

CHAPTER 13

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

SECTION 1301 GENERAL

1301.1 Scope. This chapter governs the design and construction of buildings for energy efficiency.

1301.1.1 Criteria. Buildings shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the *International Energy Conservation Code*.

1301.1.1.1 Changes to the *International Energy Conservation Code* (IECC). The following change shall be made to the IECC:

1. Delete Section 401.3.
2. Change Section 403.2.2 to read:

403.2.2 Sealing (Mandatory). All ducts, air handlers, filter boxes and building cavities used as ducts shall be sealed. Joints and seams shall comply with Section M1601.4.1 of the *International Residential Code*. Verification of compliance with this section shall be in accordance with either Section 403.2.2.1 or Section 403.2.2.2.

3. Add Section 403.2.2.1 to read:

403.2.2.1 Testing option. Duct tightness shall be verified by either of the following:

1. Post-construction test: Leakage to outdoors shall be less than or equal to 8 cfm (3.78 L/s) per 100 ft² (9.29 m²) of conditioned floor area or a total leakage less than or equal to 12 cfm (5.66 L/s) per 100 ft² (9.29 m²) of conditioned floor area when tested at a pressure differential of 0.1 inch w.g. (25 Pa) across the entire system, including the manufacturer's air handler end closure. All register boots shall be taped or otherwise sealed during the test.
2. Rough-in test: Total leakage shall be less than or equal to 6 cfm (2.83 L/s) per 100 ft² (9.29 m²) of conditioned floor area when tested at a pressure differential of 0.1 inch w.g. (25 Pa) across the roughed in system, including the manufacturer's air handler enclosure. All register boots shall be taped or otherwise sealed during

the test. If the air handler is not installed at the time of the test, total leakage shall be less than or equal to 4 cfm (1.89 L/s) per 100 ft² (9.29 m²) of conditioned floor area.

Exception: Duct tightness test is not required if the air handler and all ducts are located within conditioned space.

When this option is chosen, testing shall be performed by approved qualified individuals, testing agencies or contractors. Testing and results shall be as prescribed in Section 403.2.2 and approved recognized industry standards.

4. Add Section 403.2.2.2 to read:

403.2.2.2 Visual inspection option. In addition to the inspection of ducts otherwise required by this code, when the air handler and all ducts are not within conditioned space and this option is chosen to verify duct tightness, duct tightness shall be considered acceptable when the requirements of Section 403.2.2 are field verified.

