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Date: 03/22/2012 03:03 PM
Subject: RE: 12 IECC Table C402.2 (DC-3/15)

March 22, 2012

Subject: 2012 IECC Section C402.2

Q: Table 402.2 details a requirement for CI or continuous insulation. How is continuous insulation defined? It is not noted in Chapter 2, Definitions. If metal composite panels are fastened through a foam board or a layer of sprayed insulation do those fasteners negate the continuous insulation? We are having some architects / designers who are claiming that nothing can penetrate the insulation layer. If that is the case there is no way to attach cladding to the building structure. Please let me know the code's intent on this point.

A: Continuous insulation is contrasted to cavity insulation which is interrupted by framing members. As used in the context of the code, "continuous" is a membrane located over framing members, but of course it can be nailed or fastened to the framing and of course penetrations for various building components is allowed, such as plumbing vents through the roof insulation and exterior utility penetrations through the continuous wall insulation.

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