

FS123-18

IBC: 1404.3.2

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2018 International Building Code

Revise as follows:

1404.3.2 Class III vapor retarders. Class III vapor retarders shall be permitted in Climate Zones 1 through 3 and where any one of the conditions in Table 1404.3.2 is met. Only Class III vapor retarders shall be used on the interior side of frame walls where foam plastic insulating sheathing with a perm rating of less than 1 is applied in accordance with Table 1404.3.2 on the exterior side of the frame wall.

Reason:

Class III vapor retarders should be permitted for use in Climate Zones 1 through 3. Currently, the code is unclear or implies they may not be permitted. In these warmer climates, the conditions of Table 1404.3.2 are not necessary. Therefore, the inclusion of Climate Zones 1-3 is provided in the text of Section 1404.3.2. This change will also make it clear that it is OK to use latex paints (many of which could be classified as a Class III vapor retarder) as interior finishes in these climate zones, even if not declared to be a vapor retarder.

Cost Impact

The code change proposal will not increase or decrease the cost of construction .

This is a clarification of the code with no cost impact.

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