

January 9, 2017

## ***Education Opportunities in January***

- **Net Zero Training Session: January 26 & 27, Edmonton**

A chance for designers, construction managers and managers to gain insight into how to move toward the next 15% increase in energy efficiency in the 2020 codes. The session is being delivered by Andy Oding of Building Knowledge who has a great body of experience in advanced homes and has worked with Mattamy Homes in Alberta on their recent net zero project. To register, [download the registration form](#) and forward it to ENERVISION.

- **PHBI New Energy Code Seminar – Section 9.36**

The Professional Home Builders Institute has created an on-line training session done by Darrel Paul that discusses better building envelope practices as they relate to the energy efficiency section 9.36 of the 2014 Alberta Building Code. Check it out [here](#).

- **RCIC 2017**

The Residential Construction Industry Conference will be held in Edmonton February 7 and 8, 2017. The two days offer over 40 sessions in the broad categories of Construction and Building Science, Home Builder Operations, Leadership and Career Development and Sales and Marketing. Register here.

## ***Drywall Tariff Ruling***

A report by the Canadian International Trade Tribunal has found that the imposition of drywall duties in the amount set by the Canada Border Services Agency “is contrary to Canada’s economic, trade or commercial interests, and specifically that such an imposition has or will substantially reduce competition in those markets, or cause significant harm to consumers of those goods or to businesses who use them.” Read the CHBA National news release [here](#).

## ***Error in Hot Water Tank Calculations in the Code***

Builders and suppliers who have been performing calculations to determine whether their gas-fired storage hot water tanks meet the new energy requirements in section 9.36 need to be aware that there is an error in the formula referenced in Table 9.36.4.2 of both the Alberta and National Building Codes for the standby losses. Calculations with the incorrect formula may provide a performance requirement that is not achievable.

Currently the formula in the table for standby losses reads:

$$E_t \geq 80\% \text{ and standby loss} \leq \text{rated input}^{(4)} / (800 + 16.57 \cdot \sqrt{V})$$

The brackets in highlighted yellow should not be there.

Notes to Table 9.36.4.2.:

$E_t$  = thermal efficiency with 38.9°C water temperature difference

$V$  = storage volume, in L, as specified by the manufacturer

(4) Rated input is measured in watts.

The correct formula is

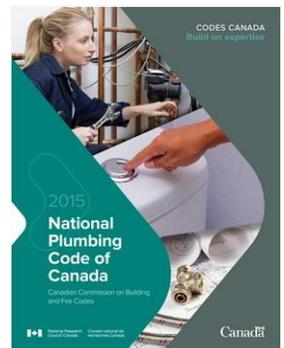
$$E_t \geq 80\% \text{ and standby loss} \leq \text{rated input}^{(4)} / 800 + 16.57 \cdot \sqrt{V}$$

This error is recognized by Municipal Affairs and they are working to see how best to have it changed in the Code.

## ***2015 National Plumbing Code in Effect in Alberta as of January 1, 2017***

Cabinet approved the adoption of the 2015 National Plumbing Code for Alberta with a coming into force date of Jan. 1, 2017. [The notice](#) was released from Municipal Affairs last week.

Members should ensure they [purchase the 2015 National Plumbing Code](#) and familiarize themselves with the previous Alberta requirements to ensure their installations meet the 2015 National Plumbing Code.



***Further comments and questions can be directed to:***

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