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PDD Practice Exam 1 Questions & Answers 2024/2025

Conduction - ANSWERS- the transfer of heat from the warmer to the cooler particles of a medium or of 2 bodies in direct contact, occurring without perceptible displacement of the particles themselves

Convection - ANSWERS- the transfer of heat by the circulatory motion of the heated parts of a liquid or gas owing to a variation in density and the action of gravity. In other words, the body gives off heat to the surrounding cooler air

- a large differential between air and skin temperature and increased air motion induce more heat transmission by _____

Radiation - ANSWERS- the process by which heat energy in the form of electromagnetic waves is emitted by a warm body, transmitted through an intervening space, and absorbed by a cooler body. No air motion is required for the transfer of heat

- Light colors reflect while dark colors absorb heat; poor reflectors make good radiators

Evaporation - ANSWERS- heat is required for the _____ process of converting body moisture into a vapor

- heat loss by evaporation increases with air motion

- _____ cooling is especially beneficial when high air temperatures, humidity, and activity levels exist

Relative Humidity (RH) - ANSWERS- _____ is the ratio of the amount of water vapor actually present in the air to the max amount that the air could hold at the same temperature, expressed as a %

- The higher the _____ of a space, the lower the air temperature should be

- _____ is more critical at high temperatures than within the normal temperature range

Air Motion (V) - ANSWERS- _____ increases loss by convection and evaporation

- The cooler the moving air stream is, relative to the room air temperature, the less velocity it should have

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NCARB PDD Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Construction Cost: This section of the exam measures the skills of Construction Managers and focuses on the financial side of project execution. It evaluates the ability to analyze construction cost estimates to confirm that they align with project design intent and budgetary constraints. Although this is the smallest section, it is critical for ensuring projects remain feasible and economically viable.

Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integration of Building Materials & Systems: This section of the exam measures the skills of Architectural Designers and focuses on the ability to resolve and integrate various building systems into cohesive project goals. It covers analyzing architectural systems and technologies, determining the size of structural, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, and incorporating specialty systems such as acoustics, lighting, security, and communications. It also evaluates the ability to detail how multiple building systems work together and to coordinate across disciplines to achieve a unified design.
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Manual & Specifications: This section of the exam measures the skills of Specifications Writers and emphasizes the importance of developing documentation that goes beyond drawings. Candidates must understand how to identify and prioritize elements needed to prepare, maintain, and refine both the project manual and project specifications. It also assesses the ability to align and coordinate these specifications with the construction documents to ensure consistency and accuracy.
Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction Documentation: This section of the exam measures skills of Project Architects and addresses the creation and management of project documentation. Candidates are expected to demonstrate knowledge of documenting building design and site features, preparing detailed architectural drawings, and applying industry standards to produce a coordinated set of construction documents. The section also includes understanding how project changes impact documentation and how to communicate these updates effectively to both the design team and the client.:
Topic 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Codes & Regulations: This section of the exam measures skills of Building Code Specialists and examines how codes and regulations apply at a detailed level during documentation. Candidates are expected to demonstrate knowledge of compliance with the International Building Code (IBC) as well as other specialty regulations, as well as how to interpret and apply these standards to ensure design and documentation meet legal and safety requirements.

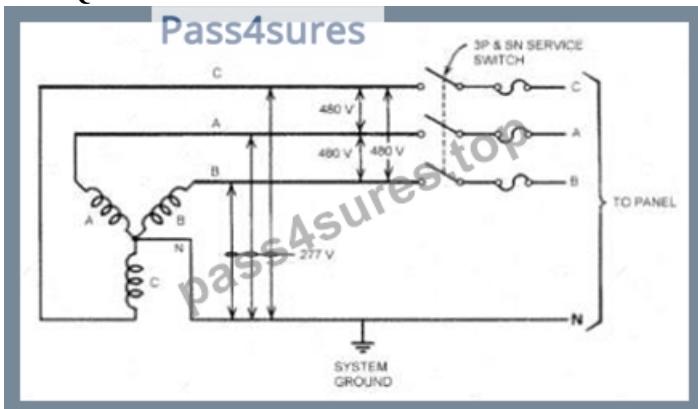
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NCARB ARE 5.0 Project Development and Documentation Exam Sample Questions (Q72-Q77):

NEW QUESTION # 72



Refer to the exhibit.

What set of conductors should the building fluorescent Lighting be connected to?

- A. C,A,N
- B. C, A, B
- **C. C,N**
- D. A, B

Answer: C

Explanation:

Understanding the Diagram

The diagram shows a 480Y/277V three-phase, four-wire wye-connected system with a neutral (N) and system ground.

- * 480 V = Voltage between any two phase conductors (line-to-line)
- * 277 V = Voltage between any one phase conductor and neutral (line-to-neutral) Fluorescent Lighting Voltage Requirements
- * Standard commercial fluorescent lighting systems are typically designed for 277 V operation in the U.S. (in buildings with a 480Y/277V system).

* To achieve 277 V, you connect one phase conductor (A, B, or C) to Neutral (N).

* This is a single-phase line-to-neutral connection.

Which Conductors to Use?

* In the given options, the correct pair must give 277 V.

* C, N # 277 V line-to-neutral # Correct for fluorescent lighting

* Other options produce different results:

* A, B = 480 V (line-to-line) - too high for fluorescent ballasts.

* C, A, B = all three phases - used for three-phase loads, not lighting.

* C, A, N - would give two circuits, but includes extra phase unnecessarily for single-phase lighting.

NCARB ARE 5.0 PDD Study Guide References:

* Content Area: Electrical Systems - Power Distribution and Circuiting for Lighting

* Source References:

* Electrical Systems for Architects - Fluorescent lighting voltage selection

* MEEB (Mechanical and Electrical Equipment for Buildings) - Chapter on Electrical Service and Lighting Systems

* NEC (National Electrical Code) - Voltage to ground for wye-connected systems Key Point:

For a 480Y/277V wye system, fluorescent lighting should be connected from any phase to neutral for 277 V operation.

NEW QUESTION # 73

□ Refer to the exhibit.

An architect is working on an airport lounge project. The 9,000 SF floor plan includes an open, double-height space. Due to area limitations, all program requirements cannot fit within the 9,000 SF floor plan. A mezzanine level with one exit is being proposed to solve this programming constraint. There are adequate exits available on the main floor plan to pick up the additional occupant load from the mezzanine.

Which method of mezzanine construction should the architect design?

- A. 3,250 SF open dining area for 30 people
- B. 2,500 SF open lounge area for 20 people
- **C. 2,750 SF enclosed business center for 15 people**

Answer: C

Explanation:

Step-by-Step Reasoning

1. Mezzanine Area Limitations - IBC Section 505.2.1

From the exhibit:

The aggregate area of a mezzanine within a room shall be not greater than one-third of the floor area of that room/space.

Given:

* Main floor = 9,000 SF

* Maximum mezzanine size = $1/3 \times 9,000 \text{ SF} = 3,000 \text{ SF}$

2. Openness Requirements - IBC Section 505.2.3

From the exhibit:

A mezzanine must be open to the room below unless it qualifies for one of the listed exceptions.

3. Relevant Exception for Enclosed Mezzanine

Exception 1:

Mezzanines (or portions thereof) are not required to be open to the room if the occupant load of the enclosed space is not greater than 10.

Exception 3:

Mezzanines (or portions thereof) are not required to be open to the room if the aggregate floor area of the enclosed space is $\# 10\%$ of the mezzanine area.

However - the scenario says:

- * The mezzanine will have one exit (so it's not an open floor requiring multiple exits)
- * The architect notes there are adequate exits on the main floor to handle additional occupant load from the mezzanine $\#$ This means it could be enclosed if allowed by exceptions.

4. Evaluate Each Option:

- * A. 2,500 SF open lounge for 20 people
- * Size $< 3,000$ SF $\#$ OK on area.
- * Open mezzanine $\#$ Complies without needing an exception.
- * But 20 occupants means more than 10 occupant load, so it can't be enclosed unless open - this one is already open, so fine.
- * This works, but the question asks for which method should the architect design, and the key is the one-exit enclosed scenario.
- * B. 2,750 SF enclosed business center for 15 people
- * Size $< 3,000$ SF $\#$ OK.
- * It is enclosed, and occupant load is 15, which is greater than 10. That means Exception 1 doesn't apply.
- * But Exception 3 says: enclosed space can be allowed if enclosed area $\# 10\%$ of mezzanine area.

Here:

- * 10% of 2,750 SF = 275 SF.
- * If the enclosed portion is the business center itself (full area enclosed), then it fails Exception 3.
- * Wait: This would only be code-compliant as enclosed if the occupant load is $\# 10$ (Exception 1) OR enclosed area $\# 10\%$ of mezzanine (Exception 3).
- * This option might work only if the mezzanine is considered enclosed but the occupant load doesn't require multiple exits and is allowed due to adequate exit capacity on the main floor - this appears to be the intended IBC Exception 1 scenario, but since OL = 15 > 10 , it technically fails Exception 1.
- * The problem statement says "adequate exits available on main floor to pick up additional occupant load" - which would allow designing an enclosed mezzanine as long as total egress capacity is fine.
- * C. 3,250 SF open dining for 30 people
- * Size exceeds 3,000 SF $\#$ FAILS area limitation. Not allowed.

5. Conclusion

Given the constraints:

- * Must fit within 1/3 floor area rule ($\# 3,000$ SF)
- * Must work with one exit and available exit capacity on main floor
- * Option C fails on size
- * Option A is possible but doesn't use the enclosed condition in the prompt
- * Option B meets area limit, occupant load works with available exit capacity, and provides an enclosed use that matches the problem's "program requirement" scenario

NEW QUESTION # 74

A family-owned apple farm in the Upper Midwest is taking advantage of a change in the local zoning code that added a new Agri-Tourism class in the existing farm zone. This allows the Owner to build a new facility on their existing site. The building will be open to the public and include a brewery, distillery, tap room, and market. The architect is ready to submit the drawings to the Owner for the 50% construction documents review.

To accommodate a compressed construction schedule, the Owner will be utilizing a design-build process. The Contractor has submitted the Pre-Engineered Metal Building (PEMB) shop drawings to the Architect for review, due to the lead time on this critical path item. Once construction begins, farming operations must be able to continue uninterrupted.

Key project information includes:

- * Brewing and distilling will operate year-round.
- * Brewery will initially include four fermenting tanks. Owner has requested space for at least two additional tanks. Potential expansion will be based on future sales.
- * Distillery will produce 16% alcohol, which is classified as a flammable liquid. Fire separations are required.
- * Tap Room is designed with seating for 300 people, not including exterior patio seating. It will have views to the working orchards and the historic buildings on site.
- * Tap Room is scheduled to be open from August through November. Owner would like options to extend operating dates based on popularity.
- * The Market area will feature local farm products and is not conditioned.
- * Entire building will be fully sprinklered.
- * Selected building materials are low-maintenance, as requested by the Owner, for durability and to reflect the nature of a working farm.

- * Mechanical and electrical systems will be hung from the building structure. These loads are included in PEMB shop drawings.
- * Public water and sewer is not available at the Project Site.
- * Occupancy sensors are included to reduce utility costs and achieve energy conservation requirements.

The following resources are available for your reference:

- * Architectural Drawings, including plans, elevations, sections, and schedules
- * Consultant Drawings, including structural, HVAC, power distribution, and plumbing
- * PEMB Shop Drawings
- * Design and Construction Schedule
- * Specification Excerpts, showing relevant spec sections
- * IBC and ADA Excerpts, showing relevant code and accessibility sections
- * After reviewing the documents, the architect discovers a coordination issue in the corridor.

The owner requests that the metal panel skin be changed to EIFS.

Which of the following architectural sheets require changes to the notes and/or details? Check the three that apply.

- A. A-02
- **B. A-03**
- C. A-00
- **D. A-07**
- **E. A-06**
- F. A-04

Answer: B,D,E

Explanation:

Elevations (A-03): material callouts, notes, and textures for every façade.

Wall sections (A-06): assembly build-ups change (continuous insulation, drainage plane, WRB, attachment to PEMB girts, control joints, weeps, and terminations).

Details (A-07): heads/sills/jambs, base of wall/grade, parapet, expansion and control joints, and transition flashing details must be revised for EIFS.

Sheets like A-00 (cover) or A-02 (plans) generally don't carry the envelope system specifics and would not need detail changes for a cladding swap.

PDD refs: Drawings coordination-plans vs. elevations vs. sections/details; Division 07 EIFS system requirements; PEMB cladding interfaces.

NEW QUESTION # 75

An architect is designing a sub-surface drainage system that outfalls into a site retention pond. The recommended shape, size, and slope of the drainage lines need to be determined for primarily which of the following purposes?

- **A. To obtain the desired velocity**
- B. To increase the desired velocity
- C. To maximize the desired flow
- D. To minimize the desired flow

Answer: A

Explanation:

In subsurface drainage system design:

The shape, size, and slope of drainage lines are selected primarily to achieve a desired flow velocity that prevents sedimentation and clogging but does not cause erosion.

Minimizing or maximizing flow is not the goal; the system must convey the design flow efficiently.

Velocity must be balanced - too low leads to sediment build-up; too high causes pipe damage.

Reference:

NCARB ARE 5.0 Review Manual, Site Design and Civil Engineering chapter

Drainage design principles from civil engineering manuals and EPA stormwater guidelines

NEW QUESTION # 76

A family-owned apple farm in the Upper Midwest is taking advantage of a change in the local zoning code that added a new Agri-Tourism class in the existing farm zone. This allows the Owner to build a new facility on their existing site. The building will be open to the public and include a brewery, distillery, tap room, and market. The architect is ready to submit the drawings to the Owner for

the 50% construction documents review.

To accommodate a compressed construction schedule, the Owner will be utilizing a design-build process. The Contractor has submitted the Pre-Engineered Metal Building (PEMB) shop drawings to the Architect for review, due to the lead time on this critical path item. Once construction begins, farming operations must be able to continue uninterrupted.

Key project information includes:

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- * Brewery will initially include four fermenting tanks. Owner has requested space for at least two additional tanks. Potential expansion will be based on future sales.
- * Distillery will produce 16% alcohol, which is classified as a flammable liquid. Fire separations are required.
- * Tap Room is designed with seating for 300 people, not including exterior patio seating. It will have views to the working orchards and the historic buildings on site.
- * Tap Room is scheduled to be open from August through November. Owner would like options to extend operating dates based on popularity.
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- * Entire building will be fully sprinklered.
- * Selected building materials are low-maintenance, as requested by the Owner, for durability and to reflect the nature of a working farm.
- * Mechanical and electrical systems will be hung from the building structure. These loads are included in PEMB shop drawings.
- * Public water and sewer is not available at the Project Site.
- * Occupancy sensors are included to reduce utility costs and achieve energy conservation requirements.

The following resources are available for your reference:

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- * PEMB Shop Drawings
- * Design and Construction Schedule
- * Specification Excerpts, showing relevant spec sections
- * IBC and ADA Excerpts, showing relevant code and accessibility sections
- * After reviewing the documents, the architect discovers a coordination issue in the corridor.

The owner wants to add a small storage closet with dimensions of 4'-0" L x 4'-0" W in the Laundry Room along column line 1. The closet will have access from the corridor only.

Which of the following documents require revision due to this addition? Check the three that apply.

- A. Building Systems Narrative
- B. Specification Excerpts
- C. A102
- D. Initial Cost Estimate
- E. A101
- F. A103

Answer: C,E,F

Explanation:

Understanding the Context

The addition of a 4'-0" x 4'-0" storage closet accessible from the corridor is a design scope modification. Even though this might appear minor, in the context of a Design-Build project delivery method, any change in the scope or spatial layout directly impacts the contract documents. Since the delivery model combines design and construction responsibilities under a single entity, accuracy and clarity in the Owner-Contractor Agreements (AIA A101, A102, or A103) is critical.

Why A101, A102, and A103 Require Revisions

* A101 - Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Contractor (Stipulated Sum): This document defines the scope, cost, and responsibilities of the contractor. Adding a storage closet may alter construction cost, schedule, or scope, which must be formally revised and incorporated via an amendment or change order.

* A102 - Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Contractor (Cost of the Work Plus a Fee with GMP): Similar to A101, but applies to projects with a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP).

The addition of new work, even small, may affect the GMP or contingency usage. Therefore, it also requires formal documentation of the scope change.

* A103 - Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Contractor (Cost of the Work Plus a Fee without a GMP): Again, even though no GMP is involved, changes to project scope must be documented for cost tracking and accountability.

According to NCARB ARE 5.0 PDD Handbook - Section: Project Manual and Contract Documents:

"The architect must evaluate how any proposed revisions to the work affect the project's scope, schedule, and budget. These revisions must be incorporated into the contract documents and may require issuing an amendment or modification to the contract." Furthermore, under Objective 4.2 - Evaluate and address changes in scope of work and scope creep, ARE candidates are

expected to know when and how revisions impact contract documents.

In design-build delivery, all these contract forms must reflect any changes, even minor ones, because the contractor holds responsibility for both design and construction execution. Failure to reflect the change may lead to contractual disputes or unaccounted costs.

Why Other Options Do Not Apply

* D. Building Systems Narrative: This narrative typically outlines the design intent and basis for HVAC, electrical, and plumbing systems. A minor storage closet accessed from a corridor would not alter system layout or equipment sizing, and thus doesn't necessitate a revision to this document.

* E. Initial Cost Estimate: While the estimate may eventually need updating during cost reconciliation, the question specifically asks which documents require revision. The initial estimate is a schematic- level document that doesn't necessarily need to be revised for such a minor addition.

* F. Specification Excerpts: Unless the closet introduces new materials (e.g., special finishes, fire- resistive construction, unique fixtures), the specifications remain unchanged. The closet is likely using standard finishes already defined elsewhere in the spec.

Key PDD Content Areas Referenced

* Section: Construction Documentation - Identifying how changes affect working drawings and specifications.

* Section: Contracts and Project Manual - Understanding the impact of scope changes on contract documents.

* Objective 4.2 - Evaluate and address changes in scope of work and scope creep.

* Objective 1.2 - Interpret contract documents to determine if revisions affect project scope, schedule, or budget.

NEW QUESTION # 77

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