

2012 IFGC[®]
2 CODE AND COMMENTARY



2012 International Fuel Gas Code® Commentary

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PREFACE

The principal purpose of the Commentary is to provide a basic volume of knowledge and facts relating to building construction as it pertains to the regulations set forth in the 2012 *International Fuel Gas Code*[®] (IFGC[®]). The person who is serious about effectively designing, constructing and regulating buildings and structures will find the Commentary to be a reliable data source and reference to almost all fuel gas components of the built environment.

As a follow-up to the *International Fuel Gas Code*, we offer a companion document, the *International Fuel Gas Code Commentary*. The basic appeal of the Commentary is that it provides in a small package and at reasonable cost thorough coverage of many issues likely to be dealt with when using the *International Fuel Gas Code*. It then supplements that coverage with historical and technical background. Reference lists, information sources and bibliographies are also included.

Throughout all of this, strenuous effort has been made to keep the vast quantity of material accessible and its method of presentation useful. With a comprehensive yet concise summary of each section, the Commentary provides a convenient reference for regulations applicable to the construction of buildings and structures. In the chapters that follow, discussions focus on the full meaning and implications of the code text. Guidelines suggest the most effective method of application, and the consequences of not adhering to the code text. Illustrations are provided to aid understanding; they do not necessarily illustrate the only methods of achieving code compliance.

The format of the Commentary includes the full text of each section, table and figure in the code, followed immediately by the commentary applicable to that text. At the time of printing, the Commentary reflects the most up-to-date text of the 2012 *International Fuel Gas Code*. Each chapter's narrative includes a section on "General Comments" and "Purpose," and each section's narrative usually includes a discussion about why the requirement commands the conditions set forth. Code text is reproduced as it appears in the *International Fuel Gas Code*, and commentary is indented below the code text, beginning with the symbol ❖. Code figures and tables are reproduced as they appear in the *International Fuel Gas Code*. Commentary figures and tables are identified in the text by the word "Commentary" (as in "see Commentary Figure 704.3"), and each has a full border.

The *International Fuel Gas Code* is segregated by section numbers into two categories: code and standard. Code sections are identified as IFGC; standard sections are identified as IFGS.

Commentary is to be used in conjunction with the *International Fuel Gas Code* and not as a substitute for the code. **The Commentary is advisory only**; the code official alone possesses the authority and responsibility for interpreting the code.

Comments and recommendations are encouraged, for through your input, we can improve future editions. Please direct your comments to the Codes and Standards Development Department at the Chicago District Office.

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