconductors. Though the finished product possesses no unusual hazards, materials commonly associated with semiconductor manufacturing are often quite hazardous and include flammable liquids, pyrophoric and flammable gases, toxic substances and corrosives. The requirements of this chapter are concerned with both life safety and property protection. However, the fire code official should recognize that the risk of extraordinary property damages is far more common than the risk of personal injuries from fire. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 2702 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 28 Lumber Yards and Agro-industrial, Solid Biomass and Woodworking Facilities. Provisions of this chapter are intended to prevent fires and explosions, facilitate fire control and reduce exposures to and from facilities storing, selling or processing wood and forest products, including sawdust, wood chips, shavings, bark mulch, shorts, finished planks, sheets, posts, poles, timber and raw logs and the hazard they represent once ignited. Also included are solid biomass feedstock and raw products associated with agro-industrial facilities, the outdoor storage of pallets and manufacturing and recycling facilities. This chapter requires active and passive fire protection features to reduce on- and off-site exposures, limit fire size and development and facilitate fire fighting by employees and the fire service. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 2802 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 29 Manufacture of Organic Coatings. This chapter regulates materials and processes associated with the manufacture of paints as well as bituminous, asphaltic and other diverse compounds formulated to protect buildings, machines and objects from the effects of weather, corrosion and hostile environmental exposures. Paint for decorative, architectural and industrial uses comprises the bulk of organic coating production. Painting and processes related to the manufacture of nonflammable and noncombustible or water-based products are exempt from the provisions of this chapter. The application of organic coatings is covered by Chapter 24. Elimination of ignition sources, maintenance of fire protection equipment and isolation or segregation of hazardous operations are emphasized. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 2902 contains a term that is defined in Chapter 2 and is applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 30 Industrial Ovens. This chapter addresses the fuel supply, ventilation, emergency shutdown equipment, fire protection and the operation and maintenance of industrial ovens, which are sometimes referred to as industrial heat enclosures or industrial furnaces. Compliance with this chapter is intended to reduce the likelihood of fires involving industrial ovens which are usually the result of the fuel in use or volatile vapors given off by the materials being heated or to manage the impact if a fire should occur. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 3002 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 31 Tents, Temporary Structures and Other Membrane Structures. The requirements in this chapter are intended to protect temporary as well as permanent tents and air-supported and other membrane structures and temporary special event structures from fire and similar hazards by regulating structure location and access, anchorage, egress, heat-producing equipment, hazardous materials and operations, combustible vegetation, ignition sources, waste accumulation and requiring regular inspections and certifying continued compliance with fire safety regulations. This chapter also addresses outdoor assembly events, which are not limited to those events where tents or other membrane structures are used but are regulated due to the number of people, density of those people and hazards associated with large outdoor events related to egress, fire hazards from cooking and other related concerns. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 3102 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 32 High-piled Combustible Storage. This chapter provides guidance for reasonable protection of life from hazards associated with the storage of combustible materials in closely packed piles or on pallets, in racks or on shelves where the top of storage is greater than 12 feet in height. It provides requirements for identifying various classes of commodities; general fire and life safety features including storage arrangements, smoke and heat venting, and fire department access; and housekeeping and maintenance requirements. The chapter attempts to define the potential fire severity and, in turn, determine fire and life safety protection measures needed to control, and in some cases suppress, a potential fire. This chapter does not cover miscellaneous combustible materials storage regulated in Section 315. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 3202 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 33 Fire Safety during Construction and Demolition. Chapter 33 outlines general fire safety precautions for all structures and all occupancies during construction and demolition operations. In general, these requirements seek to maintain required levels of fire protection, limit fire spread, establish the appropriate operation of equipment and promote prompt response to fire emergencies. Features regulated include fire protection systems, fire fighter access to the site and building, means of egress, hazardous materials storage and use and temporary heating equipment and other ignition sources. With the 2012 reorganization, this chapter now correlates with Chapter 33 of the IBC.

Chapter 34 Tire Rebuilding and Tire Storage. The requirements of Chapter 34 are intended to prevent or control fires and explosions associated with the remanufacture and storage of tires and tire byproducts. Additionally, the requirements are intended to minimize the impact of indoor and outdoor tire storage fires by regulating pile volume and location, segregating the various operations, providing for fire department access and a water supply and controlling ignition sources.

Chapter 35 Welding and Other Hot Work. This chapter covers requirements for safety in welding and other types of hot work by reducing the potential for fire ignitions that usually result in large losses. Several different types of hot work would fall under the requirements found in Chapter 35, including both gas and electric arc methods and any open-torch operations. Many of the activities of this chapter focus on the actions of the occupants. As with other chapters of the *Internationa-*

tional Fire Code, Section 3502 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 36 Marinas. Chapter 36 addresses the fire protection and prevention requirements for marinas. It was developed in response to the complications encountered by a number of fire departments responsible for the protection of marinas as well as fire loss history in marinas that lacked fire protection. Compliance with this chapter intends to establish safe practices in marina areas, provide an identification method for mooring spaces in the marina, and provide fire fighters with safe operational areas and fire protection methods to extend hose lines in a safe manner. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 3602 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 37 Combustible Fibers. Chapter 37 establishes the requirements for storage and handling of combustible fibers, including animal, vegetable and synthetic fibers, whether woven into textiles, baled, packaged or loose. Operations involving combustible fibers are typically associated with salvage, paper milling, recycling, cloth manufacturing, carpet and textile mills and agricultural operations, among others. The primary hazard associated with these operations is the abundance of materials and their ready ignitability. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 3702 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 38 Higher Education Laboratories. Chapter 38 is a new chapter addressing the unique needs of laboratories in higher education academic institutions. The advancement of technologies, science, medicine and our knowledge of the world often relies on having vibrant and successful academic institutions. These academic institutions often have chemistry, biology, medical, engineering and other laboratories where hazardous materials are used. The chapter addresses both new and existing buildings and new and existing laboratories. Applying the general hazardous material provisions has been difficult because of the ways these laboratories operate. Often there are many small laboratories that use very small quantities of hazardous materials that individually do not exceed the MAQs. However, in aggregate the quantities will exceed the MAQs and could result in the need for a Group H occupancy classification. It is believed that the lower density of hazardous materials often mitigates the overall risk. Therefore, this lower density along with a package of additional requirements (including the concept of laboratory suites with fire-resistance-rated separations) renders a Group H occupancy classification not necessary. This chapter also addresses the use of certain materials typically prohibited for existing buildings where located in buildings not protected throughout with a sprinkler system. These allowances come with certain safety measures such as the use of storage cabinets and fume hoods.

Chapter 39 Processing and Extraction Facilities. Chapter 39 is a new chapter focused on the processing and extraction of oils and fats from various plants. This process includes the extraction by use of solvent, desolventizing of the raw material and production of the miscella, and distillation of the solvent from the miscella and solvent recovery. The processes used are not necessarily typical hazardous material processes and often the systems and equipment associated with such processes are not listed. Due to the typical lack of listings, the systems and equipment need specific approvals for each installation. This chapter provides the tools to appropriately enforce the IFC to meet the unique needs of industry while providing the appropriate level of safety. This chapter has provisions for a technical report prepared by a registered design professional. This chapter also requires site inspections to make sure equipment and systems are installed as designed and approved.

Chapters 40 through 49. Reserved for future use.

PART V—HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Chapter 50 Hazardous Materials—General Provisions. This chapter contains the general requirements for all hazardous chemicals in all occupancies. Hazardous chemicals are defined as those that pose an unreasonable risk to the health and safety of operating or emergency personnel, the public and the environment if not properly controlled during handling, storage, manufacture, processing, packaging, use, disposal or transportation. The general provisions of this chapter are intended to be companion provisions with the specific requirements of Chapters 51 through 67 regarding a given hazardous material. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 5002 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 51 Aerosols. Chapter 51 addresses the prevention, control and extinguishment of fires and explosions in facilities where retail aerosol products are displayed or stored. It is concerned with both life safety and property protection from a fire; however, historically, aerosol product fires have caused property loss more frequently than loss of life. Requirements for storing aerosol products are dependent on the level of aerosol product, level of sprinkler protection, type of storage condition and quantity of aerosol products. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 5102 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 52. Reserved for future use.

Chapter 53 Compressed Gases. This chapter regulates the storage, use and handling of all flammable and nonflammable compressed gases, such as those that are used in medical facilities, air separation plants, industrial plants, agricultural equipment facilities and similar occupancies. Standards for the design, construction and marking of compressed gas cylinders and pressure vessels are referenced. Compressed gases used in welding and cutting, cryogenic liquids and liquefied petroleum gases are also regulated under Chapters 35, 55 and 61, respectively. Compressed gases that are classified as hazardous materials are also regulated in Chapter 50, which includes general requirements. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 5302 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 54 Corrosive Materials. Chapter 54 addresses the hazards of corrosive materials that have a destructive effect on living tissues. Although corrosive gases exist, most corrosive materials are solid or liquid and classified as either acids or bases (alkalis). These materials may pose a wide range of hazards other than corrosivity, such as combustibility, reactivity or oxidizing hazards, and must conform to the requirements of this code with respect to all known hazards. The focus of this chapter is on materials whose primary hazard is corrosivity; that is, the ability to destroy or irreparably damage living tissue on contact. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 5402 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 55 Cryogenic Fluids. This chapter regulates the hazards associated with the storage, use and handling of cryogenic fluids through regulation of such things as pressure relief mechanisms and proper container storage. These hazards are in addition to the code requirements that address the other hazards of cryogenic fluids such as flammability and toxicity. These other characteristics are dealt with in Chapter 50 and other chapters, such as Chapter 58 dealing with flammable gases. Cryogens are hazardous because they are held at extremely low temperatures and high pressures. Many cryogenic fluids, however, are actually inert gases and would not be regulated elsewhere in this code. Cryogens are used for many applications but specifically have had widespread use in the biomedical field and in space programs. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 5502 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 56 Explosives and Fireworks. This chapter prescribes minimum requirements for the safe manufacture, storage, handling and use of explosives, ammunition and blasting agents for commercial and industrial occupancies. These provisions are intended to protect the general public, emergency responders and individuals who handle explosives. Chapter 56 also regulates the manufacturing, retail sale, display and wholesale distribution of fireworks, establishing the requirements for obtaining approval to manufacture, store, sell, discharge or conduct a public display, and references national standards for regulations governing manufacture, storage and public displays. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 5602 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 57 Flammable and Combustible Liquids. The requirements of this chapter are intended to reduce the likelihood of fires involving the storage, handling, use or transportation of flammable and combustible liquids. Adherence to these practices may also limit damage in the event of an accidental fire involving these materials. These liquids are used for fuel, lubricants, cleaners, solvents, medicine and even drinking. The danger associated with flammable and combustible liquids is that the vapors from these liquids, when combined with air in their flammable range, will burn or explode at temperatures near normal living and working environment. The protection provided by this code is to prevent the flammable and combustible liquids from being ignited. As

with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 5702 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 58 Flammable Gases and Flammable Cryogenic Fluids. Chapter 58 sets requirements for the storage and use of flammable gases. For safety purposes, there is a limit on the quantities of flammable gas allowed per control area. Exceeding these limitations increases the possibility of damage to both property and individuals. The principal hazard posed by flammable gas is its ready ignitability, or even explosivity, when mixed with air in the proper proportions. Consequently, occupancies storing or handling large quantities of flammable gas are classified as Group H-2 (high hazard) by the *International Building Code*. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 5802 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 59 Flammable Solids. This chapter addresses general requirements for storage and handling of flammable solids, especially magnesium; however, it is important to note that several other solid materials, primarily metals including, but not limited to, titanium, zirconium, hafnium, calcium, zinc, sodium, lithium, potassium, sodium/potassium alloys, uranium, thorium and plutonium, can be explosion hazards under the right conditions. Some of these metals are almost exclusively laboratory materials but because of where they are used, fire service personnel must be trained to handle emergency situations. Because uranium, thorium and plutonium are also radioactive materials, they present still more specialized problems for fire service personnel. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 5902 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 60 Highly Toxic and Toxic Materials. The main purpose of this chapter is to protect occupants, emergency responders and those in the immediate area of the building and facility from short-term, acute hazards associated with a release or general exposure to toxic and highly toxic materials. This chapter deals with all three states of toxic and highly toxic materials: solids, liquids and gases. This code does not address long-term exposure effects of these materials, which are addressed by agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 6002 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 61 Liquefied Petroleum Gases. Chapter 61 establishes requirements for the safe handling, storing and use of LP-gas to reduce the possibility of damage to containers, accidental releases of LP-gas and exposure of flammable concentrations of LP-gas to ignition sources. LP-gas (notably propane) is well known as a camping fuel for cooking, lighting, heating and refrigerating and also remains a popular standby fuel supply for auxiliary generators as well as being widely used as an alternative motor vehicle fuel. Its characteristic as a clean-burning fuel has resulted in the addition of propane dispensers to service stations throughout the country. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 6102 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 62 Organic Peroxides. This chapter addresses the hazards associated with the storage, handling and use of organic peroxides and intends to manage the fire and oxidation hazards of organic peroxides by preventing their uncontrolled release. These chemicals possess the characteristics of flammable or combustible liquids and are also strong oxidizers. This unusual combination of properties requires special storage and handling precautions to prevent uncontrolled release, contamination, hazardous chemical reactions, fires or explosions. The requirements of this chapter pertain to industrial applications in which significant quantities of organic peroxides are stored or used; however, smaller quantities of organic peroxides still pose a significant hazard and, therefore, must be stored and used in accordance with the applicable provisions of this chapter and Chapter 50. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 6202 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 63 Oxidizers, Oxidizing Gases and Oxidizing Cryogenic Fluids. Chapter 63 addresses the hazards associated with solid, liquid, gaseous and cryogenic fluid oxidizing materials, including oxygen in home use, and establishes criteria for their safe storage and protection in indoor and outdoor storage facilities, minimizing the potential for uncontrolled releases and contact with fuel sources. Although oxidizers themselves do not burn, they pose unique fire hazards because of their ability to support combustion by breaking down and giving off oxygen. As with other chapters

of the *International Fire Code*, Section 6302 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 64 Pyrophoric Materials. This chapter regulates the hazards associated with pyrophoric materials, which are capable of spontaneously igniting in the air at or below a temperature of 130°F (54°C). Many pyrophoric materials also pose severe flammability or reactivity hazards. This chapter addresses only the hazards associated with pyrophoric materials. Materials that pose multiple hazards must conform to the requirements of the code with respect to all hazards. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 6402 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 65 Pyroxylin (Cellulose Nitrate) Plastics. This chapter addresses the significant hazards associated with pyroxylin (cellulose nitrate) plastics, which are the most dangerous and unstable of all plastic compounds. The chemically bound oxygen in their structure permits them to burn vigorously in the absence of atmospheric oxygen at a rate 15 times greater than comparable common combustibles. Strict compliance with the provisions of this chapter, along with proper housekeeping and storage arrangements, helps to reduce the hazards associated with pyroxylin (cellulose nitrate) plastics in a fire or other emergencies.

Chapter 66 Unstable (Reactive) Materials. This chapter addresses the hazards of unstable (reactive) liquid and solid materials as well as unstable (reactive) compressed gases. In addition to their unstable reactivity, these materials may pose other hazards, such as toxicity, corrosivity, explosivity, flammability or oxidizing potential. This chapter, however, intends to address those materials whose primary hazard is unstable reactivity. Materials that pose multiple hazards must conform to the requirements of the code with respect to all hazards. Strict compliance with the provisions of this chapter, along with proper housekeeping and storage arrangements, help reduce the exposure hazards associated with unstable (reactive) materials in a fire or other emergency. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 6602 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapter 67 Water-reactive Solids and Liquids. This chapter addresses the hazards associated with water-reactive materials that are solid or liquid at normal temperatures and pressures. In addition to their water reactivity, these materials may pose a wide range of other hazards, such as toxicity, flammability, corrosiveness or oxidizing potential. This chapter addresses only those materials whose primary hazard is water reactivity. Materials that pose multiple hazards must conform to the requirements of the code with respect to all hazards. Strict compliance with the requirements of this chapter, along with proper housekeeping and storage arrangements, helps to reduce the exposure hazards associated with water-reactive materials in a fire or other emergency. As with other chapters of the *International Fire Code*, Section 6702 contains a list of terms that are defined in Chapter 2 and are applicable to the chapter contents.

Chapters 68 through 79. Reserved for future use.

PART VI—REFERENCED STANDARDS

Chapter 80 Referenced Standards. This code contains several references to standards that are used to regulate materials and methods of construction. Chapter 80 contains a comprehensive list of all standards that are referenced in this code. The standards are part of the code to the extent of the reference to the standard (see Section 102.7). Compliance with the referenced standard is necessary for compliance with this code. By providing specifically adopted standards, the construction and installation requirements necessary for compliance with this code can be readily determined. The basis for code compliance is, therefore, established and available on an equal basis to the code official, contractor, designer and owner.

Chapter 80 is organized in a manner that makes it easy to locate specific standards. It lists all of the referenced standards alphabetically by acronym of the promulgating agency of the standard. Each agency's standards are then listed in either alphabetical or numeric order based upon the standard identification. The list also contains the title of the standard; the edition (date) of the standard referenced; any addenda included as part of the ICC adoption; and the section or sections of this code that reference the standard.

PART VII—APPENDICES

Appendix A Board of Appeals. This appendix contains optional criteria that, when adopted, provide jurisdictions with detailed appeals, board member qualifications and administrative procedures to supplement the basic requirements found in Section 108 of this code. Note that the provisions contained in this appendix are not mandatory unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance.

Appendix B Fire-flow Requirements for Buildings. This appendix provides a tool for the use of jurisdictions in establishing a policy for determining fire-flow requirements in accordance with Section 507.3. The determination of required fire flow is not an exact science, but having some level of information provides a consistent way of choosing the appropriate fire flow for buildings throughout a jurisdiction. The primary tool used in this appendix is a table that presents fire flow based on construction type and building area based on the correlation of the Insurance Services Office (ISO) method and the construction types used in the *International Building Code*. Note that the provisions contained in this appendix are not mandatory unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance.

Appendix C Fire Hydrant Locations and Distribution. This appendix focuses on the location and spacing of fire hydrants, which is important to the success of fire-fighting operations. The difficulty with determining the spacing of fire hydrants is that every situation is unique and has unique challenges. Finding one methodology for determining hydrant spacing is difficult. This particular appendix gives one methodology based on the required fire flow that fire departments can work with to set a policy for hydrant distribution around new buildings and facilities in conjunction with Section 507.5. Note that the provisions contained in this appendix are not mandatory unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance.

Appendix D Fire Apparatus Access Roads. This appendix contains more detailed elements for use with the basic access requirements found in Section 503, which gives some minimum criteria, such as a maximum length of 150 feet and a minimum width of 20 feet, but in many cases does not state specific criteria. This appendix, like Appendices B and C, is a tool for jurisdictions looking for guidance in establishing access requirements and includes criteria for multiple-family residential developments, large one- and two-family subdivisions, specific examples for various types of turn-arounds for fire department apparatus and parking regulatory signage. Note that the provisions contained in this appendix are not mandatory unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance.

Appendix E Hazard Categories. This appendix contains guidance for designers, engineers, architects, code officials, plans reviewers and inspectors in the classifying of hazardous materials so that proposed designs can be evaluated intelligently and accurately. The descriptive materials and explanations of hazardous materials and how to report and evaluate them on a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) are intended to be instructional as well as informative. Note that this appendix is for information purposes and is not intended for adoption.

Appendix F Hazard Ranking. The information in this appendix is intended to be a companion to the specific requirements of Chapters 51 through 67, which regulate the storage, handling and use of all hazardous materials classified as either physical or health hazards. These materials pose diverse hazards, including instability, reactivity, flammability, oxidizing potential or toxicity; therefore, identifying them by hazard ranking is essential. This appendix lists the various hazardous materials categories that are defined in this code, along with the NFPA 704 hazard ranking for each. Note that the provisions contained in this appendix are not mandatory unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance.

Appendix G Cryogenic Fluids—Weight and Volume Equivalents. This appendix gives the fire code official and design professional a ready reference tool for the conversion of the liquid weight and volume of cryogenic fluid to their corresponding volume of gas and vice versa and is a companion to the provisions of Chapter 55 of this code. Note that this appendix is for information purposes and is not intended for adoption.

Appendix H Hazardous Materials Management Plan (HMMP) and Hazardous Materials Inventory Statement (HMIS) Instructions. This appendix is intended to assist businesses in establishing a Hazardous Materials Management Plan (HMMP) and Hazardous Materials Inventory Statement (HMIS) based on the classification and quantities of materials that would be found on-site, in storage or in use. The sample forms and available Safety Data Sheets (SDS) provide the basis for the evaluations. It is also a companion to IFC Sections 407.5 and 407.6, which provide the requirement that the HMIS and HMMP be submitted when required by the fire code official. Note that the provisions contained in this appendix are not mandatory unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance.

Appendix I Fire Protection Systems—Noncompliant Conditions. The purpose of this appendix, which was developed by the ICC Hazard Abatement in Existing Buildings Committee, is to provide the fire code official with a list of conditions that are readily identifiable by the inspector during the course of an inspection utilizing the *International Fire Code*. The specific conditions identified in this appendix are primarily derived from applicable NFPA standards and pose a hazard to the proper operation of the respective systems. While these do not represent all of the conditions that pose a hazard or otherwise may impair the proper operation of fire protection systems, their identification in this adoptable appendix will provide a more direct path for enforcement by the fire code official. Note that the provisions contained in this appendix are not mandatory unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance.

Appendix J Building Information Sign. This appendix provides design, installation and maintenance requirements for a Building Information Sign (BIS), a fire service tool to be utilized in the crucial, initial response of fire fighters to a structure fire. The BIS placard is designed to be utilized within the initial response time frame of an incident to assist fire fighters in their tactical size-up of a situation as soon as possible after arrival on the scene of a fire emergency. The BIS design is in the shape of a fire service Maltese Cross and includes five spaces (the four wings plus the centerpiece of the cross symbol) in which information is placed about the tactical considerations of construction type and hourly rating, fire protection systems, occupancy type, content hazards and special features that could affect tactical decisions and operations. Note that the provisions contained in this appendix are not mandatory unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance.

Appendix K Construction Requirements for Existing Ambulatory Care Facilities. This appendix was created by the ICC Ad Hoc Committee on Healthcare (AHC) and its intent is to provide jurisdictions with an option for assessing minimum fire and life safety requirements for buildings containing ambulatory care facilities. While this appendix is written with the intent to apply retroactive minimum standards, the AHC recognized that the ambulatory care requirements are relatively recent additions to the *International Building Code*. For that reason, these requirements are presented as an appendix so that the adopting authority can exercise judgment in the adoption and application of this section. This appendix would also be useful for those local and state jurisdictions that are specifically focused on ensuring the safety for existing ambulatory care facilities by providing minimum criteria that could be used to bring older facilities into compliance with the current standards at the discretion of the adopting jurisdiction. The technical requirements are based on the current IBC language, which is consistent with the overall concept of the current federal requirements. Note that the provisions contained in this appendix are not mandatory unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance.

Appendix L Requirements for Fire Fighter Air Replenishment Systems. This appendix provides for the design, installation and maintenance of permanently installed fire fighter breathing air systems in buildings designated by the jurisdiction. Breathing air is critical for fire-fighting operations. Historically, fire departments have supplied air bottles by means of a “bottle brigade,” whereby fire fighters manually transport air bottles up stairways, which is an extraordinarily fire fighter-intensive process and takes fire fighters away from their primary mission of rescue and fire fighting. Technology now exists to address the issue using in-building air supply systems. Fire fighter breathing air systems were introduced in the late 1980s and are now required in a number of communities throughout the United States. The system has been called a “standpipe for air” and consists of stainless steel, high-pressure piping that is supplied by on-site air storage or fire department air supply units. Air filling stations are then strategically located throughout the building allowing fire fighters to refill breathing air cylinders inside the fire building, negating the required “bottle brigade,” and making more fire fighters available for search, rescue and fire suppression operations. Note that the provisions contained in this appendix are not mandatory unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance.

Appendix M High-rise Buildings—Retroactive Automatic Sprinkler Requirement. This appendix was created with the intent to provide an option for adoption by jurisdictions that choose to require existing high-rise buildings to be retrofitted with automatic sprinklers. Modern fire and building codes require complete automatic fire sprinkler protection and a variety of other safety features in new high-rise construction. Many older high-rise buildings lack automatic sprinkler protection and other basic fire protection features necessary to protect the occupants, emergency responders and the structure itself. Without complete automatic sprinkler protection, fire departments cannot provide the level of protection that high-rise buildings demand. Existing high-rise buildings that are not protected with automatic sprinklers represent a significant hazard to occupants and fire fighters, and can significantly impact a community's infrastructure and economic viability in the event of a fire loss. Note that the provisions contained in this appendix are not mandatory unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance.

Appendix N Indoor Trade Shows and Exhibitions. This appendix was created to address the hazards that are associated with larger, more complex trade shows and exhibitions. Although many of these requirements are already included in various locations in this code, some of the more important items, such as requirements for covered booths and multiple-story booths, are not. The intent is to have the requirements covering these events in a single location. The provisions are essentially a series of pointers to other locations within this code. This assists those organizing exhibitions and individual exhibitors unfamiliar with the fire code. The appendix can be adopted by jurisdictions looking for specific regulations on this subject or used as a guide where it is not. Note that the provisions contained in this appendix are not mandatory unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>Part I—Administrative</i>	<i>I</i>	312 Vehicle Impact Protection	57
CHAPTER 1 SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION	1	313 Fueled Equipment	57
PART 1—GENERAL PROVISIONS	1	314 Indoor Displays	58
Section		315 General Storage	58
101 Scope and General Requirements	1	316 Hazards to Fire Fighters	59
102 Applicability	1	317 Rooftop Gardens and Landscaped Roofs	60
PART 2—ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS	2	318 Laundry Carts	61
103 Department of Fire Prevention	2	319 Mobile Food Preparation Vehicles	61
104 General Authority and Responsibilities	3	CHAPTER 4 EMERGENCY PLANNING	
105 Permits	4	AND PREPAREDNESS	63
106 Fees	12	Section	
107 Inspections	12	401 General	63
108 Maintenance	13	402 Definitions	63
109 Board of Appeals	13	403 Emergency Preparedness Requirements	63
110 Violations	13	404 Fire Safety, Evacuation and Lockdown Plans	69
111 Unsafe Buildings	14	405 Emergency Evacuation Drills	70
112 Stop Work Order	14	406 Employee Training and Response Procedures	71
113 Service Utilities	15	407 Hazard Communication	71
CHAPTER 2 DEFINITIONS	17	<i>Part III—Building and Equipment Design Features</i>	<i>73</i>
Section		CHAPTER 5 FIRE SERVICE FEATURES	73
201 General	17	Section	
202 General Definitions	17	501 General	73
<i>Part II—General Safety Provisions</i>	51	502 Definitions	73
CHAPTER 3 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS	51	503 Fire Apparatus Access Roads	73
Section		504 Access to Building Openings and Roofs	74
301 General	51	505 Premises Identification	75
302 Definitions	51	506 Key Boxes	75
303 Asphalt Kettles	51	507 Fire Protection Water Supplies	75
304 Combustible Waste Material	52	508 Fire Command Center	76
305 Ignition Sources	52	509 Fire Protection and Utility Equipment	
306 Motion Picture Projection Rooms and Film	53	Identification and Access	77
307 Open Burning, Recreational Fires		510 Emergency Responder Radio Coverage	77
and Portable Outdoor Fireplaces	53	CHAPTER 6 BUILDING SERVICES	
308 Open Flames	53	AND SYSTEMS	81
309 Powered Industrial Trucks and Equipment	55	Section	
310 Smoking	55	601 General	81
311 Vacant Premises	56	602 Definitions	81
		603 Fuel-fired Appliances	81
		604 Electrical Equipment, Wiring and Hazards	84

TABLE OF CONTENTS

605 Mechanical Refrigeration 85
606 Elevator Operation, Maintenance
and Fire Service Keys. 88
607 Commercial Kitchen Hoods 89
608 Commercial Kitchen Cooking Oil Storage 90
609 Hyperbaric Facilities 90

**CHAPTER 7 FIRE AND SMOKE
PROTECTION FEATURES 91**

Section
701 General 91
702 Definitions 91
703 Penetrations 91
704 Joints and Voids 92
705 Door and Window Openings 92
706 Duct and Air Transfer Openings 92
707 Concealed Spaces 92

**CHAPTER 8 INTERIOR FINISH,
DECORATIVE MATERIALS
AND FURNISHINGS 93**

Section
801 General 93
802 Definitions 93
803 Interior Wall and Ceiling Finish
in Existing Buildings 93
804 Interior Wall and Ceiling Trim and
Interior Floor Finish in New and
Existing Buildings 95
805 Upholstered Furniture and Mattresses in
New and Existing Buildings 96
806 Natural Decorative Vegetation in New and
Existing Buildings 99
807 Decorative Materials and Artificial Decorative
Vegetation in New and Existing Buildings 99
808 Furnishings Other than Upholstered
Furniture and Mattresses or Decorative
Materials in New and Existing Buildings. 101

**CHAPTER 9 FIRE PROTECTION AND
LIFE SAFETY SYSTEMS 103**

Section
901 General 103
902 Definitions 105
903 Automatic Sprinkler Systems 106
904 Alternative Automatic
Fire-extinguishing Systems 113

905 Standpipe Systems 116
906 Portable Fire Extinguishers 119
907 Fire Alarm and Detection Systems 121
908 Emergency Alarm Systems 132
909 Smoke Control Systems 132
910 Smoke and Heat Removal 139
911 Explosion Control 141
912 Fire Department Connections 142
913 Fire Pumps 143
914 Fire Protection Based on Special Detailed
Requirements of Use and Occupancy 143
915 Carbon Monoxide Detection 146
916 Gas Detection Systems 148
917 Mass Notification Systems 148

CHAPTER 10 MEANS OF EGRESS 149

Section
1001 Administration 149
1002 Definitions 149
1003 General Means of Egress 150
1004 Occupant Load 151
1005 Means of Egress Sizing 152
1006 Numbers of Exits and Exit Access Doorways 153
1007 Exit and Exit Access Doorway Configuration 156
1008 Means of Egress Illumination 157
1009 Accessible Means of Egress 158
1010 Doors, Gates and Turnstiles 160
1011 Stairways 169
1012 Ramps 172
1013 Exit Signs 173
1014 Handrails 174
1015 Guards 175
1016 Exit Access 177
1017 Exit Access Travel Distance 178
1018 Aisles 179
1019 Exit Access Stairways and Ramps 179
1020 Corridors 180
1021 Egress Balconies 181
1022 Exits 181
1023 Interior Exit Stairways and Ramps 182
1024 Exit Passageways 184
1025 Luminous Egress Path Markings 184
1026 Horizontal Exits 186
1027 Exterior Exit Stairways and Ramps 187

1028	Exit Discharge	187	2103	Classifications	241
1029	Assembly	189	2104	General Requirements	241
1030	Emergency Escape and Rescue	195	2105	Operating Requirements	242
1031	Maintenance of the Means of Egress	196	2106	Spotting and Pretreating	242
CHAPTER 11 CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR EXISTING BUILDINGS 199			2107	Dry Cleaning Systems	243
Section			2108	Fire Protection	243
1101	General	199	CHAPTER 22 COMBUSTIBLE DUST-PRODUCING OPERATIONS 245		
1102	Definitions	199	Section		
1103	Fire Safety Requirements for Existing Buildings	199	2201	General	245
1104	Means of Egress for Existing Buildings	206	2202	Definition	245
1105	Construction Requirements for Existing Group I-2	211	2203	Precautions	245
1106	Requirements for Outdoor Operations	215	2204	Additional Requirements	245
CHAPTER 12 ENERGY SYSTEMS 217			CHAPTER 23 MOTOR FUEL-DISPENSING FACILITIES AND REPAIR GARAGES 247		
Section			Section		
1201	General	217	2301	General	247
1202	Definitions	217	2302	Definitions	247
1203	Emergency and Standby Power Systems	217	2303	Location of Dispensing Devices	247
1204	Solar Photovoltaic Power Systems	219	2304	Dispensing Operations	248
1205	Stationary Fuel Cell Power Systems	221	2305	Operational Requirements	249
1206	Electrical Energy Storage Systems	222	2306	Flammable and Combustible Liquid Motor Fuel-dispensing Facilities	249
CHAPTERS 13 through 19 RESERVED 231			2307	Liquefied Petroleum Gas Motor Fuel-dispensing Facilities	254
<i>Part IV—Special Occupancies and Operations 233</i>			2308	Compressed Natural Gas Motor Fuel-dispensing Facilities	255
CHAPTER 20 AVIATION FACILITIES 233			2309	Hydrogen Motor Fuel-dispensing and Generation Facilities	256
Section			2310	Marine Motor Fuel-dispensing Facilities	258
2001	General	233	2311	Repair Garages	259
2002	Definitions	233	CHAPTER 24 FLAMMABLE FINISHES 263		
2003	General Precautions	233	Section		
2004	Aircraft Maintenance	233	2401	General	263
2005	Portable Fire Extinguishers	234	2402	Definitions	263
2006	Aircraft Fueling	234	2403	Protection of Operations	263
2007	Helistops and Heliports	239	2404	Spray Finishing	265
CHAPTER 21 DRY CLEANING 241			2405	Dipping Operations	269
Section			2406	Powder Coating	270
2101	General	241	2407	Electrostatic Apparatus	271
2102	Definitions	241	2408	Organic Peroxides and Dual-component Coatings	272

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2409 Indoor Manufacturing of Reinforced Plastics 272
2410 Floor Surfacing and Finishing Operations 273

CHAPTER 25 FRUIT AND CROP RIPENING 275

Section

2501 General 275
2502 Definitions 275
2503 Ethylene Gas 275
2504 Sources of Ignition 275
2505 Combustible Waste 275
2506 Ethylene Generators 275
2507 Warning Signs 275

CHAPTER 26 FUMIGATION AND INSECTICIDAL FOGGING 277

Section

2601 General 277
2602 Definitions 277
2603 Fire Safety Requirements 277

CHAPTER 27 SEMICONDUCTOR FABRICATION FACILITIES 279

Section

2701 General 279
2702 Definitions 279
2703 General Safety Provisions 279
2704 Storage 283
2705 Use and Handling 284

CHAPTER 28 LUMBER YARDS AND AGRO-INDUSTRIAL, SOLID BIOMASS AND WOODWORKING FACILITIES . . . 289

Section

2801 General 289
2802 Definitions 289
2803 General Requirements 289
2804 Fire Protection 290
2805 Plywood, Veneer and Composite Board Mills 290
2806 Log Storage Areas 290

2807 Storage of Wood Chips and Hogged Material Associated with Timber and Lumber Production Facilities 290
2808 Storage and Processing of Wood Chips, Hogged Material, Fines, Compost, Solid Biomass Feedstock and Raw Product Associated with Yard Waste, Agro-industrial and Recycling Facilities 291
2809 Exterior Storage of Finished Lumber and Solid Biofuel Products 291
2810 Outdoor Storage of Pallets at Pallet Manufacturing and Recycling Facilities 292

CHAPTER 29 MANUFACTURE OF ORGANIC COATINGS 293

Section

2901 General 293
2902 Definition 293
2903 General Precautions 293
2904 Electrical Equipment and Protection 293
2905 Process Structures 294
2906 Process Mills and Kettles 294
2907 Process Piping 294
2908 Raw Materials in Process Areas 295
2909 Raw Materials and Finished Products 295

CHAPTER 30 INDUSTRIAL OVENS 297

Section

3001 General 297
3002 Definitions 297
3003 Location 297
3004 Fuel Piping 297
3005 Interlocks 297
3006 Fire Protection 297
3007 Operation and Maintenance 298

CHAPTER 31 TENTS, TEMPORARY SPECIAL EVENT STRUCTURES AND OTHER MEMBRANE STRUCTURES 299

Section

3101 General 299
3102 Definitions 299
3103 Temporary Tents and Membrane Structures 299
3104 Temporary and Permanent Tents and Membrane Structures 302
3105 Temporary Special Event Structures 302

3106 Outdoor Assembly Events 303
 3107 Operational Requirements 304

**CHAPTER 32 HIGH-PILED
 COMBUSTIBLE STORAGE 307**

Section
 3201 General 307
 3202 Definitions 308
 3203 Commodity Classification 308
 3204 Designation of High-piled Storage Areas 319
 3205 Housekeeping and Maintenance 319
 3206 General Fire Protection and
 Life Safety Features 319
 3207 Solid-piled and Shelf Storage 322
 3208 Rack Storage 323
 3209 Automated Storage 323
 3210 Specialty Storage 324

**CHAPTER 33 FIRE SAFETY DURING
 CONSTRUCTION AND
 DEMOLITION 325**

Section
 3301 General 325
 3302 Definitions 325
 3303 Temporary Heating Equipment 325
 3304 Precautions Against Fire 325
 3305 Flammable and Combustible Liquids 326
 3306 Flammable Gases 326
 3307 Explosive Materials 326
 3308 Owner’s Responsibility for Fire Protection 326
 3309 Fire Reporting 327
 3310 Access for Fire Fighting 327
 3311 Means of Egress 327
 3312 Water Supply for Fire Protection 327
 3313 Standpipes 327
 3314 Automatic Sprinkler System 328
 3315 Portable Fire Extinguishers 328
 3316 Motorized Construction Equipment 328
 3317 Safeguarding Roofing Operations 328

**CHAPTER 34 TIRE REBUILDING
 AND TIRE STORAGE 329**

Section
 3401 General 329
 3402 Definitions 329
 3403 Tire Rebuilding 329
 3404 Precautions Against Fire 329
 3405 Outdoor Storage 329

3406 Fire Department Access 330
 3407 Fencing 330
 3408 Fire Protection 330
 3409 Indoor Storage Arrangement 330

**CHAPTER 35 WELDING AND
 OTHER HOT WORK 331**

Section
 3501 General 331
 3502 Definitions 331
 3503 General Requirements 331
 3504 Fire Safety Requirements 331
 3505 Gas Welding and Cutting 332
 3506 Electric Arc Hot Work 333
 3507 Calcium Carbide Systems 333
 3508 Acetylene Generators 333
 3509 Piping Manifolds and Hose Systems for
 Fuel Gases and Oxygen 334
 3510 Hot Work on Flammable and
 Combustible Liquid Storage Tanks 334

CHAPTER 36 MARINAS 335

Section
 3601 Scope 335
 3602 Definitions 335
 3603 General Precautions 335
 3604 Fire Protection Equipment 335
 3605 Marine Motor Fuel-dispensing Facilities 336

CHAPTER 37 COMBUSTIBLE FIBERS 337

Section
 3701 General 337
 3702 Definitions 337
 3703 General Precautions 337
 3704 Loose Fiber Storage 337
 3705 Baled Storage 338

**CHAPTER 38 HIGHER EDUCATION
 LABORATORIES 339**

Section
 3801 General 339
 3802 Definitions 339
 3803 General Safety Provisions 339
 3804 Laboratory Suite Construction 340
 3805 Nonsprinklered Laboratories 341
 3806 Existing Sprinklered Laboratories 342

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 39 PROCESSING AND EXTRACTION FACILITIES 343

Section

3901 General 343
3902 Definitions..... 343
3903 Processing and Extraction..... 343
3904 Systems and Equipment 343
3905 Safety Systems 344

CHAPTERS 40 through 49 RESERVED 347

Part V—Hazardous Materials..... 349

CHAPTER 50 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS—GENERAL PROVISIONS..... 349

Section

5001 General 349
5002 Definitions..... 351
5003 General Requirements 352
5004 Storage..... 366
5005 Use, Dispensing and Handling 369

CHAPTER 51 AEROSOLS..... 375

Section

5101 General 375
5102 Definitions..... 375
5103 Classification of Aerosol Products 375
5104 Inside Storage of Aerosol Products..... 375
5105 Outside Storage..... 378
5106 Retail Display 378
5107 Manufacturing Facilities 380

CHAPTER 52 RESERVED 381

CHAPTER 53 COMPRESSED GASES..... 383

Section

5301 General 383
5302 Definitions..... 383
5303 General Requirements 383
5304 Storage of Compressed Gases 387
5305 Use and Handling of Compressed Gases 387

5306 Medical Gases..... 388
5307 Compressed Gases Not Otherwise Regulated. . . 388

CHAPTER 54 CORROSIVE MATERIALS..... 391

Section

5401 General 391
5402 Definition 391
5403 General Requirements 391
5404 Storage 391
5405 Use 391

CHAPTER 55 CRYOGENIC FLUIDS 393

Section

5501 General 393
5502 Definitions 393
5503 General Requirements..... 393
5504 Storage 395
5505 Use and Handling 396

CHAPTER 56 EXPLOSIVES AND FIREWORKS 399

Section

5601 General 399
5602 Definitions 402
5603 Record Keeping and Reporting..... 403
5604 Explosive Materials Storage and Handling 403
5605 Manufacture, Assembly and Testing of Explosives, Explosive Materials and Fireworks 409
5606 Small Arms Ammunition and Small Arms Ammunition Components..... 412
5607 Blasting 414
5608 Fireworks Display..... 414
5609 Temporary Storage of Consumer Fireworks..... 416

CHAPTER 57 FLAMMABLE AND COMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS..... 417

Section

5701 General 417
5702 Definitions 417
5703 General Requirements..... 418
5704 Storage 422

5705	Dispensing, Use, Mixing and Handling	442	6109	Storage of Portable LP-gas Containers Awaiting Use or Resale	480
5706	Special Operations	447	6110	LP-gas Containers Not in Service	481
5707	On-demand Mobile Fueling Operations	457	6111	Parking and Garaging of LP-gas Tank Vehicles	481
CHAPTER 58 FLAMMABLE GASES AND FLAMMABLE CRYOGENIC FLUIDS 459			CHAPTER 62 ORGANIC PEROXIDES 483		
Section			Section		
5801	General	459	6201	General	483
5802	Definitions	459	6202	Definition	483
5803	General Requirements	459	6203	General Requirements	483
5804	Storage	460	6204	Storage	483
5805	Use	460	6205	Use	485
5806	Flammable Cryogenic Fluids	460	CHAPTER 63 OXIDIZERS, OXIDIZING GASES AND OXIDIZING CRYOGENIC FLUIDS 487		
5807	Metal Hydride Storage Systems	461	Section		
5808	Hydrogen Fuel Gas Rooms	462	6301	General	487
CHAPTER 59 FLAMMABLE SOLIDS 465			6302	Definitions	487
Section			6303	General Requirements	487
5901	General	465	6304	Storage	488
5902	Definitions	465	6305	Use	489
5903	General Requirements	465	6306	Liquid Oxygen in Home Health Care	489
5904	Storage	465	CHAPTER 64 PYROPHORIC MATERIALS 493		
5905	Use	465	Section		
5906	Magnesium	465	6401	General	493
CHAPTER 60 HIGHLY TOXIC AND TOXIC MATERIALS 469			6402	Definition	493
Section			6403	General Requirements	493
6001	General	469	6404	Storage	493
6002	Definitions	469	6405	Use	494
6003	Highly Toxic and Toxic Solids and Liquids	469	CHAPTER 65 PYROXYLIN (CELLULOSE NITRATE) PLASTICS 495		
6004	Highly Toxic and Toxic Compressed Gases	470	Section		
6005	Ozone Gas Generators	475	6501	General	495
CHAPTER 61 LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GASES 477			6502	Definitions	495
Section			6503	General Requirements	495
6101	General	477	6504	Storage and Handling	495
6102	Definitions	477	CHAPTER 66 UNSTABLE (REACTIVE) MATERIALS 497		
6103	Installation of Equipment	477	Section		
6104	Location of LP-gas Containers	478	6601	General	497
6105	Prohibited Use of LP-gas	478	6602	Definition	497
6106	Dispensing and Overfilling	478			
6107	Safety Precautions and Devices	478			
6108	Fire Protection	479			

TABLE OF CONTENTS

6603 General Requirements 497
 6604 Storage 498
 6605 Use 498

CHAPTER 67 WATER-REACTIVE SOLIDS AND LIQUIDS 499

Section
 6701 General 499
 6702 Definition 499
 6703 General Requirements 499
 6704 Storage 499
 6705 Use 500

CHAPTERS 68 through 79 RESERVED 501

Part VI—Referenced Standards 503

CHAPTER 80 REFERENCED STANDARDS 503

Part VII—Appendices 519

APPENDIX A BOARD OF APPEALS 519

Section
 A101 General 519

APPENDIX B FIRE-FLOW REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDINGS 521

Section
 B101 General 521
 B102 Definitions 521
 B103 Modifications 521
 B104 Fire-flow Calculation Area 521
 B105 Fire-flow Requirements for Buildings 521
 B106 Referenced Standards 523

APPENDIX C FIRE HYDRANT LOCATIONS AND DISTRIBUTION 525

Section
 C101 General 525
 C102 Number of Fire Hydrants 525
 C103 Fire Hydrant Spacing 526
 C104 Consideration of Existing Fire Hydrants 526
 C105 Referenced Standard 526

APPENDIX D FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS 527

Section
 D101 General 527
 D102 Required Access 527

D103 Minimum Specifications 527
 D104 Commercial and Industrial Developments 528
 D105 Aerial Fire Apparatus Access Roads 528
 D106 Multiple-family Residential Developments 529
 D107 One- or Two-family Residential Developments 529
 D108 Referenced Standards 529

APPENDIX E HAZARD CATEGORIES 531

Section
 E101 General 531
 E102 Hazard Categories 531
 E103 Evaluation of Hazards 535
 E104 Referenced Standards 536

APPENDIX F HAZARD RANKING 537

Section
 F101 General 537
 F102 Referenced Standard 537

APPENDIX G CRYOGENIC FLUIDS—WEIGHT AND VOLUME EQUIVALENTS 539

Section
 G101 General 539

APPENDIX H HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT PLAN (HMMP) AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INVENTORY STATEMENT (HMIS) INSTRUCTIONS 541

Section
 H101 HMMP 541
 H102 HMIS 541
 H103 Emergency Plan 542
 H104 Referenced Standard 542

APPENDIX I FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS—NONCOMPLIANT CONDITIONS 549

Section
 I101 Noncompliant Conditions 549
 I102 Referenced Standards 550

APPENDIX J BUILDING INFORMATION SIGN 551

Section
 J101 General 551
 J102 Referenced Standards 553

**APPENDIX K CONSTRUCTION
REQUIREMENTS FOR
EXISTING AMBULATORY
CARE FACILITIES 555**

Section

K101	General	555
K102	Fire Safety Requirements for Existing Ambulatory Care Facilities	555
K103	Incidental Uses in Existing Ambulatory Care Facilities	557
K104	Means of Egress Requirements for Existing Ambulatory Care Facilities	557
K105	Referenced Standards	558

**APPENDIX L REQUIREMENTS FOR
FIRE FIGHTER AIR
REPLENISHMENT SYSTEMS 559**

Section

L101	General	559
L102	Definitions	559
L103	Permits	559
L104	Design and Installation	559
L105	Acceptance Tests	561
L106	Inspection, Testing and Maintenance	561
L107	Referenced Standards	561

**APPENDIX M HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS—
RETROACTIVE AUTOMATIC
SPRINKLER
REQUIREMENT 563**

Section

M101	Scope	563
M102	Where Required	563
M103	Compliance	563

**APPENDIX N INDOOR TRADE SHOWS
AND EXHIBITIONS 565**

Section

N101	General	565
N102	Definitions	565
N103	Public Safety for Events	566
N104	Interior Finish and Decorative Materials	566
N105	Multiple-level Booths	566
N106	Covered Booths	566
N107	Display and Storage of Hazardous and Combustible Materials	566
N108	Means of Egress	567
N109	Referenced Standards	567

INDEX 569