



CONSTRUCTION NEWS YOU CAN USE

Volume II - July 2015

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 15th - TECHNICAL Special Review for General, Builder, Residential, Air Conditioning A&B, Mechanical, Sheet Metal and Plumbing students

August 18th - TECHNICAL Exam for Air Conditioning A, Mechanical, and Plumbing license categories

August 19th - TECHNICAL Exam for General, Builder, and Residential license categories

August 28th - Cam Tech's Session III 2015 starts in Tampa, Ft. Myers, and Orlando

October 13th - TECHNICAL Exam for Air Conditioning A, Mechanical, and Plumbing license categories

October 14th - TECHNICAL Exam for General, Builder, and Residential license categories

News from ...



NEW FLORIDA BUILDING CODE, 5TH EDITION (2014) TAKE EFFECT JUNE 30TH!!

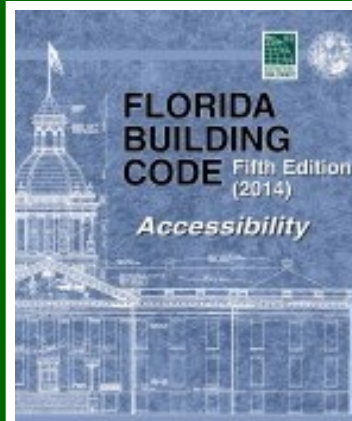
The International Code Council and the Florida Building Commission, housed within the Florida DBPR, announced significant changes to the Florida Building Codes that will result in safer, sustainable buildings and homes. The updated codes are mandatory for all new construction or rehabilitation projects with a permit application date of June 30, 2015 or later.

The new Florida Building Codes, 5th Edition (2014) - Building, Residential, Plumbing, Mechanical, Energy Conservation, Fuel Gas and Existing Building - are based on the 2012 International Codes and include a number of updates from both the ICC and the FBC. The codes also include the Florida Accessibility Code and updated Test Protocols for High Velocity Hurricane Zones.

One of the most visible changes from the 2010 codes is the reformatting of the Energy Code, which now consists of two independent sub-documents: one for low-rise residential and one for commercial or high-rise residential. The FBC also expanded options for compliance methods for commercial and high-rise residential buildings to including the allowance of American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers, Inc. (ASHRAE) 90.1.

More information is available at the FBC's website, www.floridabuilding.org.

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SPOTLIGHT ON CONSTRUCTION & TECHNOLOGY

**Get ready Construction Industry!
QR codes are here to stay and
are, increasing in popularity ...**

What does QR stand for and what are they?

QR, or Quick Response, codes are similar to bar codes, except bar codes have only vertical lines and QR codes have both vertical and horizontal lines. This allows you to scan images, not just text. QR codes were first used to track automobiles in the manufacturing process.

So what has now made them so popular here in the US?

The answer is smart phones. All you need to use a QR code is a QR reader application downloaded to a smart phone. There are plenty of QR apps that are free.

But, how are QR codes being used in Construction?

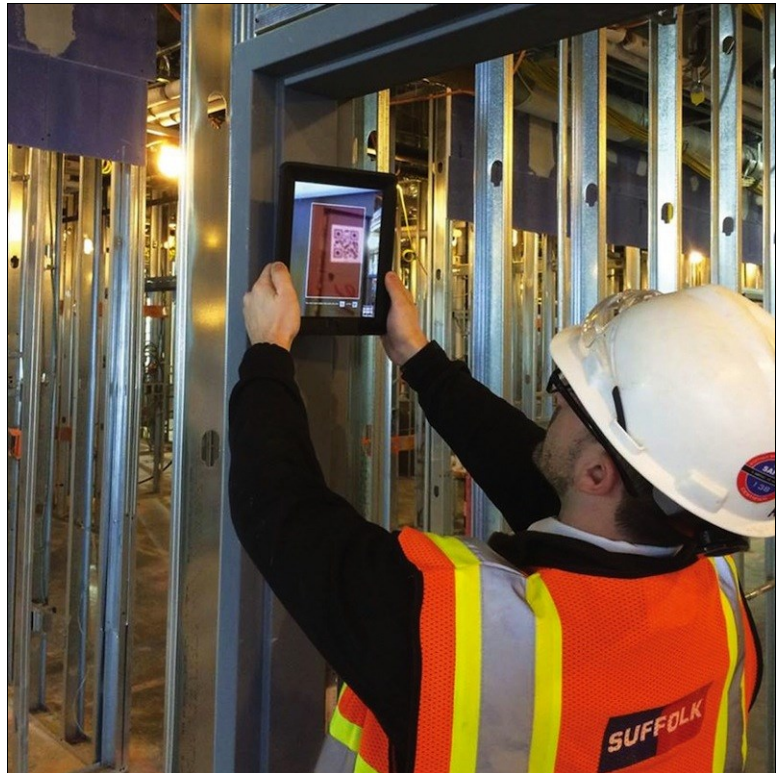
Besides the obvious brochures and business cards, businesses are using them to offer coupons and link to blogs, websites, surveys and newsletters. The City of NY implemented the use of QR codes on all building permits throughout the City. New Yorkers are able to use their smart phones to scan the QR code of any construction permit. By scanning the code they instantly learn details about the ongoing project, such as the approved scope of work, identities of the property owner and job applicant, other approved projects associated with the permit, as well as any complaints and violations related to the location. The City even went so far as to provide a link that initiates a phone call to 311 to make a complaint.

Other ways the Construction industry are using QR are codes are:

- Installation Instructions
- Product Comparisons
- Project Photos
- Manufacturer's Warranty
- Product Specifications

QR codes can be linked to URLs which can be easily measured and tracked. This allows the business to track who is seeking what information and easily print reports.

*If you want to create your own QR
codes in-house visit sites like
www.qrstuff.com.*



CONSTRUCTION SITE HURRICANE PREPARATION

Just as you prepare your home and family for an impending hurricane, it's important to prepare construction job sites. Planning ahead now can make a big difference in how well construction sites fare during the storm.

Local emergency operations officials and the National Weather Service will provide hurricane landfall probabilities. Approximately 60 to 48 hours before the hurricane is expected to make landfall, consider canceling the delivery of building materials to all job sites except any materials needed to secure the building site from storm damage.

While contractors generally don't want to stop or delay construction activities, the 48 to 24 hour window before landfall is the suggested time to stop all construction activity. It's important to note that most local building departments generally stop field inspections, except for those related to pouring columns, tie beams, wet decks, floors and similar structural items, during this time as well.

Contractors are encouraged to activate their hurricane job site plan during this window of time. Notify subcontractors to help secure the building site. Helpful hints for site protection include:

- Secure all job sites, giving priority attention to those located in the most populated areas
- Clean up all construction debris
- Tie or band together all loose plywood and lumber. Secure other loose building supplies
- Remove permit board and all job site signage
- Locate and turn off electricity, water and gas



Also, secure all portable toilets. Portable toilets can also be anchored adjacent to L-shaped walls of the home under construction, and they can be weighted down with concrete blocks or sand.

After the site is secure, advise subcontractors to leave and not return until the hurricane threat has passed. Make sure to have contact numbers for all subcontractors stored in a secure and dry place, and that they know who will contact them after the hurricane passes.

Other sensible precautions include ensuring batteries are reliable in all important tools – including cell phones. The construction industry depends on cell phones and other wireless communication devices to coordinate hurricane preparations and clean up after the hurricane passes. Reliable batteries are vital for getting back to normal on the job.

Make sure to fill up gas tanks in all vehicles and equipment that might be needed to secure or escape job sites. If there are valuable items that must remain at the site, take photographs for insurance purposes.

“Safety is something that happens between your ears, not something you hold in your hands.” - Jeff Cooper

Need assistance with your
Florida Contractor's License
Application?

CONTRACTORS
REPORTING SERVICES
—SERVICING THE BUILDING TRADES—

800-487-2084
activatemylicense.com

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND STABILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTRACTOR APPLICANTS

Florida Law requires all construction contractor applicants to establish that they are both financially responsible and financially stable prior to issuance of their licenses.

Does your submitted credit report show a credit score of 660 or higher? If you have applied for your Florida State Contractor's License and you do not have a minimum credit score of 660, you will be required to secure a Financial Stability Bond.

Without proof of completion of an approved 14-hour financial responsibility course, you will need to secure a bond in the amount of:

- \$20,000 for Division I applicants
- \$10,000 for Division II applicants

But, if you want to cut that bond in half, you can take Cam Tech's 14-hour Financial Responsibility & Stability Course.

With proof of completion of our approved financial responsibility course, you can reduce your bond amount to:

- \$10,000 for Division I applicants
- \$5,000 for Division II applicants

Cam Tech is offering our online "Financial Responsibility & Stability for the Contractor" course for just \$149.

In taking this course, you will gain useful information for today's contractor in today's economy. Don't just get your 14 hours; walk away equipped with the knowledge you need to become a responsible, successful business owner and even gain useful knowledge about personal finances.

Sign up and take our online 14-hour Financial Responsibility & Stability Course at your convenience. Our course is approved by the DBPR (Course #0609924) and covers all required categories. Upon completion, a Certificate of Completion will be issued to be included in your application package.

Call our office or register online today:
www.camtechschool.com/registration.php

**Do You Need Your
Contractor's License?**

*Or are you interested in
upgrading or getting an
additional license?*

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SHOW YOU HOW!**

**CLASSES BEGIN
SEPTEMBER 26TH**

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CAM TECH ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

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this who came through Cam Tech's exam
preparation course to get licensed?*

*Or, are you one of the countless contractors reading
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education courses to maintain your license?*

**If so, we are
LOOKING FOR YOU!**

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to feature your company in our newsletter, on our
website, or in our office, send us an email at
carrie@camtechschool.com.*

*For all your insurance, bond and workers compensation
needs, Construction Pros is here to help.*

*For more information on the Financial Stability Bond
contact Ed Collins directly at 813-495-3115 or by email,
ed@constructionprosins.com.*

