

# IC3 Version 3.10 Supplemental Release Notes

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## Reason for this Notice

We are about to release IC3 version 3.10 in the coming days. There were some great changes to the documentation provided by the IC3 website, and this notice is meant to inform you of these changes. In analyzing the IECC 2009 code, we noticed that the documentation provided by IC3 was not fully meeting the requirements, as specified by that code. These changes were made in order to correct this.

In IC3 version 3.9, we provided a single piece of documentation, called the certificate. In version 3.10, we still provide this document, but it has been renamed the Energy Compliance Report. This document is meant to comply with *IECC 2009 405.4.2*. This report remains fundamentally the same as the old certificate, except that it now provides some additional information that many of our customers have requested over the years.

We have also added a new Certificate to the available documentation. Despite the name, this is an entirely new document that is meant to comply with *IECC 2009 401.3*. It has no relationship to the version 3.9 certificate, which is now the Energy Compliance Report described above. The new names for these documents were chosen to match those as described by the IECC 2009 code.

A third document has been added, an Inspection Checklist. It is meant to comply with *IECC 2009 405.4.2.2*. All 3 documents are detailed below.

## Energy Compliance Report

The certificate from version 3.9 has been renamed the Energy Compliance Report in version 3.10. This remains essentially the same document in single family, with some additional information added. This information was requested by our users through the periodic surveys we send out. The multi-family energy report has changed to a greater extent. It now has a format similar to the single family document.

The single family Energy Compliance Report is produced by pressing the Print Energy Report button on the status page of the project. This button will only appear for a project that passes code. This report consists of 3 parts:

- The first part has the basic project data as well as the familiar % above code arrow. This remains unchanged from the previous version.
- The second part contains a list of all of the data fields entered by the builder for this project. This is also similar to the old version, but it is more complete. The old version did not contain every datum entered; the new one does. With these values, the builder should be able to reproduce the project, even if it is deleted from our records for some reason.

- The final part of the report is new. It contains a table giving the estimated energy usage of the house. This was a feature requested by several of our users and we think you will be pleased. These values are broken down into therms for gas and kWh for electric usage. The total usage is also given in MMBtu. It should be noted that, these values are estimates only. They come out of our model, using the data entered by the user and the *average historical* weather for the county specified. These values do not constitute a guarantee of actual energy usage by ESL or TEES.

The multi family Energy Compliance Report is produced by pressing the Print Energy Report button on the main project page. This button will only appear if at least one unit has been entered, and every unit passes code. The structure of this report is now more similar to the single family report. This should make it easier to work single and multi-family projects. This report also consists of the same 3 parts:

- The first part has the basic project data. It does not contain a % above code value, as this will be computed for each unit individually, in part 3.
- The second part contains a list of all of the data fields entered by the builder for this project. It firsts shows all data for every plan. Then it shows all data for every unit. Similar to the single family project, the builder should be able to reproduce the project, even if it is deleted from our records for some reason.
- The final part of the report is new. It contains the % above code value as well as a table giving the estimated energy usage, for each unit. These values are broken down into therms for gas and kWh for electric usage. The total usage is also given in MMBtu. It should be noted that, these values are estimates only. They come out of our model, using the data entered by the user and the *average* weather for the county specified. These values do not constitute a guarantee of actual energy usage by ESL or TEES.

## Certificate

The certificate in version 3.10 is an entirely new document that is meant to comply with *IECC 2009 401.3*. This requires that

“A permanent certificate shall be posted on or in the electrical distribution panel. The certificate shall not cover or obstruct the visibility of the circuit directory label, service distribution label or other required labels...”

This document is a 2 inch by 4 inch certificate. To keep it as small as possible, in order to fit it in the electrical panel as described above, it contains only the information explicitly required by this regulation. It also contains a space for a signature. According to the IECC 2009 code, the certificate must be signed by either the builder or a ‘registered design professional’. The code does not define what ‘design professional’ means, nor how they should be ‘registered’. Each county/municipality should make a decision on this issue. But note, the builder’s signature is always valid, even if he/she is not ‘registered’.

The print certificate button will produce this document.

- For single family, it appears on the status page, but only if the project passes code.

- For multi-family, it appears on the main project page if at least one unit has been entered, and every unit passes code. It will produce a single certificate for each Plan. Since every unit will (probably) have its own electrical panel, a duplicate certificate will be needed for each unit using that floor plan.

## Checklist

The checklist is provided in order to comply with IECC 2009 405.4.2 2. The print checklist button will appear with the print report and print certificate buttons defined in the previous sections. This provides the US Department of Energy 2009 IECC Residential Checklist for the climate zone of the county that the project is located in.

It is likely that most builders will never need to use this document. Most municipalities/counties that provide inspections for energy compliance already have their own procedures and checklists for doing so. This checklist may be used for self-inspections in regions that allow those to be used.

## Conclusion

We hope this covers any questions that you may have about the new documents provided in IC3 version 3.10. We believe that these new documents greatly enhance IC3's capabilities. If you have any further questions or suggestions, please contact us as described on the IC3 help/FAQ webpage: <http://esl.eslwin.tamu.edu/terp/code-compliance-calculators/ic3/help-and-support>.

## Upcoming Releases

December 2011: IC3 version 3.11. This version will contain support for a new energy code, 2009 Austin, which is the IECC 2009 code containing specific amendment requested by Austin Energy. It is more restrictive than the base IECC 2009 code.

January 2012: IC3 version 3.12. This has a hard release date of 1/1/2012. **After that date earlier versions of the IECC code will no longer be valid in the state of Texas.** All future projects must use the IECC 2009 code (or the 2009 code with specific regional amendments, like 2009 Austin described above).