

ICC/TMS Special Masonry Inspection Exam to be updated to 2009 IBC in January

Starting in January 2010, the certification examinations for the International Code Council for Special Inspectors will be updated to the 2009 *International Building Code*® (IBC) and companion referenced standards. As such, for masonry, the ICC Structural Masonry Examination Development Committee met in late August to update the examination to the 2009 IBC, the 2008 TMS 402 and TMS 602 (*Building Code Requirements and Specification for Masonry Structures*) and applicable ASTM Standards. Those preparing for the examination should be aware of this change, and study accordingly based on when they plan to take the examination: prior to January, 2010, the examination will continue to be based on the 2006 IBC; afterwards, the 2009 IBC will serve as the primary reference for the examination.

John Chrysler, Executive Director at the Masonry Institute of America (MIA), who is the TMS President, and who serves as a member of the ICC Structural Masonry EDC, and who is also author of the popular *Reinforced Concrete Masonry Construction Inspector's Handbook*, notes "These changes are important to sync the examination with the most current Codes and Standards that will soon be used on the job-site. Fortunately for those preparing for the examination, the changes related to masonry construction are few, and with the exception of the permission to use self-consolidating grout in some cases, relatively minor."

Candidates preparing for the examination should be aware that ICC test centers strictly enforce limitations on materials permitted for the examination. As such, only bound copies of the references identified in ICC's National Certification Examination Information Bulletin are permitted to be taken into the examination. This ICC Bulletin may be downloaded from ICC's website (www.iccsafe.org). In January, the following resources may be taken with candidates into the exam:

- 2009 *International Building Code*® (IBC)
 - *Building Code Requirements and Specification for Masonry Structures* (TMS 402-08/ACI 530-08/ASCE 5-06 and TMS 602-08/ACI 530.1-08/ASCE 6-08)
- or, as an alternate to the ,**
- Masonry Codes and Specifications Compilation* (TMS 405-09)
- *ASTM Standards A615/A615M-04, A951-02, C62-05, C9006b, C140-07, C216-07, C270-07 C476-02, C780-08, C1019-05, and C1314-07*
 - *Reinforced Concrete Masonry Construction Inspector's Handbook, 6th Edition*
 - *Reinforced Grouted Brick Masonry, 14th Edition*
 - *Model Program for Special Inspection*®, based on the 2009 IBC.

Copies of most of these materials are available from The Masonry Society, ICC, or the Masonry Institute of America.

Additional details on the examination are available on ICC's website (www.iccsafe.org).

If you are interested in special inspection training, which can assist you with preparing for the examination, contact TMS at 303-939-9700.