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**South Dakota Adopts 2009 UPC,  
2010 Green Plumbing and Mechanical Code Supplement**

**Pierre, S.D. (Oct. 18, 2010)** — The state of South Dakota, home of Mount Rushmore and the Black Hills, has formally adopted the 2009 edition of the *Uniform Plumbing Code*® (*UPC*), as well as the new IAPMO *Green Plumbing and Mechanical Code Supplement* (*GPMCS*) — the first state to do so.

Updating from the 2003 edition of the *UPC*, South Dakota's first statewide adoption of IAPMO's code, the provisions of the 2009 *UPC* will govern the design, installation and maintenance of plumbing systems throughout the predominantly rural state and protect the health and safety of the more than 800,000 South Dakotans who utilize them.

After receiving authority from the South Dakota legislature and subsequent public hearings, the South Dakota State Plumbing Commission adopted the 2009 *UPC* with state amendments, all of which became effective Sept. 21, 2010. Part of the adoption process also included the 2010 *GPMCS*; however, the supplement was deemed to be a non-mandatory referenced standard and is applicable only when plumbing systems or installation methods are not referenced in the 2009 *UPC*. Recognizing the *GPMCS* is a step toward allowing the new technology in water reuse systems to be utilized while maintaining public health and safety.

South Dakota's choice to continue with the *UPC* is a tool to continue licensing reciprocity agreements with neighboring states and states afar that also utilize the *UPC*, as well as to assure conformity among in-state and out-of-state engineers designing projects in South Dakota according to Mike Richards, executive director of the South Dakota State Plumbing Commission. The commission recognizes the fact that the *UPC* is adopted, written and revised by plumbers and inspectors who best know installation practices and maintenance of plumbing systems.

"South Dakota requires continuing education for its tradespeople, so as a user of the *UPC* and a member of IAPMO, we have been able to utilize code training from IAPMO, as well as utilizing IAPMO's on-site training programs," Richards said. "With the *UPC* in place, South Dakota will continue to provide consumers with safe and sanitary plumbing systems while at the same time allowing for future latitude for innovation and new technologies."

Introduced in Los Angeles in 1928 and formally published as the *Uniform Plumbing Code* in 1945, the *UPC* is developed to govern the installation and inspection of plumbing systems as a means of promoting the public's health, safety and welfare.

Released in February, the IAPMO *GPMCS* serves as a complement to *any* adopted plumbing and mechanical code, smoothly bridging the previously troublesome gap between existing codes and established green building programs. Where code language and green building concepts lack cohesion, the *GPMCS* creates harmony by addressing such areas as alternate water sources, high-efficiency plumbing products, conservation of hot water and training/education.

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*Sponsor of the Uniform Codes, IAPMO – The International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials – works in concert with government and industry for safe, sanitary plumbing and mechanical systems. Learn more about IAPMO at [www.iapmo.org](http://www.iapmo.org).*

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