

Swimming Pool: New Definition

As of January 17, 2006, Section 3109.2 of the International Building Code (IBC) 2000 and Section AG102.1 of the International Residential Code (IRC) 2000 define a swimming pool as "any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that can hold water 24 inches or more in depth. This includes in-ground, above-ground, and on-ground swimming pools, hot tubs, and spas." In the past, only pools with a surface area of 250 square feet and greater than 24 inches in depth were regulated. Now, all pools -- regardless of their size -- are regulated. This definition includes the commonly used blow-up pool that is 24 inches or more in depth.

When applying the definitions in both IBC/2000 and IRC/2000 to the construction of swimming pools, spas, and hot tubs, the applicable standards from the American National Standard Institute/National Spa and Pool Institute (ANSI/NSPI) are as follows:

- ◆ In-ground public pools shall be designed and constructed in conformance with ANSI/NSPI-1, 1991 edition;
- ◆ Permanently installed public spas and hot tubs shall be designed and constructed in conformance with ANSI/NSPI-2, 1992 edition;
- ◆ Permanently installed residential spas and hot tubs shall be designed and constructed in conformance with ANSI/NSPI-3, 1992 edition;
- ◆ Above-ground/on-ground residential pools shall be designed and constructed in conformance with ANSI/NSPI-4, 1992 edition;
- ◆ In-ground residential pools shall be designed and constructed in conformance with ANSI/NSPI-5, 1995 edition;
- ◆ Portable residential spas and hot tubs shall be designed and constructed in conformance with ANSI/NSPI-6, 1992 edition.

Note: At N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.14(b)21.iii, Section 3109.6 of IBC/2000 should reference ANSI/NSPI-6 and will be corrected upon the adoption of IBC/2006.

Finally, NSPI has changed its name to the Association of Pool and Spa Professionals. However, its web site still uses the old name at <http://www.nspi.org>.

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact me at (609) 984-7609.

Source: Rob Austin
Code Specialist

Transition Solvent Cement: Permitted or Not Permitted?

Is transition solvent cement permitted to be used for the transition joints between ABS and PVC non-pressure piping?

In the National Standard Plumbing Code (NSPC) 2003, Table 3.1.3, "Standards for Approved Plumbing Materials and Equipment," Section IV, "Pipe Joints, Joining Materials, Coupling, Gaskets," Item 21 lists "Solvent Cements for Transition Joints Between (ABS) and (PVC) Non-Pressure Piping Components," and refers to the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) D3138-95 standard.

In the standard, Note 1 states: "This specification was developed to provide a means for joining an ABS to a PVC non-pressure piping system using a solvent-cemented transition joint (for example, joining an ABS building drain to a PVC sewer system). The intention was not to create a specification for an all-purpose ABS-PVC solvent that would be used for mixing of ABS and PVC piping materials, nor to specify cement that could generally be used for either material. Specific cements for ABS and PVC components should be used."

Based on Note 1 of the ASTM D3138 standard, transition solvent cement for the joining of an ABS to a PVC non-pressure piping system may be used only for the connection of the building drain to the building sewer; this would occur three feet outside the building. Therefore, the use of transition cement for joining ABS to PVC would not be permitted within the building.

Should you have any questions, you may contact me at (609) 984-7609.

Source: Thomas C. Pitcherello
Code Assistance Unit

Who's Got the Bonding Jumper?

The December 19, 2005 *New Jersey Register*, at 37 NJR 4907, contained an adoption making the inspection of the bonding jumper for the replacement of **only** gas water heaters the responsibility of the plumbing inspector. This is no longer the electrical inspector's responsibility!

The plumbing inspector will now inspect for the bonding jumper on gas water heater replacements only. The bonding jumper does not require an electrical permit and is to be included on the Plumbing Subcode Technical Section with the gas water heater replacement fee. The

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