



**Session 4B:**

**Update on Tall Wood Building Provisions in the International Business Code**

Within the built environment a new challenge is evolving through the introduction of taller buildings constructed of heavy wood timber structural elements. Whereas present codes allow buildings of these material up to 6-stories, interest is growing in the building design and development community to allow buildings of heavy timber for the 10 to 20 story range. This presentation will inform the participants of the developments in the International Building Code presently underway to allow these taller wood buildings while still meeting the intent of the building codes to provide life safety for occupants, protection for the fire service if a fire in upper floors occurs and maintain property protection goals.

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Steve Skalko graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology with a Bachelor of Civil Engineering degree and from Georgia College and State University with a Master of Science in Administration degree. He is registered as a professional engineer in Georgia in both the fields of civil engineering and fire protection engineering.

Mr. Skalko has over 35 years of experience in the application of construction and fire safety codes for buildings. He is the former Building Official and Fire Marshal for Macon-Bibb County, Georgia, previously served as Regional Manager of Codes for the Portland Cement Association and is now an independent consulting engineer and Principal with Stephen V. Skalko, P.E. & Associates, LLC.

He has been involved in the technical development of the International Codes through the International Code Council (ICC), including development of the International Building Code (IBC) and the International Residential Code (IRC). He also had served on the National Fire Protection Association Technical Committees for Fundamentals, Assembly Occupancies, Industrial-Storage & Miscellaneous Occupancies, Residential Occupancies and Fire Protection Features. These committees provide direct input into development of NFPA 101 and the family of NFPA fire safety standards.

Mr. Skalko presently serves on the ICC Tall Wood Building Ad-Hoc Committee. The ICC Board of Directors established the ICC Ad Hoc Committee for Tall Wood Buildings for the purpose of exploring the building science of tall wood buildings, investigate the feasibility of and take action on developing code changes for tall wood buildings.