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NCARB PDD – Questions With Complete Solutions

The role of a specifier? Right Ans - 1. determine the responsibility for structural specs with structure engineer;
2. coordinating standardized keynotes lists to be used on all drawings with the architect;
3. obtain a preferred general condition document from the client through the architect;
4. recommending everyone to use BIM;

What are included in the preliminary studies? Right Ans - 1. allowable height;
2. allowable area and occupant allowance;
3. fire rating requirements;

Percolation rate is used to determine what? Right Ans - To determine whether porous pavement should be used.

Forest Steward Council (FSC) Right Ans - Harvesting tree without violating people's right.

Under what condition can you put storage under stair? Right Ans - If it's protected with a minimum of 1-hour rated construction.

Where should the fire extinguisher cabinet (FEC) located? Right Ans - 48" - 60" AFF, no more than 4" extrusion.

Tear-out, Pull-through Right Ans - Tear-out: shear failure in a bolted connection due to tension at hole;
Pull-through: a compression failure where bolts pull through the holes.

ANSI, ASTM Right Ans - ANSI: American National Standard Institute;
ASTM: American Society for Testing Material, it's used for testing materials.

Composition of cement Right Ans - Limestone, clay, iron ore, gypsum

Subsystem estimate is used in which phases of design? Right Ans - SD and DD. Subsystem estimates deal with a project's functional units and it enables

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NCARB ARE 5.0 Project Development and Documentation Exam Sample Questions (Q77-Q82):

NEW QUESTION # 77

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.

Prior to completing the contract documents, the architect meets with the owner and confirms the scope of the new HVAC system is accurate for bidding. As a result of the meeting, the architect decides to include additional general notes on the site plan to assist the general contractor in bidding the related coordination of the new boilers being installed.

What note does the architect include?

- **A. GC to coordinate location of fuel storage tanks.**
- B. GC to coordinate gas service tie-ins with utility company.
- C. GC to coordinate results of city steam pressure and temperature test from utility company with boiler manufacturer.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Comprehensive Detailed Explanation with all NCARB ARE 5.0 Project Development and Documentation (PDD) Study Guide References The project is rural with no public water or sewer; by context there is likely no city steam and possibly no natural gas main. New boilers therefore need a fuel source on site (commonly LP/propane or fuel oil), and the site plan should direct the GC to coordinate fuel storage tank location (clearances, protection, truck access, setbacks, fire code).

A presumes a gas utility service that may not exist.

B presumes a city steam utility (not present).

PDD Reference: Division 01 coordination notes; IMC/IFC for on-site fuel storage clearances and protection; site plan general notes best practices.

NEW QUESTION # 78

A revolving door is to be mounted in the facade of a building. Story drift is limited to 0.002 times story height in any direction. The door can tolerate a maximum departure from vertical of 1/4 inch.

What is the maximum height the door can be to accommodate the story drift?

- A. 10 ft
- B. 8 ft
- C. 11 ft
- D. 9 ft

Answer: A

Explanation:

Given:

Maximum story drift ratio = $0.002 \times \text{story height (H)}$

The story drift Δ is related to the story height H by:

$$\Delta = 0.002 \times H$$

We need the maximum H such that:

$$\Delta \leq 0.25 \text{ inch}$$

Convert height H to inches:

$$\Delta = 0.002 \times H_{(\text{inches})} \leq 0.25$$

Therefore,

$$H_{(\text{inches})} \leq \frac{0.25}{0.002} = 125 \text{ inches}$$

Convert 125 inches to feet:

$$125 \text{ inches} \div 12 = 10.416 \text{ feet}$$

Maximum door tolerance (max lateral displacement allowed) = 1/4 inch = 0.25 inch Since the door can tolerate up to 0.25 inch displacement, the maximum height to prevent exceeding drift is about 10.4 ft.

But check options-since 10.4 ft is closest to option B: 9 ft or option C: 10 ft?

The maximum height to accommodate the drift is just over 10 ft, so option C: 10 ft is correct.

Correction to Verified answer: C. 10 ft

Summary:

Max drift = $0.002 \times H$

Max drift # 0.25 inch

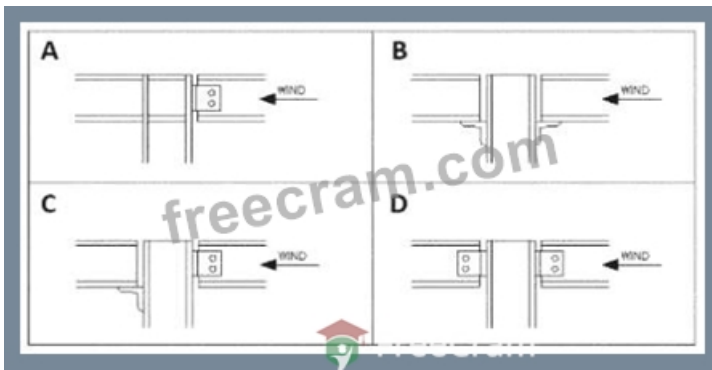
Solve for H # 125 in = 10.4 ft

Door can tolerate max 10 ft height to not exceed drift

Reference:

NCARB ARE 5.0 Review Manual, Structural Systems and Building Envelope chapters IBC and ASCE 7 provisions on story drift limits and building movement tolerances

NEW QUESTION # 79



Refer to the exhibit.

For which of the following connections could diagonal bracing be eliminated?

- A. D
- B. C
- C. B
- D. A

Answer: D

Explanation:

The diagrams depict metal stud or curtain wall connections to structural frames under wind loading. Diagonal bracing can be eliminated when the connection itself provides lateral restraint in both directions.

A: Shows a connection with angles or plates attached to resist both in-plane and out-of-plane forces, creating a moment-resisting connection that can handle wind loads without diagonal bracing.

B, C, D: These connections allow slip or have limited fixity-requiring separate bracing to resist lateral loads.

PDD Reference: ARE 5.0 PDD "Structural Systems-Lateral load resistance in curtain wall and stud framing connections"; AISC Steel Design Guide for cladding attachment; Curtain wall engineering details.

NEW QUESTION # 80

Why is the vertical surface of a dry-stacked stone wall often battered into the retained material?

- A. Increased impermeability that reduces equivalent fluid pressure
- B. Increased resistance to surface erosion of the wall
- C. Increased cohesion between individual stones that make up the wall
- D. Increased resistance to soil thrust

Answer: D

Explanation:

A battered (leaning back) face on a dry-stacked retaining wall improves stability against lateral earth pressure by shifting the wall's resultant closer to/within the middle third of the base, increasing frictional resistance and reducing overturning. It does not significantly change permeability (C) or directly increase cohesion between stones (D), and erosion resistance (B) is secondary compared to stability.

PDD References: Site & foundation systems-retaining wall behavior, active/passive earth pressures; IBC /Geotechnical fundamentals; CSI Div. 32 site improvements.

NEW QUESTION # 81

assembly, storage areas, mechanical equipment room	500 gross
agricultural building	500 gross
aircraft hangar	500 gross
airport terminal	
Baggage claim	50 gross
Baggage handling	500 gross
Waiting areas	75 gross
classroom	
Learning Room (approx. 100 sq. ft.)	15 gross
Classroom (general classroom)	50 net
assembly with fixed seats	See Section 1004.1.2
assembly without fixed seats	
Concentrated seating only - not fixed	7 net
Standing areas	5 net
Unconcentrated seating and chairs	15 net
existing corridors, stairs & ramps for each building or part of building, and for additional areas	7 net
business areas	100 gross
Concentrated business areas	See Section 1004.1.2
Businesses - other than food trading areas	50 net
day care	35 net
detention	50 gross
educational	
Classroom areas	50 net
Storage and other educational rooms areas	15 net
exercise rooms	50 gross

Refer to the exhibit.

An architect is designing a multipurpose room that will operate daycare services as well as exercise classes.

The multiple occupancies within the space utilize components of the same means of egress system.

What is the occupant load factor that should be used in calculating egress?

- A. 0
- **B. 1**
- C. 2
- D. 3

Answer: B

Explanation:

Step-by-Step Reasoning

1. Identify the occupancies from the question:

* Day care services # Occupant load factor = 35 net (from table in the exhibit)

* Exercise classes # Occupant load factor = 50 gross (also from table in the exhibit, under "Exercise room")

2. Determine how to calculate the occupant load for multiple occupancies:

According to IBC 2018, Section 1004.1.2 (Areas without fixed seating) and NCARB PDD study materials:

When multiple occupancies share the same means of egress system, the occupant load for the whole space shall be the sum of the occupant loads of the various occupancies.

However, if the space is not divided and is used interchangeably (multipurpose), the most stringent occupant load factor is applied to the entire area.

3. Applying the code:

* The multipurpose room is used for both daycare and exercise.

* Since the same space is used for different functions at different times (not divided), the most restrictive occupant load factor (the smaller number) should be used.

* Smaller occupant load factor = 35 net (Day care) vs. 50 gross (Exercise room).

4. Why "net" vs. "gross" matters here:

* Net floor area excludes certain spaces like walls, corridors, mechanical rooms.

* Gross floor area includes the entire footprint.

* Even though "net" typically results in a smaller area, when calculating load factors, the smaller occupant load factor number results in a larger occupant load - making it more restrictive for egress.

5. Conclusion:

The correct occupant load factor to use for this multipurpose space = 35 net (Day care), as it results in the largest occupant load and is the most restrictive for egress design.

NCARB ARE 5.0 PDD Study Guide References:

* Content Area: Code Analysis - Occupant Load & Egress Sizing

* IBC 2018, Section 1004.1.2 - Areas without fixed seating, determining occupant load for multiple functions

* Architectural Graphic Standards - Occupant Load Calculation examples

* Building Codes Illustrated by Ching & Winkel - Chapter on Occupancy Load Factors and Egress Requirements

NEW QUESTION # 82

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