(DOI) Adopts (WCIRB) Recommendations

At the November 16, 2012 public hearing, the Department of Insurance approved the changes recommended by the Workers' Compensation Insurance Rating Bureau applicable to the construction trades.

1) The “split (dual) wage” threshold value for roofing will remain at $23.00 per hour; 2) Requires that all policyholders who report payroll in a high wage/low rate classification be audited not just those whose premiums amount to $10,000.00 or more. In the past, over 20,000 policies escaped audits and this new requirement fills a void that has been long overdue and reduces the potential for fraud.

To minimize the administrative bur

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URCA Member Contractors Provide Craftsmanship to the 2012 Q Award Recipient

Providence Holy Cross Medical Center, Mission Hills, CA was the recipient of The Alliance for Quality Construction’s 2012 “Q Award” for construction of its 138-bed patient care South Wing. The new South Wing was constructed as the medical center celebrated its 50th year. The project was union built by Swinerton Builders and designed by HMC Architects.

Accepting the award on behalf of Providence Holy Cross Medical Center was its Chief Executive Larry Bowe. During his acceptance speech, Mr. Bowe announced that he is proud of the Medical Center being voted among the best hospitals in the nation and the new wing will allow the Center to continue exceptional services to the surrounding communities. “At 377

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At its meeting held on May 31, 2012, the California Energy Commission unanimously adopted the final version of the 2013 “Building Energy Efficiency Standards” i.e. the California Energy Code.

As it applies to low-sloped non-residential buildings, the minimum aged reflectance of roofing products will be increased from 0.55 to 0.63. The minimum emittance will be 0.75. These standards will apply to all 16 climate zones. Roofing contractors will continue to be able to make reflectance/insulation trade-offs, both above and below the roof deck and a new table has been added to the Code to facilitate the process. Also, CEC staff indicated that free trade-off tools will be available on the CEC website.

The “cool roof” requirements for low-sloped, high rise residential and hotel/motel buildings remain unchanged and continue to apply only

Continued next page
beds, the Center becomes one of the largest hospitals in the Greater Valley Area,” said Bowe.

URCA member contractor Chapman Coast Roof Company provided roofing installation. According to company president Dave Chapman, their craftsmen were on the job immediately after the building’s framing was in place. Chapman Roof installed a complete watertight but temporary hot asphalt roof to allow weather protection for the other crafts to commence internal construction. Later, Chapman Roof removed the temporary roof and installed a multi-level single-ply cool roof totaling 500 squares, or approximately 50,000 square feet. Approximately 3,000 man hours were needed to complete the project.

“We entered the project knowing the final result was for the South Wing to qualify as a LEED structure,” said Chapman. “With the guidance of the general contractor, Swinerton Builders, we worked diligently around the schedules of other trades, while not disturbing the daily hospital operations.”

URCA member contractor Courtney Waterproofing of Orange County, CA provided the structure’s waterproofing services. The Courtney crew was on site for several weeks and also had to abide by the strict guidelines of not disturbing the hospital’s daily operations.

Los Angeles City Councilman Mitchell Englander shared a poignant story of his sister passing away in another area’s hospital emergency room lobby due to a lack of staff and services. He was determined that no one should ever experience a lack of life-saving treatment when needed. He pledged to work diligently toward the expansion of Holy Cross Medical Center, and did so successfully.

LA/OC Building & Construction Trades Council Executive Secretary, Robbie Hunter, addressed the crowd as to the incredible cooperation between government, labor and management to construct the Medical Center. Hunter explained that during the seeming mayhem of construction, the hospital remained open and undisturbed.

Jerry Mejia, lead construction manager of the project for general contractor Swinerton Builders-OC/IE, presented a project start-to-finish slide presentation. He stated that over 1 million man-hours were spent on the project. The original plans called for a LEED Certified building, but it became a LEED Silver Certified structure. This certification included low mercury fluorescent lamps, cool roofing, an installed drip irrigation system, implementation of a water bottle reuse program (drinking fountains also

DOI Recommendations Continued

1) Eliminates the requirement that new or renewal business that have not been subject to physical audits by the insurer, and whose roof age is more than 30 years, must be subject to a physical audit. This requirement would apply only for new business and renewal business that have not been subject to a physical audit by the insurer for the prior two policy years. This change would be effective with respect to new and renewal policies as of the first anniversary rating date of a risk or after January 1, 2013;
2) Stipulates that a building owner should not be required to meet all of the requirements at once in a zone, but rather must progress through the zone requirements over time. This requirement would apply in all 16 climate zones;
3) Stipulates that an employee’s unpaid meal break does not need to be recorded in time cards or time books if the meal period represents a time in which all of the employer’s operations at the job site cease for a uniform unpaid meal break period.

2013 Code Continued

in climate zones 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15. The standards for low-sloped, low-rise residential building are now 0.63 reflectance and 0.75 emittance, but continue to apply only in zones 13 and 15.

Weight has been eliminated as a factor in steep-sloped “cool roofing” requirements. Non-residential buildings must have roofs with an aged reflectance of at least 0.20 and an emittance of 0.75 or greater. This standard will apply in all 16 climate zones.

Low rise residential building roofs must meet the same requirements, but they will only apply in climate zones 10 through 15.

The new 2013 Energy Code does not go into effect until January 2014. In the interim, CEC staff will compose and publish the residential and non-residential compliance manuals that
Q Award continued

utilization of low emission finishes, paints/coatings, carpet, composite wood, and adhesive sealants, and over 80% of construction waste was recycled. In addition, 10% of construction materials were recycled materials and 50% of new wood materials were FSC certified.

The new 132,000 square foot expansion is one of the first LEED-certified hospital buildings in the state and the only one in California to receive a Silver rating from Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design’s Green Building Rating System. Providence Holy Cross Medical Center was recently named to the U.S. News and World Report’s list of the nation’s top hospitals.

The state of the art facility includes the first 12-bed neo-natal intensive care unit serving north San Fernando/Santa Clarita Valleys, a new Women’s Pavilion, including additional Labor & Delivery rooms, Post Partum rooms and C-Section suites, an expanded gastroenterology lab, a staff lactation lounge and a chapel. The South Wing was built in accordance to California’s most recent seismic safety guidelines, and is expected to not only withstand an 8.0 magnitude earthquake, but to remain operational to continue to treat existing patients as well as the injured.

Immediately after the Q Award presentation, all attendees enjoyed a luncheon on the Medical Center grounds. Attendees to the 2012 Q Award were construction industry, labor and management leaders, and property owners, along with proud Medical Center staff.

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