

PRESS RELEASE
June 01, 2010

The Department of Public Works will be adopting the *2009 International Building Code (IBC)* and the *2009 International Fire Code (IFC)* as the official building codes of Guam. This measure replaces the 1994 edition of the Uniform Building Code. The effective date for the adoption and implementation of the 2009 International Building Code is June 30, 2010.

The regulations of the newly adopted code address the residential and commercial buildings and the energy code provisions, as well. Critical safety measures are also addressed as the regulations recognize new seismic and safety standards and codes.

Homes, schools, offices and other buildings will be safer and more energy-efficient as newly adopted construction codes take effect in line with the much anticipated military build-up and the modernization of the construction industry throughout Guam. The code adoption and enforcement has been proven to reduce the damage, fatalities and injuries from natural and man-made disasters. Keeping up to date with advances in technology, scientific advancements and lessons learned from past experience by adopting the latest codes demonstrates a commitment to public safety,

The *2009 International Building Code (IBC)* has new safety features that include: an additional stairway for high rises, emergency evacuation elevators, and new guidelines for the design and construction of storm shelters.

New requirements in the *2009 International Fire Code (IFC)* ensure seamless coverage of emergency radios inside and outside buildings; special markings for emergency exits and stairwells; and luminous exit pathway markings in new high-rise buildings.

The International Code Council, a membership association dedicated to building safety, fire prevention and energy efficiency, develops the codes used to construct residential and commercial buildings, including homes and schools. Most U.S. cities, counties and states choose the International Codes, building safety codes developed by the International Code Council. The International Codes also serve as the basis for construction of federal properties around the world, and as a reference for many nations outside the United States.

Department of Public Works (DPW), American Institute of Architects (AIA) – Guam Chapter, and the PEALS Golden Jubilee, will be sponsoring an International Code Training Seminar to be presented by highly qualified off-island ICC instructors, at Hotel Nikko.

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| 2009 IBC Fundamental NonStructural Provisions | June 9-11, 2010 | 9am - 4pm |
| 2009 IBC Fundamental Structural Provisions | June 14-15, 2010 | 9am - 4pm |
| 2009 International Fire Code Fundamentals | June 16-17, 2010 | 9am – 4pm |

Registration for the training seminar is on-going and subject to a limited classroom capacity. Contact persons for the adoption, implementation and the training seminar are:

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