NYC GREEN CODES
LEGISLATION AT A GLANCE

GCTF Proposal
Reduce Mold in Bathrooms

Implemented
Local Law 13 of 2014 and Local Law 141 of 2013

Summary
Mold is common in moist areas of many buildings. Exposure to mold can cause negative health effects, including allergic responses, asthma and other respiratory irritations. Intro 0093-2014 requires the use of moisture-resistant gypsum board in areas of high humidity and moisture exposure, such as basements, laundry rooms, and walls behind kitchen sinks. Local Law 141 of 2013 requires water-resistant backing panels for the walls and ceilings of wet areas such as showers and bathtubs.

New Requirements or Changes

Local Law 13 of 2014, effective: October 1, 2014. These changes do not apply retroactively; they are only triggered when construction activity requires a permit for work covered by this section of the code.

Amendments to Chapter 25 of the New York City Building Code:

- Section 2506.3: In certain mold-prone locations, gypsum board or cement board must have a mold resistant rating of 10 in accordance with ASTM D3273. Mold-resistant board is required in areas including, but not limited to, basements, laundry rooms, mechanical rooms, maintenance rooms, service sink rooms, and walls behind kitchen sinks.

Local Law 141 of 2013, effective: October 1, 2014. These changes do not apply retroactively; they are only triggered when construction activity requires a permit for work covered by this section of the code.

Amendments to Chapter 25 of the New York City Building Code:

- Section 2509: Shower and bath areas must have wall and ceiling panels with a base of glass mat water-resistant gypsum backing panels, discrete nonasbestos fiber-cement interior substrate sheets or nonasbestos fiber-mat reinforced cement substrate sheets.

Enforcement
These new provisions are standard parts of the Building Code. They will be enforced by the Department of Buildings in the same manner as any other element of the code.

Implementation
There are no known implementation issues for this proposal. Materials are readily available. Most U.S. gypsum board manufacturers have developed gypsum board products that are mold and mildew resistant and score highly on the ASTM D3273 mold resistance standard test method.