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April 1, 2015

Jason Thompson
National Concrete Masonry Association
13750 Sunrise Valley Drive
Herndon, VA 20171
ICC Member # 0464640

Re: Request for Staff Opinion
2012 International Energy Conservation Code®
C402.1.2, C402.2.3 Table C402.1.2 and Table C402.2

Dear Mr. Thompson:

Following is the responses to your question:

Q1: Does the code prohibit the use of concrete masonry unit (CMU) with integral insulation?

A1: No. Section C402.2.3 states the following:

"The R-value of integral insulation installed in concrete masonry units (CMU) shall not be used in determining compliance with Table C402.2."

The code does not prohibit the use of CMU with integral insulation. It only prohibits the use of CMU with integral insulation in determining compliance with Table C402.2. Table C402.2 is used to determine the R-value requirements of the insulation for wall assemblies, which for a mass wall would be continuous insulation. To utilize CMU with integral insulation, without continuous insulation, using the prescriptive path of compliance, Table C402.1.2 (alternate U-Value) must be used per Section C402.1.2.

Code opinions issued by ICC staff are based on ICC-published codes and do not include local, state or federal codes, policies or amendments. This opinion is based on the information which you have provided. We have made no independent effort to verify the accuracy of this information nor have we conducted a review beyond the scope of your question. This opinion does not imply approval of an equivalency, specific product, specific design, or specific installation and cannot be published in any form implying such approval by the International Code Council. As this opinion is only advisory, the final decision is the responsibility of the designated authority charged with the administration and enforcement of this code.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason C. Toves". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Jason C. Toves
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C402.1.2 C402.2.3 Table C402.1.2 Table C402.2 Letter (Toll Free: +1-888-ICC-SAFE (422-7233))