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What's New

New Safety Standards Introduced For Microturbines



On December 3, 2007, Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg announced [new regulations](#) (68 kb-pdf) for the installation of microturbine systems in residential and commercial buildings, making New York City the first US city to establish safety standards for the use of microturbines in these building types. Microturbines are highly efficient turbine generators that recover and reuse the wasted heat of their own combustion

process, after producing electricity and heat for a building, to provide energy for other building operations. These new standards enable building owners to take advantage of microturbine technology and will help the City achieve its energy efficiency goals outlined in [PlaNYC](#). To learn more, view the Mayor's Office [press release](#).

Code Compass Coming Soon!

Information You Need To Know



We are launching a new feature in Buildings News that will provide critical information on the [New NYC Construction Codes](#). "Code Compass" will help you navigate the New NYC Construction Codes by providing easy-to-understand explanations of concepts, detailing key technical changes and offering links to fact sheets. Visit our [website](#) for the latest information on the New NYC Construction Codes or [email](#) our

Construction Codes Team with questions. Look for Code Compass in the December 12th edition of Buildings News!

Bronx Office Increases Inspections, Permits

Information You Need To Know



On November 27, 2007, Buildings Commissioner Patricia J. Lancaster announced that the Buildings Department [Bronx Borough Office](#), led by Bronx Borough Commissioner [Marshall Kaminer](#), issued more permits, increased the number of inspections, and audited more professionally-certified applications in October as compared to October 2006. The numbers were published in the Building Understanding, Integrity, Leadership and Dedication ([BUILD](#)) Report, a monthly report that provides a citywide overview of the Department's performance delivering services and enforcing the Building Code and Zoning Resolution. For more information, view the [press release](#).

Buildings Around Town

Buildings to Speak at Scaffold Industry Association

On December 7, 2007, First Deputy Commissioner [Robert LiMandri](#) and Scaffold Safety Team Administrative Chief Ed Curtis will deliver presentations on scaffold safety at the [Scaffold Industry Association Northeast Chapter](#) meeting. Over the past year, the City has worked to improve the safety of workers using scaffolding with the formation of the [Scaffold Worker Safety Task Force](#) and adoption of its [recommendations](#) (772 kb-pdf). Visit our website to view the latest [progress report](#) (36 kb-pdf).

Buildings Represents Mayor at Craftsmanship Awards

On November 28, 2007, Assistant Commissioner of Engineering and Emergency Services Michael Alacha, P.E., represented Mayor Bloomberg at the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen Annual Craftsmanship Awards and Benefit. [The General Society](#) was founded in 1785 to provide cultural, educational and social services to families of skilled craftsman. Today, as a non-profit organization, it is dedicated to improving the quality of life through educational opportunities.

Did You Know?

Did you know that construction jobs in New York City increased 5.4% over the past fiscal year? According to the [U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](#), New York City saw this increase in construction hires as the number of construction jobs decreased 1.4% nationally in the same period of time. During this time, overall construction-related fatalities also significantly decreased. Visit our website for more information on citywide [construction accident, fatality and injury data](#) and view our 2007 [Safety Report Card](#) (4,643 kb-pdf).

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