

CODE APPLICATION NOTICE

Subject: Component Importance Factor

FILE NO. 2-1613A.1

EFFECTIVE: 10/31/08

CODE SECTIONS

Section 1613A.1, 2007 California Building Code

1613A.1 Scope. Every structure, and portion thereof, including nonstructural components that are permanently attached to structures and their supports and attachments, shall be designed and constructed to resist the effects of earthquake motions in accordance with ASCE 7 *with all the modifications incorporated herein*, excluding Chapter 14 and Appendix 11A. The seismic design category for a structure *shall* be determined in accordance with Section 1613A.

Section 13.1.3, ASCE/SEI 7-05 Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures

13.1.3 Component Importance Factor. All components shall be assigned a component importance factor as indicated in this section. The component importance factor, I_p , shall be taken as 1.5 if any of the following conditions apply:

1. The component is required to function for life-safety purposes after an earthquake, including fire protection sprinkler systems.
2. The component contains hazardous materials.
3. The component is in or attached to an Occupancy Category IV structure and it is needed for continued operation of the facility or its failure could impair the continued operation of the facility.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Code Application Notice (CAN) is to interpret item 3, Section 13.1.3 of American Society of Civil Engineers/Structural Engineering Institute (ASCE/SEI) standard 7-05 (ASCE 7-05). Editions of the California Building Code prior to 2007, which are based on the Uniform Building Code (UBC), had a direct correlation between the component importance factor and building occupancy categories for essential facilities. The 2007 California Building Code (CBC), which is based on the 2006 International Building Code (IBC), refers to ASCE 7-05 for the component importance factor. Item 3, Section 13.1.3, ASCE 7-05 provides for flexibility in using a component importance factor lower than 1.5 for essential facilities provided the component is not needed for continued operation of the facility or the component failure will not impair the continued operation of the facility. This CAN provides an interpretation for determining the component importance factor relative to Item 3, Section 13.1.3, ASCE 7-05.

INTERPRETATION

For position retention, the design of supports and attachments for all nonstructural components in OSHPD 1 facilities shall have a component importance factor, I_p , equal to 1.5.

Seismic Certification of components in accordance with ASCE 7-05 Section 13.2.1.2 and Special Seismic Certification for designated seismic systems in accordance with ASCE 7-05 Section 13.2.2 are addressed in CAN 2-1708A.5.

<u>Original Signed</u>	<u>10/31/08</u>
John D. Gillengerten	Date