

Construction Industry Communication #042

From: Amit Ghosh, Chief Building Official

Re: Site Fabricated Showers

Date: August 17, 2015

Requirements:

2011 Ohio Plumbing Code Section 417 covers shower fixture requirements. Section 417.1 speaks specifically to the requirements for pre-fabricated showers and shower compartments. Section 417.3 through 417.5.2.5 covers specific information regarding the construction of a shower on-site including the shower liner requirements for ensuring that the shower compartment is water-tight upon completion.

Memorandum:

The certified plumbing inspectors with the City of Columbus, Department of Building and Zoning Services inspect to verify that the requirements of the Ohio Plumbing Code are met and/or applicable manufacturer's installation instructions are followed. This includes verifying that the base is properly sloped before the liner is installed, and the liner has the appropriate standard or a third party research report, as required for alternative materials per section 114 of the Ohio Building Code.

Should a builder or contractor fail to have the required inspection performed, there are only a few options available to them:

1. Remove any materials covering the liner so the inspection can be performed or,
2. Hire an Architect or Engineer to perform a 3rd party inspection and provide a report detailing what tests or processes were used to ensure the installation complied with the manufacturer's installation instructions and/or the requirements in the Ohio Plumbing Code or,
3. Request an adjudication hearing as outlined in section 109 of the Ohio Building Code. For additional information on the adjudication process please call 614-645-6416.