

# Plan Review- COMcheck™ for a Simple Commercial Building 2015 IECC and 9th Edition: Commercial

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
  - -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 GAS COMPANY













# Today...



Objectives for today . . .

- · Documentation required to conduct a plan review on a simple commercial building
- Steps to complete an energy code plan review
- Utilizing  $COMcheck^{TM}$  as a plan review tool
- · Relate plan review documentation to the field inspection
- · Identify and ask for further documentation for incomplete areas















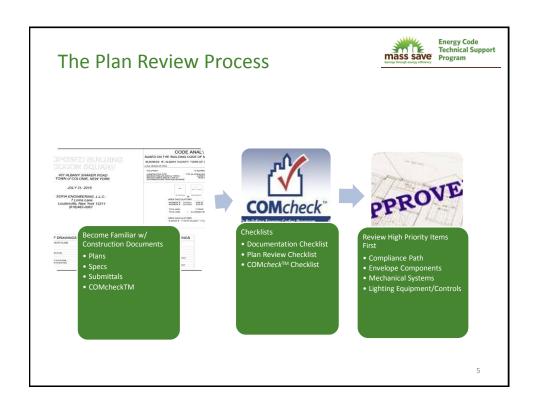


# The Plan Review Process



- A Quality Plan Review requires:
  - Organization
  - Proper Use of Tools
  - Consistent Methodology





#### **Document Review**

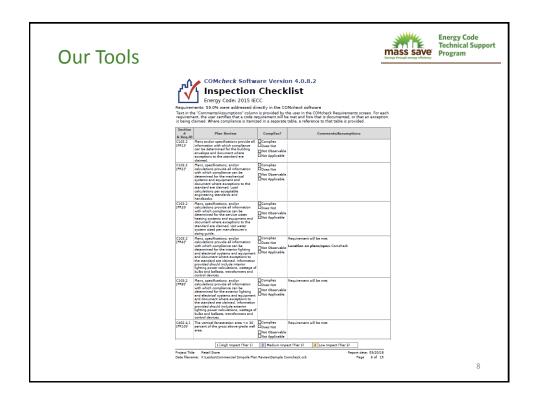


C103 Construction Documents & Other Supporting Documents:

- 1. Construction Document prepared by registered design professional
- 2. COM check TM Certificates and Reports
- 3. Commissioning Plan for HVAC
- 4. Commissioning Plan for Lighting Controls
- 5. HVAC Sizing Documentation







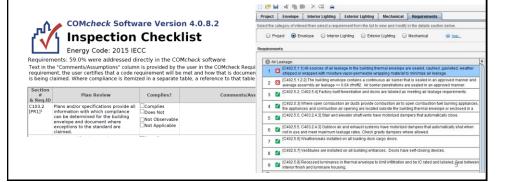
# Help From COMcheck<sup>TM</sup>



The Mandatory COM*check*<sup>TM</sup> documents are Of Great Help in the Plan Review Process:



- Quality Control check for submitter
- Provides more complete submittal, saving time
- Provides plan review and site inspection document



# **Verifying Documentation**



- Use a Document Checklist to assure you have all the documentation submitted.
- Make this document available to permit applicants
- Maybe incorporate in the permit application



## Verifying Documentation



- Drawings shall include full Energy Code compliance details and specifications (preferably on a single sheet) including but not limited to:
  - □ Attic, Walls, Foundation Insulation Specs
  - □ Window U-Value & Infiltration Specs
  - □ Air & Vapor Barrier Specs/Details
  - □ Duct Sealing & Insulation Specs
  - ☐ Heating Piping Insulation Specs
  - □ Commissioning Plan
  - □ Solar Ready Roof Area

- ☐ Heating & Cooling Systems Specs
- ☐ Service Water Heating Specs
- Mechanical VentilationSystem Specs
- □ Elec Power & Lighting System Specs
- Programmable ThermostatSpecs
- Mechanical System Design Criteria
- ☐ Roof Structural Loading Calculations

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# **Verifying Documentation**



- ☐ Statement on Drawings documenting the Design meets the Energy Code
- ☐ Energy Code Compliance Path Documentation

One of the following is required:

- □ Prescriptive Compliance Path: The requirements of Sections C402 through C405 including documentation demonstrating all Mandatory Requirements have been met. In addition, commercial buildings shall comply with Section C406 and tenant spaces shall comply with Section C406.1.1
- □ ASHRAE Compliance Path: The requirements of ASHRAE 90.1-2013 (as amended) including documentation demonstrating all Mandatory Requirements have been met.
- Performance Compliance Path: The requirements of Sections C402.5, C403.2, C404, C405.2, C405.3, C405.5, C405.6, and C407 including documentation demonstrating all Mandatory Requirements have been met. The building energy cost shall be equal to or less than 85 percent of the standard reference design building.
- □ COMcheck™ Computer Software: Compliance with the 2015 IECC Commercial Provisions (as amended) or, if applicable, with ASHRAE 90.1-2013 (as amended) can be demonstrated through the use of COMcheck™ computer software including documentation demonstrating all Mandatory Requirements have been met.

# **Verifying Documentation**



☐ Energy Code Compliance Path Documentation (Continued)

One of the following is required:

- ☐ RESNET Compliance Path: Compliance requires that the criteria of C402.4, C403.2, C404 and C405 are met. Requires verification from a HERS Rater and an index score of 55 or less together with a complete Energy Start® Thermal Enclosure Checklist.
- ☐ Passive House Institute US (PHIUS): PHIUS+ 2015: Passive Building Standard North America, or another approved software by PHIUS or PHI, where Specific Space Heat Demand, as modeled by a Certified Passive House Consultant, is less than or equal to tenkBTU/ft²/year. Compliance requires that the criteria of C402.4, C403.2, C404 and C405 are met.
- ENERGY STAR Homes 3.1 path: New residential structures, or additions to existing residential structures, or portions thereof, as cert fied to conform with the ENERGY STAR Certified Homes standard, Version 3.1.

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# **Verifying Documentation**



- □ COM*check*<sup>TM</sup> Report or File (Mandatory)
  - ☐ Envelope Certificate
  - ☐ Interior Lighting Certificate
  - ☐ Exterior Lighting Certificate
  - ☐ Inspection Checklist
  - ☐ Use Documentation Checklist?
- ☐ HVAC Sizing
  - ☐ per ASHRAE/ANSI/ACCCA Standard 183
  - ☐ Exterior Design Conditions
  - ☐ Interior Design Conditions



 ergy Code:
 2015 IECC

 oject Tife:
 Retail Store

 eation:
 Worcester, Massach

 mate Zone:
 5a

 oject Type:
 New Construction

 rical Glazing / Wall Area:
 4%

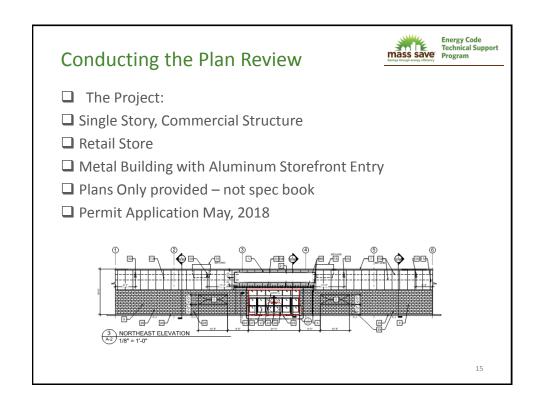
123 Main Street Retailer Architects R Us
Worecester, MA
Additional Efficiency Package(s)
High efficiency HVAC. Systems that do not meet the performance requirement will be identified in the mechanical renul

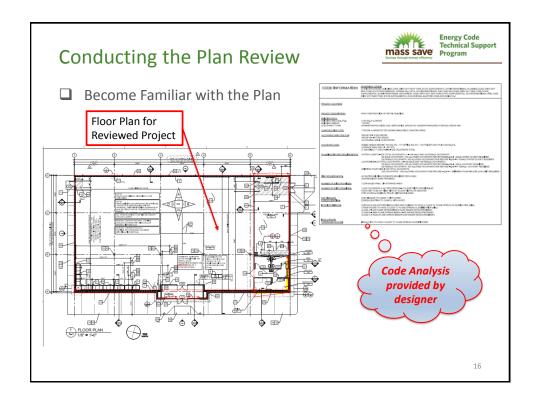
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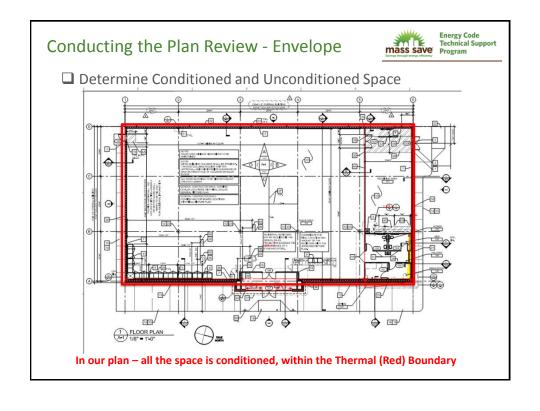
Peak Cooling and Heating Load Calculations in Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings

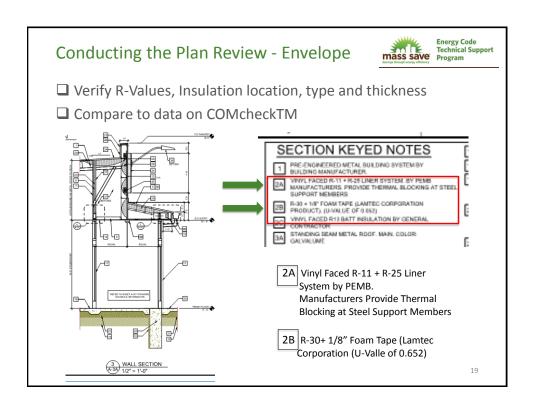
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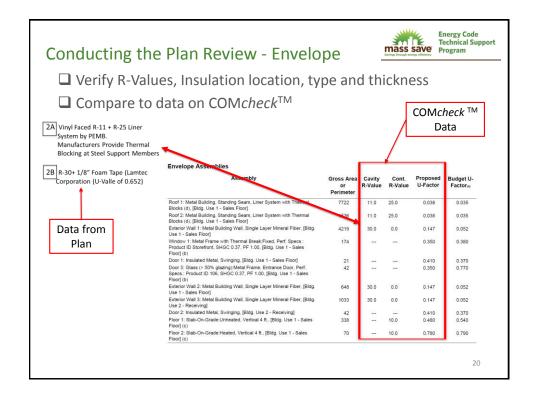


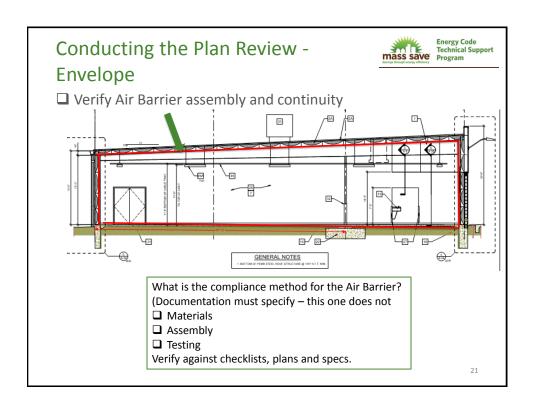


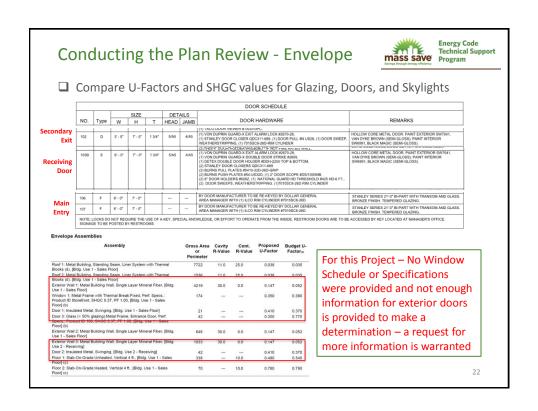












## Conducting the Plan Review - Envelope



- ☐ Verify Envelope Areas
  - ☐ Compare your calculations with COM*check*<sup>TM</sup>

#### **Envelope Assemblies**

Assembly	Gross Area or Perimeter	Cavity R-Value
Roof 1: Metal Building, Standing Seam, Liner System with Thermal Blocks (d), [Bldg. Use 1 - Sales Floor]	7722	11.0
Roof 2: Metal Building, Standing Seam, Liner System with Thermal Blocks (d), [Bldg. Use 1 - Sales Floor]	1536	11.0
Exterior Wall 1: Metal Building Wall, Single Layer Mineral Fiber, [Bldg. Use 1 - Sales Floor]	4219	30.0
Window 1: Metal Frame with Thermal Break:Fixed, Perf. Specs.: Product ID Storefront, SHGC 0.37, PF 1.00, [Bldg, Use 1 - Sales Floor] (b)	174	
Door 1: Insulated Metal, Swinging, [Bldg, Use 1 - Sales Floor]	21	1222
Door 3: Glass (> 50% glazing):Metal Frame, Entrance Door, Perf. Specs.: Product ID 106, SHGC 0.37, PF 1.00, [Bldg. Use 1 - Sales Floor] (b)	42	
Exterior Wall 2: Metal Building Wall, Single Layer Mineral Fiber, [Bldg. Use 1 - Sales Floor]	648	30.0
Exterior Wall 3: Metal Building Wall, Single Layer Mineral Fiber, [Bldg. Use 2 - Receiving]	1033	30.0
Door 2: Insulated Metal, Swinging, [Bldg. Use 2 - Receiving]	42	
Floor 1: Slab-On-Grade:Unheated, Vertical 4 ft., [Bldg. Use 1 - Sales Floor] (c)	338	
Floor 2: Slab-On-Grade:Heated, Vertical 4 ft., [Bldg. Use 1 - Sales Floor] (c)	70	

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## Conducting the Plan Review - Envelope



- ☐ Solar Ready Compliance
  - ☐ Roof Area (Flat Roof)(C402.3.2)\*\*

Our Project:

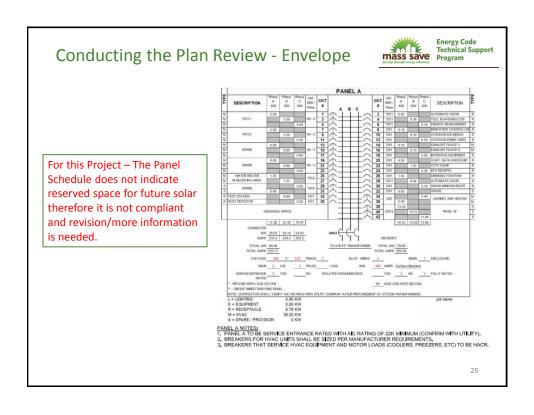
 $8,734 \text{ ft}^2 \times 50\% = 4,367 \text{ft}^2 \text{ required}$ 

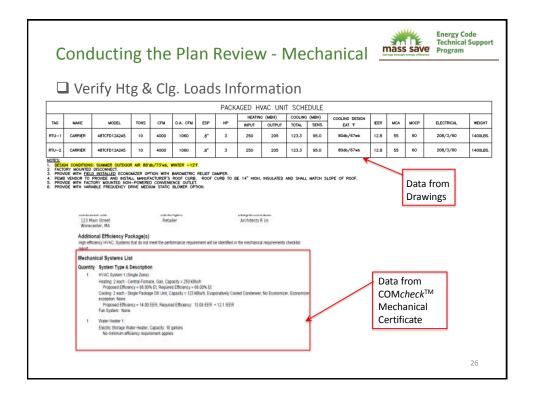
0 ft<sup>2</sup> shown on plans - Does Not Comply

- ☐ Unobstructed Area (C402.3.3)— not shown
- ☐ Structural Documentation(C402.3.4) Structural LL and DL Roof Load not provided
- ☐ Interconnection Pathway(C402.3.5) Not indicated on plans
- ☐ Electrical Service Reserved Space(C402.3.6) Not provided on plans

Building Area Floor Area

1-Sales Floor (Retail): Nonresidential 7624
2-Receiving (Retail): Nonresidential 1110





# Conducting the Plan Review - Mechanical Technical Support Program



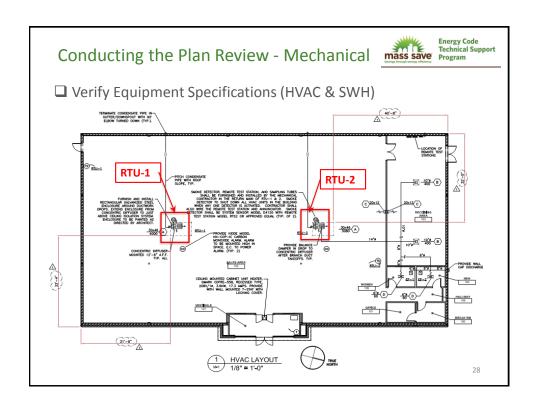
☐ Verify Htg & Clg. Loads Information

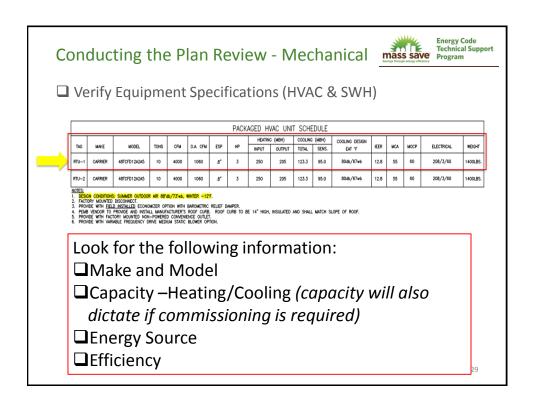
Load Calcs Must Be Provided and Specified Equipment must match calcs.

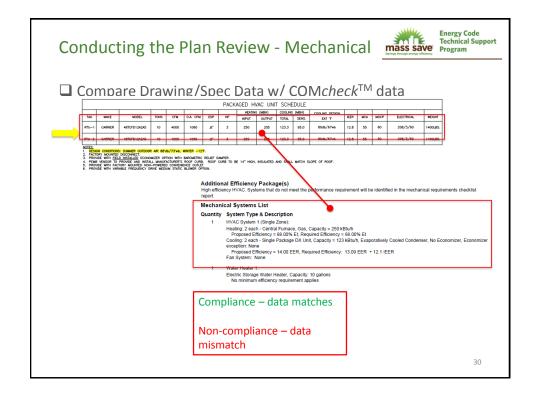
#### For this Project:

- ☑Design Conditions provided
- ☑ Reference to ASHRAE 183 not provided
- ☑ Calculations/Reports not provided

Non Compliant - revision and resubmittal is required







## Conducting the Plan Review - Mechanical

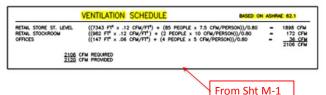


#### ☐ Ventilation

Ventilation is required by Section C401.2;

Specific requirements are provided in Sections 402

Specific requirements are provided in Sections 402 Natural Ventilation and C403 Mechanical Ventilation



The Ventilation Schedule does not indicate how this ventilation is going to be achieved

Also –reference to ASHRAE 62.1 is incomplete – which version is being used?

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## Conducting the Plan Review - Mechanical



#### ■ Ventilation

Section C403.2.6.1 Requires Demand Control Ventilation (DCV) when the space is  $>500 \text{ ft}^2$  and occupant density is  $>25 \text{ people}/1000 \text{ft}^2$ .

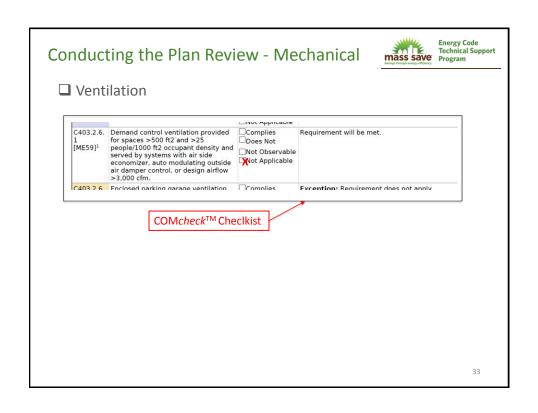
OCCUPANT LOAD:

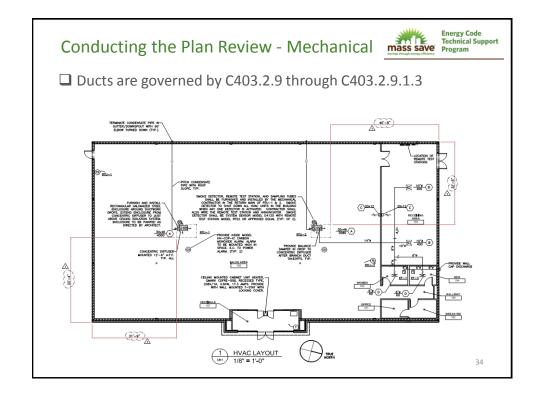
PUBLIC AREAS (NET) = 7,195 SQ. FT. + 171 OFFICE SQ. FT. + 163 TOILETS SW. FT. = 7,529 SQ. FT. STORAGE AREA (NET) = 1067 SFT. (7.529/30=251) + (1067/300=4) = 255 OCCUPANTS TOTAL

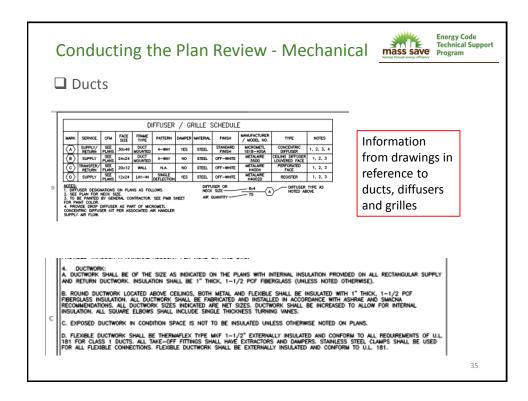
From Sht T-1 Code Analysis

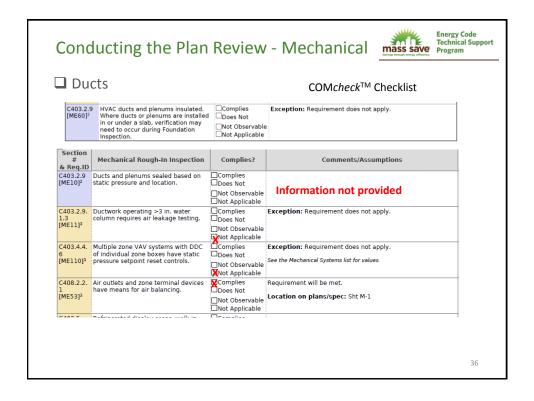
#### For This Project:

Public Areas: 7529 ft<sup>2</sup>; 251 people, Occupant Density is 3.32 people/1000ft<sup>2</sup> Storage Area: 1067ft<sup>2</sup>, 4 people, Occupant Density 3.74 people/ 1000ft<sup>2</sup>









Conduct	ing the Plan Review - Mechanical	mass save:	Energy Code Technical Support Program
☐ Ducts	COMcheck™	<sup>1</sup> Checklist	
	Need to compare and verify:  Duct Location Duct Insulation Duct Sealing  Not enough documentation is provide request revision and resubmittal		
			37

# Conducting the Plan Review - Mechanical Energy Code Technical Support



HVAC Commissioning Plan is required when

- Cooling Loads >= 480,000 BTU/hr. OR
- Heating Loads >=600,000 BTU/hr.

Our Project: (Based on data from Equipment Schedule)

- Cooling Load 120,000 BTU/hr.
- Heating Load 205,000 BTU/hr

Therefore Commissioning is **not** required

# Conducting the Plan Review – Service Water Heating



Compare specifications provided on drawings with code requirements for water heating/storage systems

- 1. Information provided on plans
- 2. Table C404.2 from Code

1

	HOTTI-TIPAD THE ELVER				(RIGHT HAND TRIP LEVER). PROVIDE STOP VALVE, FLEXIBLE SUPPLY LINE, OPEN FRONT SEAT (AMERICAN STANDARD #5901.100 OR EQUAL).
EWH-1	ELECTRIC WATER HEATER	3/4*	3/4"	-	PROVIDE 10 GALLON ELECTRIC WATER HEATER 6 KW @ 200V WITH MANUFACTURER SUPPLIED TEMPERATE AND PRESSURE RELIEF VALVE A SMITH HELP-10, OR EQUIAL.  PROVIDE THERMAL DEPARAGION TANK, AMERICA, THERMA-K-TROL 5-1-12, OR EQUIAL.  PROVIDE THERMAL DEPARAGION TANK, AMERICA, THE TEMPERATE OF THE STATE OF

2

TABLE C404.2 MINIMUM PERFORMANCE OF WATER-HEATING EQUIPMENT									
EQUIPMENT TYPE	SIZE CATEGORY (input)	SUBCATEGORY OR RATING CONDITION	PERFORMANCE REQUIRED <sup>a, b</sup>	TEST PROCEDURE					
	≤ 12 kW <sup>d</sup>	Resistance	0.97 - 0.00 132 <i>V</i> , EF	DOE 10 CFR Part 430					
Water heaters,	> 12 kW	Resistance	$(0.3 + 27/V_m)$ , %/h	ANSI Z21.10.3					
electric	≤ 24 amps and ≤ 250 volts	Heat pump	0.93 - 0.00 132 <i>V</i> , EF	DOE 10 CFR Part 430 39					

# Conducting the Plan Review – Service Water Heating



Compare specifications provided on drawings with code requirements for water heating/storage systems

		Compressors	Per 403.5.2				
C404 Service Water Heating	Construction drawings and d Documentation sufficiently d Service Water Heating Syste	emonstrates energy con					
C404.2	Service Water (SW) Heating Equipment Efficiency	Per Table C404.2					
C404.3	SW Heat Traps Non circulation system	Required	☐ Piped Heat trap ☐ Integral				
C404.4	SW Pipe Insulation	Per Table C403.2.10 Full length	Meets exception				
C404.5	Efficient Heated Water Supply Piping	Per Section C404.5.1 Per Section C404.5.2					
C404.6.3	Pump Controls for Hot Water Storage	<5 min. operation cycle					
C404.7	Demand Recirculation Controls	> 5 minutes after end of cycle					
C404.9.1	Swimming Pool Heaters	Accessible Controls	İ				
C404.9.2	Pool Heater Time Switch	Automatic					
C404.9.3	Pool Covers	Required Vapor Retardant 70% recovered energy					
		70% recovered energy	■ Exempt				
C404.11	Service Water Heating System Commissioning	Per Section C408.2					
C405 Lighting and Electrical Systems	Construction drawings and documentation available.  Documentation sufficiently demonstrates energy code compliance Lighting and Electrical Systems and Equipment.						

Does our Project Comply?



Not Yet! More Information is required to make a determination

**Code Checklist** 

# Conducting the Plan Review – Service Water Heating



Piping Insulation Requirements

TABLE C403.2.8 MINIMUM PIPE INSULATION THICKNESS (thickness in inches)*										
FLUID OPERATING	INSULATION	CONDUCTIVITY		NOMINAL PIPE	OR TUBE S	SIZE (inches	)			
TEMPERATURE RANGE AND USAGE (°F)	Conductivity Btu · in./(h · ft² · °F)*	Mean Rating Temperature, 'F	< 1	1 to < 1½	11/2 to < 4	4 to < 8	≤ 8			
> 350	0.32 - 0.34	250	4.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0			
251 - 350	0.29 - 0.32	200	3.0	4.0	4.5	4.5	4.5			
201 - 250	0.27 - 0.30	150	2.5	2.5	2.5	3.0	3.0			
141 - 200	0.25 - 0.29	125	1.5	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.0			
105 - 140	0.21 - 0.28	100	1.0	1.0	1.5	1.5	1.5			
40 - 60	0.21 - 0.27	75	0.5	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.0			
< 40	0.20 - 0.26	75	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.5			

**Project Notes** 

# Conducting the Plan Review – Service Water Heating



Piping Insulation Requirements

		Compressors	Per 403.5.2		
C404 Service Water Heating	Construction drawings and of Documentation sufficiently of Service Water Heating Systems	lemonstrates energy con			
C404.2	Service Water (SW) Heating Equipment Efficiency	Per Table C404.2			
C404.3	SW Heat Traps Non circulation system	Required	☐ Piped Heat trap		
C404.4	SW Pipe Insulation	Per Table C403.2.10 Full length	Meets exception		
C404.5	Efficient Heated Water Supply Piping	Per Section C404.5.1 Per Section C404.5.2			
C404.6.3	Pump Controls for Hot Water Storage	<5 min. operation cycle			
C404.7	Demand Recirculation Controls	> 5 minutes after end of cycle			
C404.9.1	Swimming Pool Heaters	Accessible Controls	İ		
C404.9.2	Pool Heater Time Switch	Automatic			
C404.9.3	Pool Covers	Required Vapor Retardant 70% recovered energy	■ Exempt		
C404.11	Service Water Heating System Commissioning	Per Section C408.2			
C405 Lighting and Electrical Systems	Construction drawings and of Documentation sufficiently d Lighting and Electrical System				

# Conducting the Plan Review – Interior Lighting

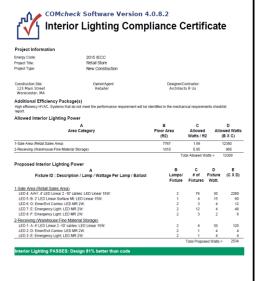


Interior Lighting and Exterior Lighting are considered separately First Step (interior) is to determine the path of compliance

- ✓ Building Area Method or
- ✓ Space by Space Method

The best and easiest way to review is to use the COM*check*<sup>TM</sup> reports

Verify the information in COMcheckTM with that provided on drawings



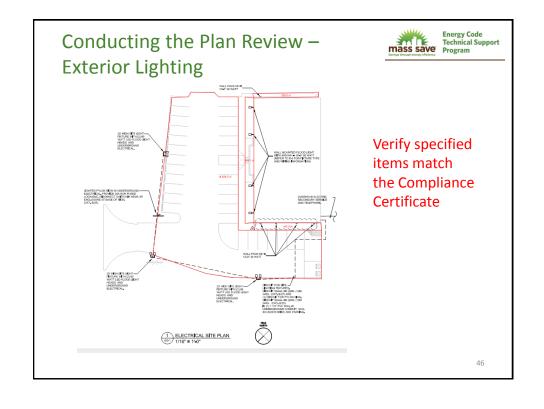
Conducting the Plan Review – Interior Lighting



	LIGHT FIXTURE DESCRIPTION										
SYMB	SYMB TYPE MANF PART# DESCRIPTION C				COUNT	WATTS					
		LSPRO LBAR 48 CW80 30W FR MIVOLT	4' LED STRIP (INC. (2) 10 FT CABLES). AERIAL MOUNT.	74	30						
	A1	LSG	LSPRO LBAR 48 CW80 30W FR MVOLT-ST	4' LED STRIP. SURFACE MOUNT	2	30					
-	B LSG		LSPRO LBAR24 CW80 1SW FR MVOLT-ST			15					
蔥	С	EXITRONIX	VEX.U-BP-W8-WH	LED EXIT SIGN	0	3.4					
<b>₩</b>	D	EXITRONIX	VLFD-U-WH-FLSGR EMERGENCY LIGHT/EXIT COMBO 2 HEAD		4	4					
4	E	EXITRONIX	LED-90	EMERGENCY LIGHT (2) HEADS	13	2					
4_4	F	EXITRONIX	CLED-WP	EGRESS EMERGENCY LIGHT (2) HEAD	3	4					
	G	TECHLIGHT	LHSWP-1-C-4-T3-F1-BZ	LED WALL PACK	5	36					
	н	TECHLIGHT	LSBT-1-C-X-T3-F1-BZ	LED AREA LIGHT FOR EXT. ARM		147					
			WMUPS42	42° EXTENSION ARM WITH WALL MOUNTS	'	147					

Use this Light Fixture Schedule from Drawings to compare the the Interior Lighting Certificate from COMcheck<sup>TM</sup>

# Conducting the Plan Review — Exterior Lighting Use COMcheck\* Use COMcheck\* Compare and verify: Area/Surface Category Quantities Allowed Wattage Compliance Calculation



# Conducting the Plan Review – Lighting Controls



C405.2 details where controls area required Utilize the Plan Review Checklist

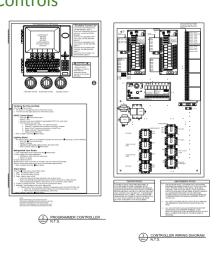
To compare requirements with information proposed on drawings.

	System Commissioning	I	I	1		
C405 Lighting and Electrical Systems	Construction drawings and d Documentation sufficiently d Lighting and Electrical Syste					
C405.2	Lighting Controls	Within each enclosed area	Unit Exception			
C405.2.1	Occupant Sensor Controls	Required: 1) 30 min. shutoff 2) Manual 50% power 3) Manual Control				
C405.2.2.1	Time-switch Controls	In areas with no occupant sensor controls	Meets function requirements  Meets exception			
C405.2.2.2	Occupant Override	If Automatic Controls	50%			
C405.2.3	Daylight Controls	Only in defined daylight zones				
C405.2.4	Specific Application Controls	Display Accent/task Sleeping Units				
C405.3	Exit Signs	Internally illuminated 5 watts per side				
C405.4	Interior Lighting Power Requirements	Table C405.4.2(1) ≤ Interior Lighting Power C405.4.2	Show Calculations			

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# Conducting the Plan Review – Lighting Controls







Our project includes electronic controls for lighting and HVAC

This schematic and image was taken from project drawings

# Conducting the Plan Review – Lighting System Commissioning



C408.3 Requires Functional Testing and Commissioning

 The construction documents shall specify that documents certifying that the installed lighting controls meet documented performance criteria of Section C405 are to be provided to the building owner within 90 days from the date of receipt of certificate of occupancy

> Our project does not include this statement nor a reference to commissioning

C408.3 Lighting System Commissioning

Testing of control hardware and software Documents state who perforn the test 49

# Communicating the Results . . .



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- ☐ Endorse Drawings stamp "Reviewed for Code Compliance"
- ☐ Note on the plans "Plans are not to be changed, modified or altered without authorization from the Code Official"
- ☐ Retain one set of CDs
- ☐ Return one set of CDs to applicant to be kept at the site of work.
- ☐ Include checklists with CDs and Permit

#### ■ Non-Compliance

- ☐ Request revisions and resubmittal
- Convey this request in written format
- ☐ Letter detailing missing information
- Copy annotated checklist

#### Your communication should be:

- ✓ Clear and Concise
- ✓ Helpful but not suggestive let the designer design!



# Next Steps . . .

- ✓ You've completed your review . . .
- ✓ You need more information prior to approving submittal . . .

#### Now What?

- ✓ Request additional information in written format
- ✓ Use the checklists to convey what information is missing
  - ✓ Cites code section
  - ✓ Provides description of required documentation

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# **Preparing for Site Inspections**



The Plan Review should be used to prepare for the field inspections

- ✓ Use the Plan Review Checklist to verify proposed components to actual in the field
  - ✓ Insulation Materials and R-Values
  - ✓ Fenestration match submittal
  - ✓ Air Barrier materials, location and continuity (Visual Inspection)
  - ✓ Mechanical systems and controls
  - ✓ Lighting and controls
  - ✓ Service Water Heating Systems
  - ✓ Solar Ready Conditions

All of these items are on your checklist and in one location for accessibility







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# **Energy Code Support**



Questions about the energy code?

# **Energy Code Support Hotline:**

855-757-9717

# **Energy Code Support Email:**

energycodesma@psdconsulting.com

