

ICC TRI-CHAPTER UNIFORM CODE COMMITTEE (TUCC)



AMENDMENT NUMBER: Structural 4

APPROVAL DATE: September 8, 2016

SUBJECT: Proposed amendment to CRC to prohibit the use of gypsum board and limit the use of Portland cement plaster as prescriptive wall bracing materials in Seismic Design Categories D₀, D₁ and D₂

This amendment is developed by the Tri-chapter Uniform Code Committee and is intended to enhance regional consistency in application and enforcement of the Building Code. Please verify acceptance of this amendment with your local building department prior to its application.

CODE REFERENCE(S):

2016 CRC Section R602.10.4 and Table R602.10.3(3)

ISSUE(S):

Add a new footnote “f” to the end of CRC Table R602.10.3(3), to read:

- f. In Seismic Design Categories D₀, D₁, and D₂, Method GB is not permitted and the use of Method PCP is limited to one-story single family dwellings and accessory structures.

Add the “f” footnote notation in the title of Table R602.10.3(3) to read:

TABLE R602.10.3(3)^f

Add a new subsection R602.10.4.4, to read:

R602.10.4.4 Limits on methods GB and PCP. In Seismic Design Categories D₀, D₁, and D₂, Method GB is not permitted for use as intermittent braced wall panels, but gypsum board is permitted to be installed when required by this Section to be placed on the opposite side of the studs from other types of braced wall panel sheathing. In Seismic Design Categories D₀, D₁, and D₂, the use of Method PCP is limited to one-story single family dwellings and accessory structures.

RATIONALE:

The proposed amendment addresses the problem of poor performance of gypsum wallboard and Portland cement plaster as wall bracing materials in high seismic areas. This amendment reflects the recommendations by the Structural Engineers Association of Southern California (SEAOSC) and the Los Angeles City Joint Task Force that investigated the poor performance of these bracing materials that were observed in 1994 Northridge earthquake.