

## 2006 Building Code Change Request Form

Do you agree to permit sharing all information on this form with the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes and Building Code Review Committees for the purposes of code development?

Yes  No

I am submitting this on behalf of:  Myself, or  
 Organisation (Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs)

Your Title: President

Your Name: Fire Chief Tim Beckett

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Your function:  Fire Chief

CODE CHANGE REQUEST:

To an existing provision of the Building Code. Code Reference of the requested change :

Add a new code provision. Add a Sentence to DivC 1.3.4.1.

Have you forwarded this change to the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes as a proposed amendment to the model National Building or Plumbing Codes?  Yes  No

Personal information provided on this form is collected under the authority of the Building Code Act, 1992 and will be used for the purpose of code development. Please direct any questions about the collection of information by mail to the following address:

Manager, Code Development, Legislation and Appeals

Building and Development Branch

777 Bay Street 2nd Fl., Toronto, Ontario M5G 2E5

telephone: (416) 585-6666

or by facsimile at: (416) 585-7531

## Proposed Change

<b>REQUESTED CHANGE/ADDITION:</b> What wording do you propose for the change?	<p>The Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs has recognized that the use of light weight construction is more common in modern buildings and that failure of these assemblies occurs quicker when exposed to fire.</p> <p>The OAFC urges that changes be made to the OBC to ensure that appropriate fire separation be required protecting all exposed light weighted construction assemblies. For example they must always be covered with dry wall or buildings with light weight construction must install automatic fire sprinklers.</p> <p>This provides both protection for occupants to escape a fire and provides safety to responding fire fighters as they combat such fire, increasing the time for fire fighters to enter structures for search and rescue purposes as well as fire suppression activities.</p>
<b>Problem:</b> Why should the existing provision be revised? If requesting an addition to the Code, what is missing?	<p>In a fire situation the light weight engineered joists have failed in 4-6 minutes. This means that people trying to escape the fire in their homes may come down the stairs and have the floor collapse under them.</p> <p>The joists are also a danger to fire fighters. When they arrive at the fire scene they enter the house to attack the fire and to search for occupants to get them out. With pre engineered joists they may go right through the floor when they enter the house. This could lead to injury or death of firefighters.</p>
<b>Justification/Explanation:</b> How does the requested change address the problem?	<p>This change requests that all light weight construction be shielded with the appropriate fire separation. This will extend the time for occupants to evacuate the building before the floor collapses and will provide extra time for the fire fighters to arrive on the scene and extinguish the fire.</p>
<b>Objective(s):</b> Which of the Code's objectives does the requested change address? See Part 2 of Division A of the Building Code for the list of objectives.	
<b>Cost/Benefit Implications:</b> Will the change entail any added costs? Will it provide benefits that are measurable?	
<b>Enforcement Implications:</b> Can the requested change/addition be enforced by the infrastructure available to enforce this Code? Will its enforcement require an increase in resources?	
<b>Other Comments:</b> For example, identify other Code requirements affected by the requested change.	<p>The danger of the pre engineered joists has been proven by the Underwriters Laboratories. View their test results and a video of the failure of a floor with unprotected lightweight construction in 6 minutes.</p> <p><a href="http://www.ul.com/global/documents/corporate/aboutul/publications/newsletters/fire/fsa_issue_3_2009.pdf">http://www.ul.com/global/documents/corporate/aboutul/publications/newsletters/fire/fsa_issue_3_2009.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="http://content.learnshare.com/courses/73/187716/player.html">http://content.learnshare.com/courses/73/187716/player.html</a></p>
<b>Attached Supporting Material:</b>	<p>The manufacturers of these light weight construction materials recommend that they be protected.</p>