



ARCHITECTURAL SECURITY

CODES AND GUIDELINES

BEST PRACTICES FOR TODAY'S CONSTRUCTION CHALLENGES

- A hands-on, "what-to-do-now" resource for addressing security
- Guidelines and checklists for applying codes and standards
- How to inspect and retrofit buildings to bring them up to code

Robert C. Wible

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BEST PRACTICES FOR
TODAY'S CONSTRUCTION
CHALLENGES



New York Chicago San Francisco Lisbon London Madrid Mexico City
Milan New Delhi San Juan Seoul Singapore Sydney Toronto

Architectural Security Codes and Guidelines: Best Practices for Today's
Construction Challenges

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This book is dedicated to several groups critical to its existence.

First, to the first responders, the men and women in the police, fire, emergency medical response, and building departments across the nation who on 9/11/01 and everyday, so bravely put their lives on the line for the safety of all Americans.

Second, to the members of the construction team who are responsible for the creation and maintenance of a safe built environment in this nation.

Third, to my wife, Kim, our daughters Lisa and Cristin, my parents David and Dorothy, and to family and friends who encouraged me to undertake this work.

Last, to all of our partners in the Alliance for Building Regulatory Reform in the Digital Age and our new National Partnership to Streamline Government, who are joining us in the ongoing campaign to make our nation's building regulatory and construction processes more effective and efficient and our nation more resilient to the challenges that lie ahead.

Foreword

If our nation and its construction community learned just one lesson from 9/11, the subsequent anthrax attacks, and the 2004 to 2005 hurricanes, it is how critical man-made structures are to sheltering and protecting the precious and fragile lives of our citizens. As Katrina proved, this is not only true in terms of being able to keep people alive, but in the ability of buildings to be readily repaired and put back into use after a major disaster. To better meet that challenge we must design, build, and operate our buildings with greater attention to their performance under stress.

I am writing the opening of this book sitting in my hotel room on the twenty-first floor overlooking a nearly deserted and very dark and quiet New Orleans, just two months after Hurricanes Katrina and then Rita hit the Gulf States. The anger over the inability of a man-made structure to withstand a disaster is still palpable here just as it was in New York City in the months immediately following 9/11 and in Washington, D.C., after the spread of anthrax through two federal facilities.

Here, the structures involved were levees as opposed to the World Trade Center's Twin Towers, a federal postal facility, and the Senate Hart Building. Here the investigations regarding the levee's failures have only just begun. In New York City, however, the final report of the National Institute of Standards and Technology on the World Trade Center Twin Towers has been issued, removing from the Towers the taint of improper design. The lessons learned from that tragedy are beginning to make their way into our nation's codes and standards. In Washington, D.C., studies of the spread of anthrax spores already have resulted in recommended changes in the design and operation of air handling and filtration systems.

The purpose of this book is to share with the building design and construction community technical information on the actions taken in the wake of 9/11 to make changes in the design, construction, and operation of new and retrofit of existing buildings to better protect them from man-made and natural disasters. This work also looks at those changes in the context of other forces impacting building design and construction, including the growing demand for sustainable and environmentally friendly construction.

More than just providing the reader with access to enhancements in construction codes and standards, design checklists, and operation guidelines, this book looks at changes that are occurring in the roles, relationships, and responsibilities of the construction team. Comprised of building owners, architects, engineers, contractors, product manufacturers and suppliers, codes and standards community, building officials, and building managers, in that aftermath of 9/11, the construction team bears greater individual and collective accountability for the public's safety in the built environment. The chapters of this book look at what is being done now, and what can be done in the immediate future to meet that challenge.

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