BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, POABC

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Interpretation Date:	January 17, 2012
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2006
Subject:	Effective date of reference standards
Keywords:	Reference Standards, Amendments, Additions, Supplements
Building Code Reference(s):	1.3.1.1.(1), 1.3.1.2.(1), Table 1.3.1.2.

Question:

Sentence 1.3.1.1.(1) states that the documents referenced in the BCBC 2006 shall include all amendments, revisions and supplements effective to June 30, 2004.

Does this mean that NFPA 13-2002 Edition is the applicable reference document for the design and installation of sprinkler systems?

Interpretation:

No

Table 1.3.1.2. lists NFPA 13 – 1999 Edition as the applicable reference standard for the design and installation of sprinkler systems.

Any amendments, additions and supplements to the NFPA 13 - 1999 Edition are included as part of reference document and are required by the BCBC 2006.

When a new edition of a reference standard is introduced, the effective date for the use of this new edition does not commence until it is specifically referenced in Table 1.3.1.2. by either an amendment to the BCBC 2006 or by the introduction of a new edition of BCBC (e.g. the BCBC 2012).

If there are provisions in an updated reference standard that provide a better design solution, then a registered professional can apply to the authority having jurisdiction for an Alternative Solution to use such provisions as described in Division A Clause 1.1.2.1.(1)(b).

R. J. Light, Committee Chair

The views expressed are the consensus of the joint committee with members representing AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, and POABC, which form the BC Building Code Interpretation Committee. The purpose of the committee is to encourage uniform province wide interpretation of the BC Building Code. These views should not be considered as the official interpretation of legislated requirements based on the BC Building Code, as final responsibility for an interpretation rests with the local Authority Having Jurisdiction. The views of the joint committee should not be construed as legal advice.

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