



# MABCD CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY NEWSLETTER

Issue 50—July 2025      <https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/mabcd/mabcd-newsletter/>      Chris Nordick - Editor

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## Administration -

### Trade License and Certificate Holders—

Please keep in mind that the renewal cycle for trade licenses and certificates will begin on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Now is the time to make sure you have all your CEU’s prior to the end of 2025.

MABCD does not receive CEU documentation from the providers. The certificate holder is responsible for providing CEU documentation at the time of renewal.

Accepted CEU classes may be found at:

<https://scks.sedgwickcounty.org/mabcd/Lists/Continuing%20Education/All.aspx>

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### Special points of interest

- Trade License and Certificate Renewal.
- Walking Surface.
- NM Cable Replacement when Wet.
- Trade Certificate Renewal Begins September 1st.
- ePlans Upgrade.
- Building Services and Systems .
- Advisory Board calendar.

# Building Division

## WALKING SURFACE

### WALKING SURFACE DEFINITION

The International Residential Code addresses the need for guards and window fall protection in section R321.

R321.1.1 Where required. Guards shall be provided for those portions of open sided walking surfaces, including floors, stairs, ramps and landings that are located more than 30 inches (762 mm) measure vertically to the floor or grade below at any point within 36 inches (914 mm) horizontally to the edge of the open side. Insect screening shall not be considered as a guard.

The definition of a walking surface is not clearly defined in the IRC. MABCD has always enforced the walking surface requirement with the question “Is there a reasonable expectation it could be used as a walking surface?”. These areas would also include lawn areas that are to be maintained, but not landscaped planting bed areas which extend 36” horizontally to the edge of the open side. Window well emergency escape and rescue openings are required to be covered or guarded if it meets the aforementioned requirements.



## Electrical Division -

Please visit our website for more information: [Electrical, Elevator, & Alarm Division](#)

### REPLACEMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR NM CABLE WHEN WET OR DAMAGED

This Month we will discuss NM cable replacement when the cable gets wet, especially due to flooding:

NM cable is rated for dry locations only, and should be replaced if submerged.

NM cable when wet, causes deterioration of the conductor insulation and degrades the conductor, potentially leading to future electrical problems. Moisture can wick up the outer jacket and penetrate the paper or other fillers used in some NM cables.

It is always best to consult the manufacturers specific recommendations for whether it can be salvaged or not.

Even when the NM cable appears to be dry and undamaged, it shall be tested by an electrician to make sure there is no moisture present inside of the sheathing. The best method to test the condition of the cable is to perform an insulation resistance test with a megohmmeter.

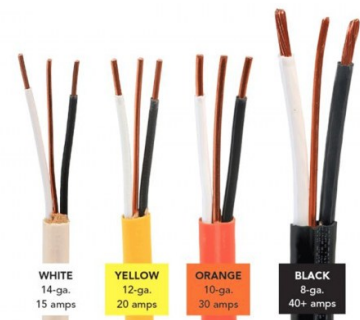
NEMA Standards for NM replacement are as follows:

Equipment	Replace Equipment	May be Reconditioned (Contact the manufacturer.)	Additional Standards Reference (if available)
<b>WIRE, CABLE, AND FLEXIBLE CORDS (refer to 4.6)</b>			
Wire or cable listed for dry locations (such as NM-B)	X		
Wire or cable that is suitable for wet locations  (Provided the ends of the wire or cable have not been exposed to water, and the wire is not damaged.)		X	

#### 4.6 Wire, Cable, and Flexible Cords

When any wire or cable product is exposed to water, any metallic component (such as the conductor, metallic shield, or armor) is subject to corrosion that can damage the component itself and/or cause termination failures. If water remains in medium-voltage cable, it could accelerate insulation deterioration, causing premature failure. Wire and cable listed for only dry locations may become a shock hazard when energized after being exposed to water.

Any recommendations for reconditioning wire and cable in section 3 are based on the assumption that the water contains no high concentrations of chemicals, oils, etc. If it is suspected that the water has unusual contaminants, such as may be found in some floodwater, the manufacturer should be consulted before any decision is made to continue using any wire or cable products.





## Mechanical Division -

Please visit our website for more information: [Mechanical Division](#)

### 2024 IMC—A1, A2L, A2 and B2 REFRIGERANT GROUPS

#### 2024 IMC Code Text: 1104.3.1 Air conditioning for human comfort .

High-probability systems used for human comfort shall use Group A1 or A2L refrigerant.

##### **Exceptions:**

1. Equipment listed for and used in residential occupancies containing a maximum of 6.6pounds (3kg) of refrigerant.
2. Equipment listed and used in commercial occupancies containing a maximum of 22 pounds (10kg) of refrigerant.
3. Industrial occupancies.

~~In other than industrial occupancies where the quantity in a single independent circuit does not exceed the amount in table 1103.1, Group B1, B2, and B3 refrigerants shall not be used in high-probability systems for air conditioning for human comfort.~~

Change Summary: Refrigerants other than A1 and A2L refrigerants are limited in use in high-probability systems used for human comfort.

#### 2024 IMC Code Text: 1104.3.2

~~Nonindustrial occupancies- Group A2, A3, B2, and B3 refrigerants.~~

~~Group A2 and B2 refrigerants shall not be used in high-probability systems. Group A3 and B3 refrigerants shall not be used except where approved.~~

High-probability systems used for human comfort shall use Group A1 or A2L refrigerant.

##### **Exceptions: This section does not apply to:**

1. Laboratories where the floor area per occupant is not less than 100 square feet (9.3 m<sup>2</sup>).
2. Listed self-contained systems having a maximum of refrigerant.
3. Industrial occupancies.
4. Equipment listed for and used in residential occupancies containing a maximum of 6.6 pounds (3 KG) OF Group A2 or B2 refrigerant.
5. Equipment listed for and used in commercial occupancies containing a maximum 22 pounds (10kg) of Group A2 or B2 refrigerant.

Change Summary: Group A2 and B2 refrigerants are prohibited in high-probability systems used for human comfort, except in very small quantities.



## Plumbing Division -

Please visit our website for more information: [Plumbing Division](#)

### Trade Certification Renewal Begins September 1st

62 days until early trade certificate renewal begins on September 1st. 120 days until trade certificate expiration on December 31<sup>st</sup>.

May I ask if you have started to accumulate the 12 hours of continuing education required by Kansas State law and local ordinance to renew your certificate?

6 hours of approved code based continuing education are required. 6 hours may be non-code subjects comparable to OSHA jobsite safety courses. The OSHA 10 and OSHA 30 hour jobsite safety courses and certificates are acceptable as non-code education. Please submit an application for approval of continuing education courses.

This is a link to the application for the plumbing continuing education approval document on the MABCD website: [MABCD Form 115 - Application for Plumbing Continuing Education](#)

This link will take you to the Plumbing Division web page on the MABCD website: [Plumbing Division | Sedgwick County, Kansas](#)

There is a wealth of information on the MABCD website. Please take a few moments to browse through the plumbing division section. You will find a link to approved continuing education classes that may be attended in person and some that are available online.

[Continuing Education - Default](#)

If you have a topic you would like to see in the MABCD monthly newsletter please email me your idea. [Jason.little@Sedgwick.gov](mailto:Jason.little@Sedgwick.gov)

## Plans Examiners-

### *EPlans Upgrade for Project Dox*

Regarding commercial projects being submitted for plan review, the Metropolitan Area Building and Construction Department will be upgrading our Electronic Plan Review System (ePlans) to the most current version beginning July 15 (Tuesday), and going through July 18 (Friday).

This upgrade will move us to a more web-based support structure, and will greatly enhance our ability to work with the cities and agencies in our jurisdiction to review all required aspects of commercial projects. However, this upgrade will require the system to be taken offline beginning at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 15.

The upgrade and testing is scheduled to be complete, with the system back online for use, by 8:00 a.m. on Friday, July 18. Please plan accordingly when preparing to submit plans during this period, and we sincerely apologize for any inconvenience.

# Wichita Fire Department -

## CHAPTER 6 BUILDING SERVICES AND SYSTEMS

### SECTION 604 ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT, WIRING AND HAZARDS

**604.3 Working space and clearance.** A working space of not less than 30 inches (762 mm) in width, 36 inches (914mm) in depth and 78 inches (1981 mm) in height shall be provided in front of electrical service equipment. Where the electrical service equipment is wider than 30 inches (762 mm), the working space shall be not less than the width of the equipment. Storage of materials shall not be located within the designated working space.

#### Exceptions:

1. Where other dimensions are required or allowed by NFPA 70.2.
2. Access openings into attics or under-floor areas that provide a minimum clear opening of 22 inches (559mm) by 30 inches (762 mm).



# MABCD Advisory Boards - Calendar

- [Board of Building Code Standards and Appeals \(BCSA\)](#)
- [Board of Electrical Appeals \(BEA\)](#)
- [Board of Appeals of Refrigeration, Air Conditioning, Warm Air Heating, and Boiler](#)
- [Board of Appeals of Plumbers and Gas Fitters](#)

## July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 <i>MABCD Mechanical Board Meeting</i>	4	5
6	7 <i>MABCD BCSA Board Meeting</i>	8 <i>MABCD BEA Board Meeting</i>	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 <i>MABCD Plumbing Board Meeting</i>	31		