

COMcheck 101...

A New Energy Code Requirement Made Easy

Massachusetts Codes and Standards **Compliance Support Program**







What Is Mass Save®?



- Mass Save® is an initiative sponsored by Massachusetts' gas and electric utilities and energy efficiency service providers, including:
 - -The Berkshire Gas Company
 - -Blackstone Gas Company
 - -Cape Light Compact
 - -Columbia Gas of Massachusetts
 - -Eversource Energy
 - -Liberty Utilities
 - -National Grid
 - -Unitil
- · The Sponsors of Mass Save work closely with the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources to provide a wide range of services, incentives, trainings, and information promoting energy efficiency that help residents and businesses manage energy use and related costs.





BLACKSTONE











Course Description and Learning Objectives - Today



- 1. Basics of using the COMcheck software
- 2. Review generated compliance reports
- 3. Various helpful features

Learning Objectives:

- Obtain an overview of the basic functions and how COMcheck calculates compliance
- Identify the construction specifications needed
- Learn how to enter the building envelope, lighting, and mechanical components
- Understand how the compliance reports are created

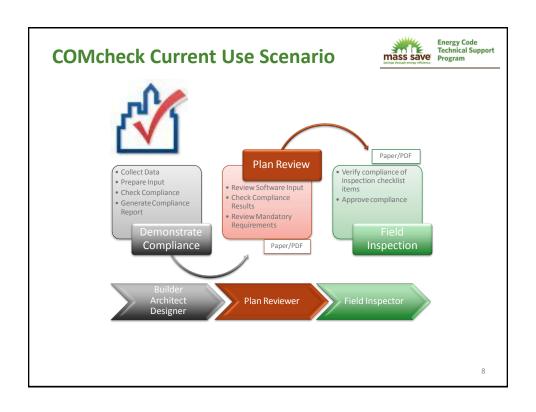
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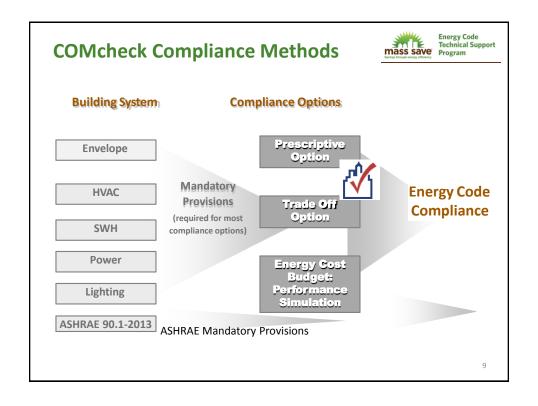
New To MA Stakeholders - COMcheck Required





- 107.2.6 COMcheck Submittal Required
- ALL Permits Shall Include Completed COMcheck
 - Envelope, Lighting and Mechanical Compliance Certificates
 - Plan Review Inspection Checklist for:
 - Compliance with the Energy Provisions of 780 CMR 13.00: Energy Efficiency
 - Advantage: Documentation for Code Compliance, Inspection
 - Lack of documentation is ALWAYS the biggest challenge for code enforcement











Mandatory requirements: controls, switching Interior/exterior lighting power limitations

Complies if total connected power ≤ lighting power allowance

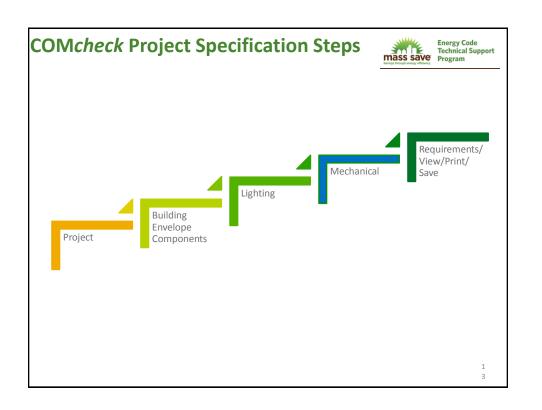


Mechanical/Service Hot Water Compliance



- Efficiency requirements
- Economizer requirements
- · Fan power limitation
- Mandatory requirements
- No compliance metric available





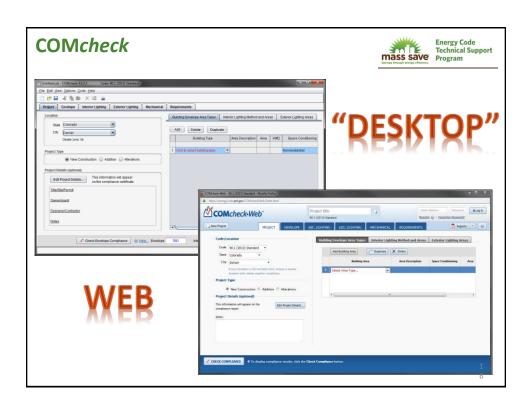
Info You'll Need

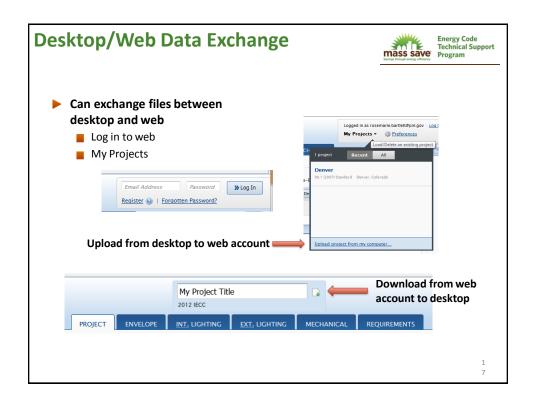


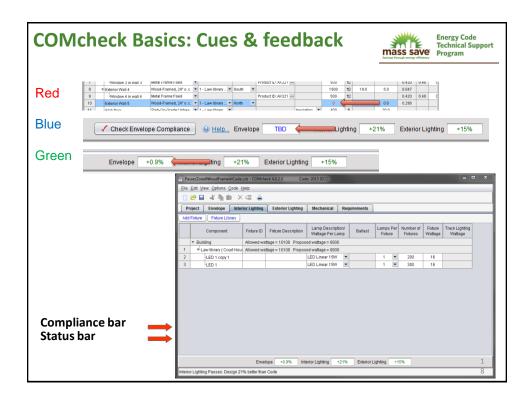
- Energy Code
- **▶** Builder and project location
- Area take-offs for envelope assemblies
- ▶ Insulation R-values, fenestration performance data
- ► Lighting fixture details
- ► Heating and cooling system details
- Service water
- ▶ Heating details

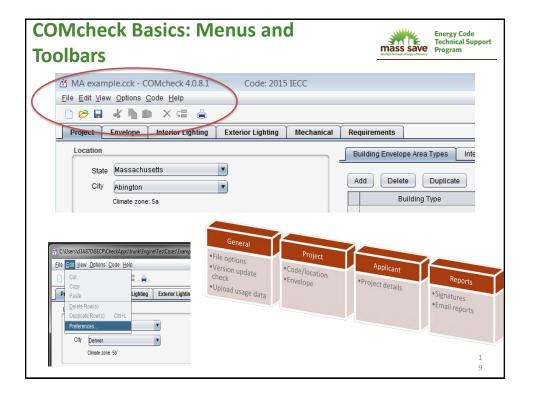
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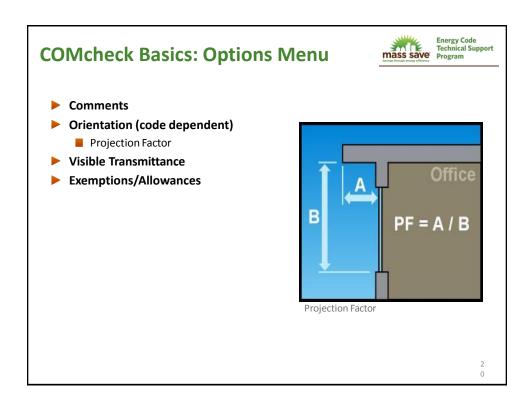
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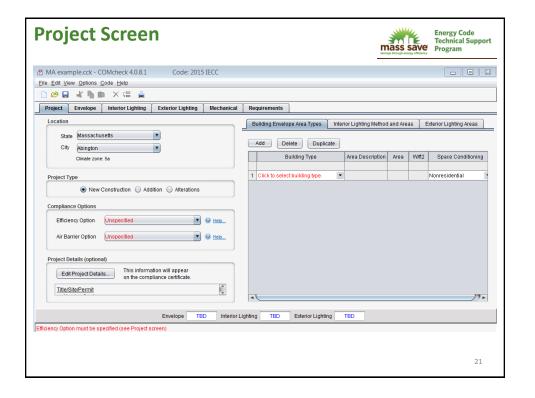


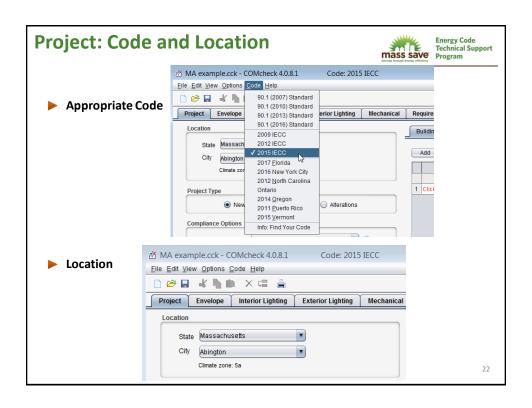


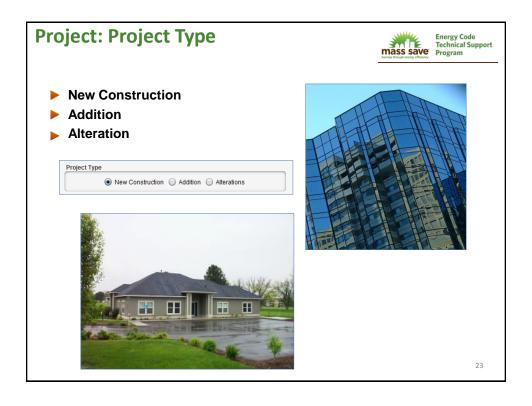












Project: Alteration project type explained



- Projects involve changes to or replacement of
 - Existing building components that are part of building envelope
 - Lighting, heating, ventilating, air conditioning, and water-heating equipment
- ▶ **Specify only** those envelope components, lighting fixtures, or mechanical systems/equipment that will exist upon completion of the project
- Alteration detail dialogs
 - Specify exemptions if applicable
 - Additional qualifications may be required (e.g., window/wall ratio)
- Compliance shown as Pass/Fail for Envelope and Lighting

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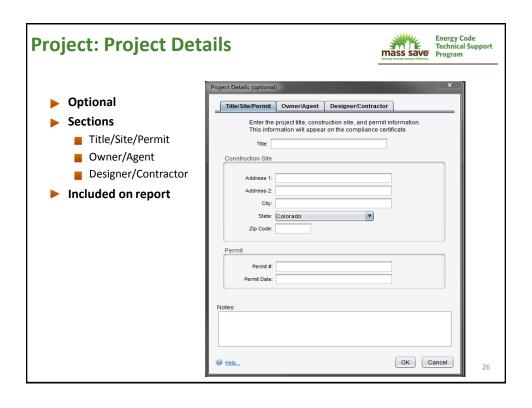
Compliance Options (IECC only)

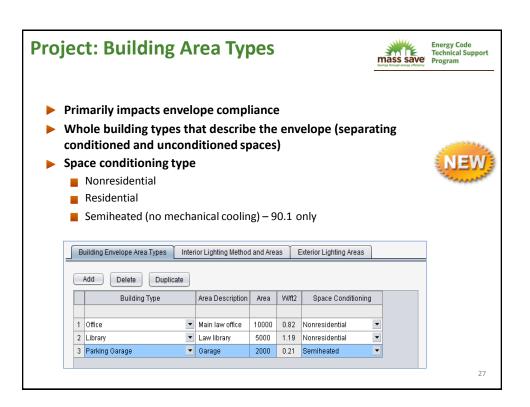


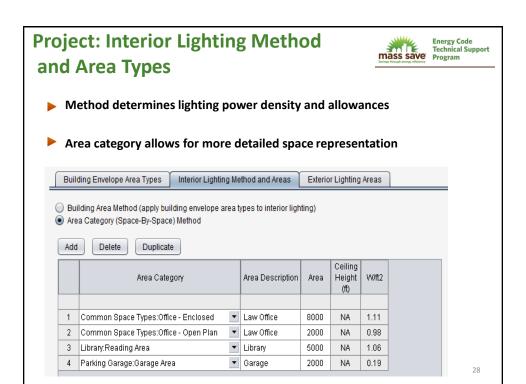


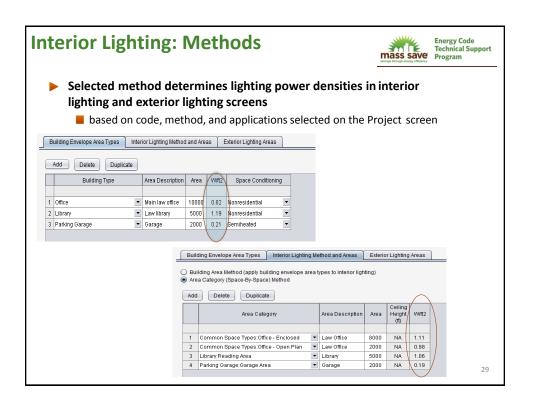
Efficiency Options

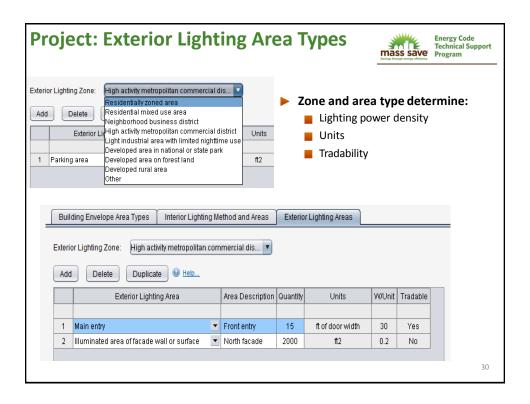
- High performance power (2012/2015)
- Reduced lighting power (2012/2015)
- On-site renewable energy (2012/2015)
- High performance SWH (2015)
- Enhanced interior lighting controls (2015)
- Dedicated outdoor air system (2015)
- ► Air Barrier Options (IECC 2012+, climate zone dependent)
 - Air barrier permeability
 - Assembly permeability
 - Air leakage test















- Tradable areas allow 'unused' allowable power to be traded between other tradable area (e.g., driveways and entry ways)
- Generally based on length or area of application and then summed



Exterior Lighting: Non-Tradable Applications

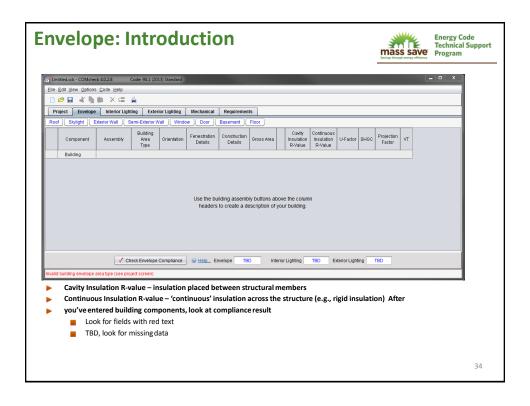


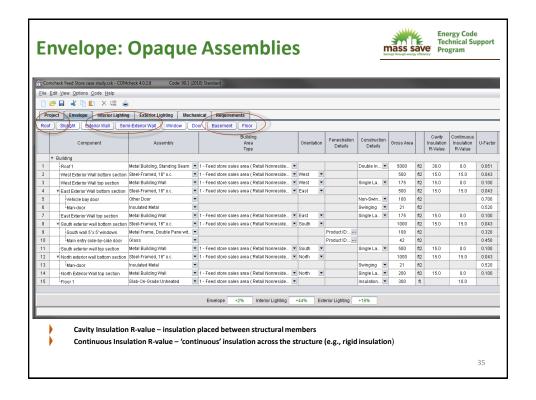
 Non-tradable areas/applications are "use it or lose it" (e.g., building façade lighting, ATM stations)

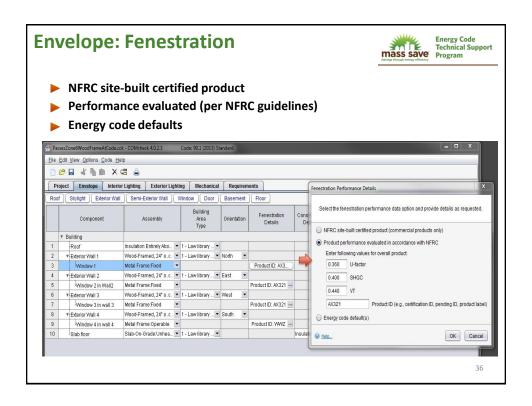


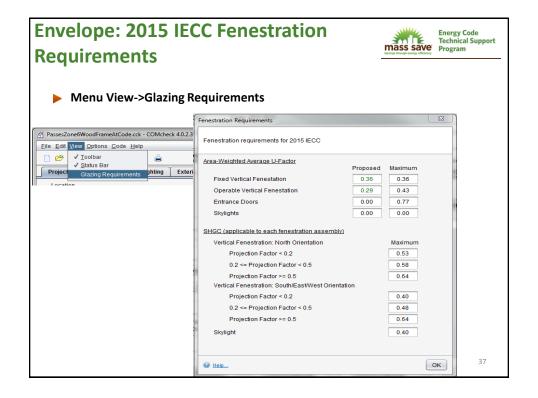
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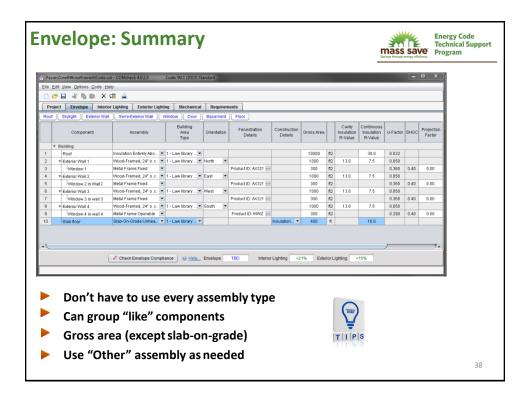
Project Summary and Example Energy Code Technical Support mass save Program MA example.cck - COMcheck 4.0.8.1 Code: 2015 IECC _ **__** X <u>File Edit View Options Code Help</u> Project Envelope Interior Lighting Exterior Lighting Mechanical Requirements Building Envelope Area Types Interior Lighting Method and Areas Exterior Lighting Areas State Massachusetts Exterior Lighting Zone: High activity metropolitan commercial dis... City Abington Climate zone: 5a Exterior Lighting Area Area Description Quantity Units W/Unit Tradable Project Type ● New Construction ○ Addition ○ Alterations Project Details (optional) Edit Project Details... This information will appear on the compliance certificate -Envelope +22.5% Interior Lighting +81% Exterior Lighting +9% 33

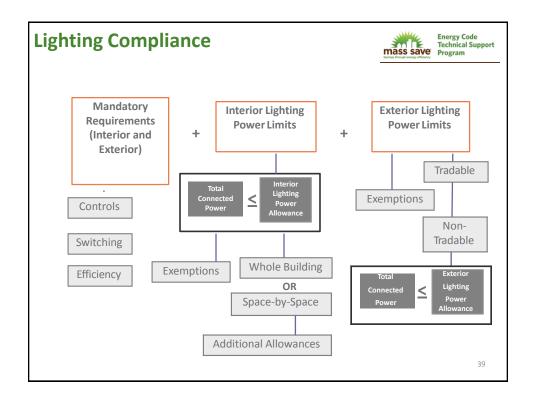


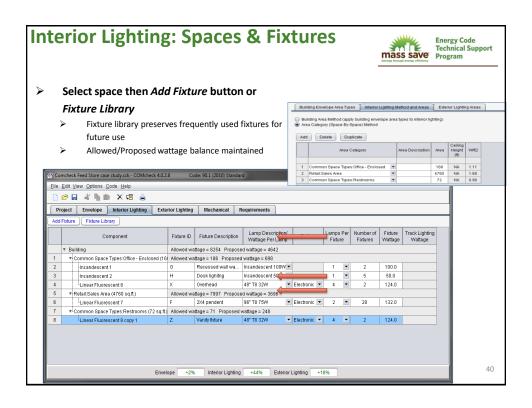


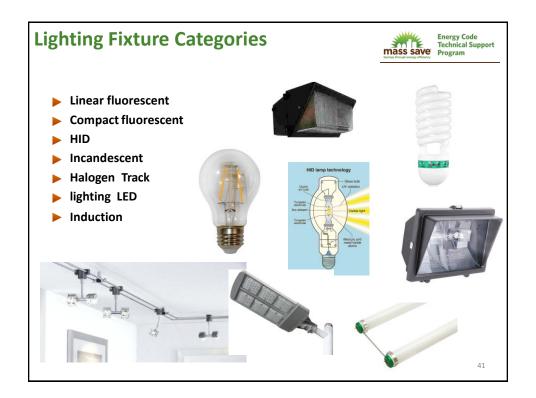


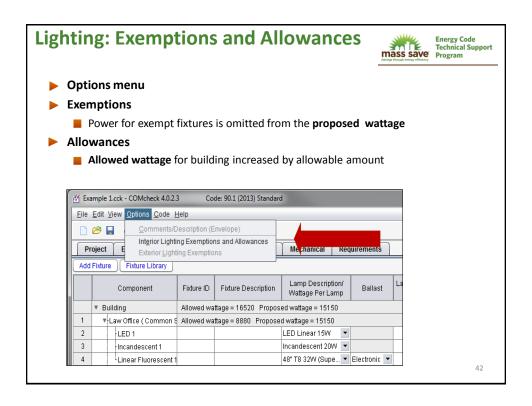


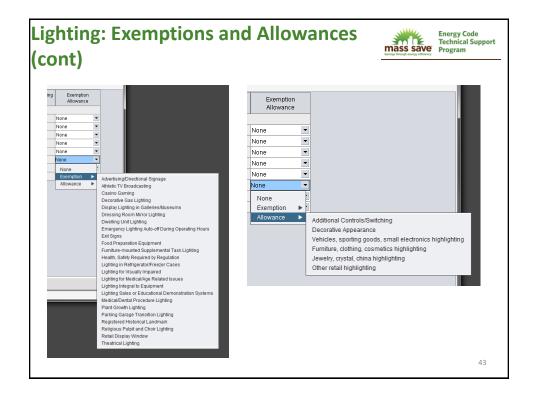


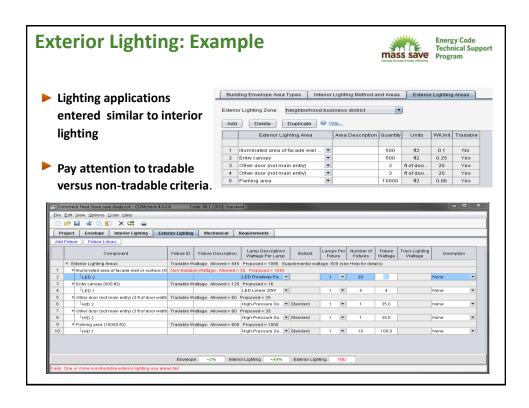


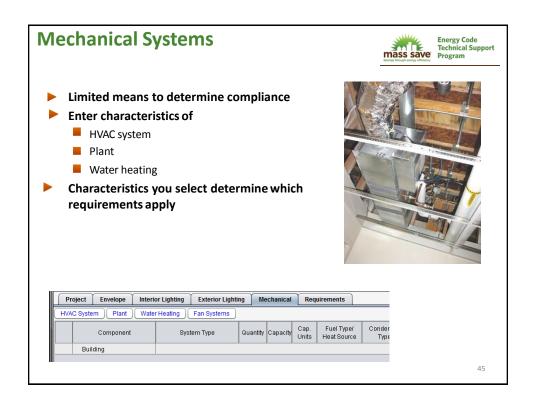


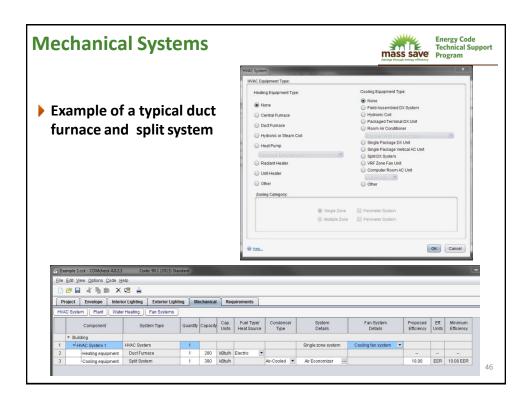


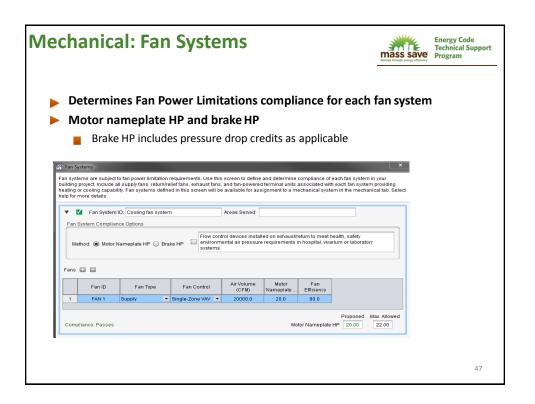








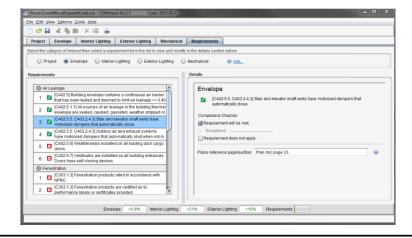




Requirements Tab – Goals



- ► Ensure user is aware of applicable mandatory requirements and addresses each in the software
- Provide better documentation for code officials



Requirements Tab – How it Works



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- For each requirement, the user
 - Certifies that a code requirement is
 - Met
 - Exempt
 - or does not apply
 - Notes how compliance for applicable requirements are documented
- This information is shown on the report in the "Comments/ Assumptions" column of the Inspection Checklist

Reports



- ▶ File → View / Print Report
- Choices, choose any or all
 - Envelope Compliance Certificate Interior
 - Lighting Compliance Certificate Exterior
 - Lighting Compliance Certificate Mechanical
 - Compliance Certificate
- First pages are the Compliance Certificate
- ▶ Follow-on pages are the Inspection Checklists by phase of inspection
 - Plan Review
 - Footing/Foundation
 - Rough-in
 - Final

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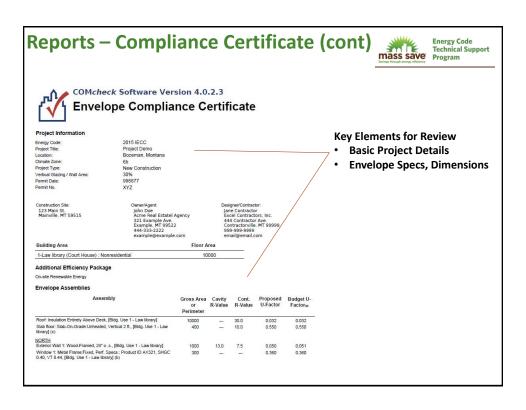
Project Title: Project Demo
Data filename: C:\Users\d3A870\BECP\CheckApps\trunk\Engine\TestCases\2015Tests\Demo
files\Passes2one6WoodFrameAtCode.cck

0.050

0.051 0.051 Report date: 12/07/15 Page 1 of 19

Report – Compliance Certificate

Energy Code Technical Support mass save Program





Reports – Inspection Checklist





COMcheck Software Version 4.0.2.3 Inspection Checklist

Energy Code: 2015 IECC

Requirements: 7.0% were addressed directly in the COMcheck software

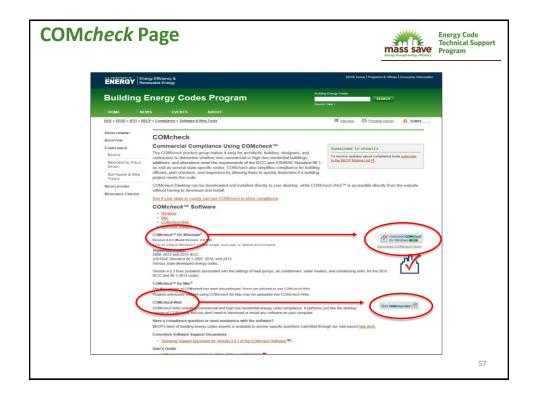
Text in the "Comments/Assumptions" column is provided by the user in the COMcheck Requirements screen. For each requirement, the user certifies that a code requirement will be met and how that is documented, or that an exception is being claimed. Where compliance is itemized in a separate table, a reference to that table is provided.

Section # & Req.ID	Plan Review	Complies?	Comments/Assumptions
C103.2 [PR1] ¹	Plans and/or specifications provide all information with which compliance can be determined for the building envelope and document where exceptions to the standard are claimed.	□Complies □Does Not □Not Observable □Not Applicable	Requirement will be met. Location on plans/spec: Plan doc page 21, section 3a
C103.2 [PR2] ¹	Plans, specifications, and/or calculations provide all information with which compliance can be determined for the mechanical systems and equipment and document where exceptions to the standard are claimed. Load calculations per acceptable engineering standards and handhonks.	Complies Does Not Not Observable Not Applicable	

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Energy Code Technical Support Envelope Inspection Checklist Example mass save Program Code Value from Section # **Compliance Plans** Section Footing / Foundation Inspection Plans Verified Value Field Verified Complies? Comments/Assumptions & Req.ID See the Envelope Assemblies table for values. Complies Below-grade wall insulation R-5.5.3.3 [FO1]² □Does Not □Not Observable □Not Applicable Inspection Value from Plans ref., Type and Field Insp. Req. Title comments 55









Energy Code Support



Questions about the energy code?

Energy Code Support Hotline:

855-757-9717

Energy Code Support Email:

energycodesma@psdconsulting.com









Thanks!

Mike DeWein **Leidos Strategic Program Director**

Massachusetts Energy Code **Technical Support Program**















