

**BUILDING CODE MANUAL
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
BUILDING AND SAFETY DIVISION
Based on the 2008 LACBC**

**1606
Article 1
09-03-09
Page 1 of 2**

ROOF DEAD LOAD DESIGN CONSIDERING FUTURE REROOFING

In accordance with Section 1510.3 of the 2008 Los Angeles County Building Code, reroofing shall not exceed two layers (existing plus new) on roofs with asphalt or wood shingles.

There are some structural engineers and architects that are not aware of these requirements and do not consider the weight of future additional roofing layers in their roof dead load calculations. For example, the design weight of an asphalt or wood shingle roof covering (where reroofing is allowed) should be 4 psf instead of the actual weight of approximately 2 psf

Since approved residential plans in our field offices are kept for only 90-days from the date of completion of construction, design information on an existing roof will not be available when an applicant applies for a reroofing permit years in the future. We are therefore implementing a policy to help eradicate future confusion and to expedite permit issuance

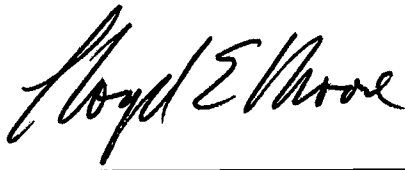
Instruct applicants to account for the potential weight of reroofing materials in their calculations as part of the original design

Due to the possibility of reroofing an asphalt or wood shake roof with lightweight clay tile, which has a typical minimum design load of 6 psf, **the design professionals shall use a minimum 6 psf roofing material dead load in their calculations** Note that for roofing materials like clay or concrete tiles, where reroofing is not permitted, the design engineer shall use the actual weight of one layer of roofing material.

When a roof is designed using only a minimum 4 psf roof material dead load, it will be our policy to place a note on the job jacket and to add a hold on the address in DAPTS indicating that the design weight of the roof material used was 4 psf. If the house is reroofed in the future with lightweight tile or some other heavier material, engineering analysis will be required to verify the adequacy of the roof framing system. The design professional should be made aware of this policy during the plan check process.

We will not accept a note on the plans or a letter from the designer indicating that the existing roofing layer will be removed prior to reroofing since new owners may not receive that information and these records are often discarded when the project is finished

WRITTEN BY



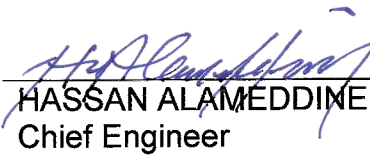
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Research Section Head

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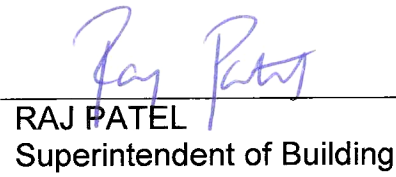
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Supersedes BCM 1606 Article 1 dated 03-31-08