A117.1 – 2015 Edition to Halfway Point

- 1st meeting – Aug. 2012 – 5 days
- 2nd meeting – Jan. 2013 – 5 days
- 3rd meeting – July 2013 – 5 days
- 4th meeting – Jan. 2014 – 5 days
- 5th meeting – July 2014 – 3 days
  Total = 23 days
# Proposals For The Last Two Cycles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter Titles</th>
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| Total Committee % Public Percentage  | 297| 191| 64  | 102 | 34  | 42  | 21  | 21  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 612 |

**Chapter Titles**
1. Application & Administration
2. Building Blocks
3. Accessible Routes
4. General Site and Building Elements
5. Plumbing Elements and Facilities
6. Communication Elements and Features
7. Special Rooms and Spaces
8. Built-In Furnishings and Equipment
9. Dwelling Units and Sleeping Units
10. Recreational Facilities
A117.1 – 1961 Edition - Scope

• 1.1.1 This standard applies to all buildings and facilities used by the public. It applies to temporary or emergency conditions as well as permanent conditions. It does not apply to private residences.

• 1.1.2 This standard is concerned with non-ambulatory disabilities, semi-ambulatory disabilities, sight disabilities, hearing disabilities, disabilities of incoordination, and aging.


• 1.2 Purpose. This standard is intended to make all buildings and facilities used by the public accessible to, and functional for, the physically handicapped, to, through and within their doors, without loss of function, space, or facility where the general public is concerned. It supplements existing American Standards, and reflects great concern for safety of life and limb. In cases of practical difficulty, unnecessary hardship, or extreme differences, administrative authorities may grant exceptions from the literal requirements of this standard or permit the use of other methods or materials, but only when it is clearly evident that equivalent facilitation and protection are thereby secured.


• 2.13 Appropriate Number. As used in this text, appropriate number means the number of a specific item that would be necessary, in accord with the purpose and function of a building or facility, to accommodate individuals with specific disabilities in proportion to the anticipated number of individuals with disabilities who would use a particular building or facility.

• **EXAMPLE:** Although these specifications shall apply to all buildings and facilities used by the public, the numerical need for a specific item would differ, for example, between a major transportation terminal, where many individuals with diverse disabilities would be continually coming and going, and an office building or factory, where varying numbers of individuals with disabilities of varying manifestations (in many instances, very large numbers) might be employed or have reason for frequent visits, a school or church, where the number of individuals may be fixed and activities more definitive, and the many other buildings and facilities dedicated to specific functions and purposes.

• **NOTE:** Disabilities are specific and where the individual has been properly evaluated and properly oriented and where architectural barriers have been eliminated, a specific disability does not constitute a handicap. It should be emphasized that more and more of those physically disabled are becoming participants, rather than spectators, in the fullest meaning of the word.

Where Did A117.1 Come From?

• 1945-National Disability Employment Awareness Month
• 1947 - "President's Committee on National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week."
• 1959 - The American Standards Assoc. called a general conference resulting in a recommendation for a standard.

Where Did A117.1 Come From?

• The 1961 edition was the first edition of ANSI Standard A117.1
A New Player!

- In 1968 the ABA become law
  - The ABA requires access to facilities designed, built, altered, or leased with Federal funds.
  - Created a dual path, one for "Federal" buildings and one for "Private" ones.
- 1971 - A117.1 Re-issued

More New Players!

- The Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Section 502 created the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board, later renamed the Access Board.
- The Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1978

Shifting Strategies!

- A117.1 – 1986 Edition
  - Included a special effort to remove application criteria (scoping requirements).
- July 26, 1990
  - President George Bush signed the ADA into law. The ADA expanded the Access Board's
- July 26, 1991
  - The Access Board published its guidelines and the Department of Justice adopted ADAAG
Still Shifting Strategies!

• A117 – 1992 Edition
  • Major changes
  • Moving large chunks out of coverage
  • Relinquishing decisions to others

Still Shifting Strategies!

• 1992 –
  • Four paths:
    • one for “Federal” buildings (ADA/UFAS)
    • two for “Private” buildings (A117.1 & Building Code)
    • one for some of both (ADAAG).

Shifting Back!

• 1998 edition substantially reformatted
• Figures moved back next to corresponding text
• Text further split adding Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10
2003 edition

- Added criteria for children’s elements
- Enhanced reach ranges
- Added Transportation facilities
- Addition & rearrangement for dwelling units (ADAAG & FHAG)

2009 edition

- Added Type “C” units
- Variable message signs
- New Chapter for recreational facilities
- Location for toilet paper dispensers

So How Important is the 2015 Edition of A117.1?

- Accessibility isn’t just the law………..
- Its very good business!
- But only if we make businesses accessible!!!!!!
Dr. Peter Blanck

- Title of “University Professor” at Syracuse University granted to only 8 prior individuals in the history of the University.
- Chairman of the Burton Blatt Institute (BBI) at Syracuse University.
- Appointments:
- Articles and books:
- Trustee: Former member:

Economic Impact

- Hiring people with disabilities makes good economic sense for the nation, as well as the individual employer. “More than $109 billion annually goes to support people with disabilities who are unemployed,” says Blanck.

Dr. Douglas L. Kruse

- If only one million more people with disabilities found work, there would be an annual increase of as much as $21.2 billion in earned income.
- There would be annual decreases of $1.2 billion in means-tested cash income payments; $286 million in Food Stamps; and $1.8 billion in Supplemental Security Income payments; 284,000 people fewer people would be using Medicaid, and 166,000 fewer would be using Medicare.
Hiring Employees with Disabilities

• The ADA outlawed discrimination against people with disabilities. It was a turning point. Companies have learned that the benefits of hiring workers with disabilities far outweighed the costs.
• Pizza Hut, Inc.’s Jobs Plus™ Program.
• Carolina Fine Snacks in Greensboro, NC.
• Blanck notes "The cost of accommodating qualified workers with disabilities is forty times less than the cost of training and replacing workers.”

How Important is the 2015 edition of A117.1?

The potential is huge:
• Accessibility awareness and legal action have grown significantly in the past 4 years.
• DOJ has well over 400 settlements
• Two major Federal Court Cases
  • Los Angeles
  • New York City

How Important is the 2015 edition of A117.1?

• ADA-ABA/AG
  • Enforced by DOJ – Not local
  • No plan review – Done in hindsight
  • Conflicts with Technology Transfer Act
• Fair Housing Act
  • Last updated in 1988 (26 years)
  • Guidelines have not been updated since 1991 (23 years)
• A117.1
  • Enforced locally, if adopted
  • Viewed as an “add-on”
  • Often unclear as to scoping
### 2015 edition - Major Areas of Work/Discussion:

- Potential Return to Scoping
- Use of the word “accessible”
- Harmonization with 2010 DOJ Standard
- Remove Type B (Fair Housing) units
- Anthropomorphic – Adults v. children
- Definitions added to harmonize with DOJ/ADA
- Sizes of floor spaces & related dimensions such as clearances and maneuvering
- Modifications to Reach Ranges or adding items covered by them
- Clarification of language – No manual of style

### Major Areas of Work/Discussion:

- Added exceptions/exemptions
- Modifying figures and their dimensions to match text
- Adding “Gates” to requirements for doors
- Modifications to Communications
- Signage
- Parking & related exterior
- Plumbing – Toilets-Drinking – Manufacturing changes
- Bed height – new

### Some History on Scoping in A117.1

- **1986** edition - removed scoping requirements
- **1987** - the Council of American Building Officials (CABO) assumed the Secretariat.
  - Relies on Bldg. Codes for scoping
Some History on Scoping in A117.1

- **2000** – “Code Requirements for Housing Accessibility”

A117.1 - 2015 Ed. – Scoping Task Group

- **A117 Scope and Objectives**: Evaluate whether and/or to what extent scoping should be included to the standard. Make recommendations to the Committee for revising the scope of the standard accordingly.

- **Tasks**: Considerations include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - Scoping for new construction.
  - Scoping for existing buildings, which can include some or all of:
    - Changes of occupancy.
    - Alterations.
    - Retrospective application of accessibility, such as the DOJ barrier removal concept.

- If recommending yes to any scoping, consider the following:
  - Evaluate options for the format in which scoping can be incorporated and recommend a format (i.e. separate chapter, separate document, dispersed within current text, etc.)
  - Evaluate whether any changes to the committee make-up or structure are needed to maintain the standard.

- If recommending no to scoping, consider the following:
  - Provide recommendations on how scoping would or could be included in the standard, consistent with #3 above, if scoping were to be included.
  - Make recommendations on whether and/or to what extent the Committee should provide guidance to model code organizations and other scoping entities on the development of scoping provisions.
**A117.1 - 2015 Ed. - Scoping Task Group**

- Review current provisions in the standard that are, or appear to be, scoping and make recommendations on the disposition of those provisions.

- Document in writing the pros and cons of each major issue and recommendation considered by the Task Group (i.e. anticipate the broad discussion by the full Committee and provide a summary of all sides of your deliberations).

**Harmonization – 2010 ADA Standard**

- 82 Proposals from the Harmonization Task Group
  - Use of the word “accessible”
  - Definitions
  - Exceptions not in A117.1
  - Clean up language
    - Change in levels
    - Exceptions/Permitted to be

**Remove Type “B” (Fair Housing) Units**

- Added in 1998
- Series of three (3) proposals to remove
Anthropomorphic – Adult v. Child

• 23 proposals
  • Chapter 6 - 12
  • Chapter 3 – 3
  • Chapter 4 – 1
  • Chapter 5 – 4
  • Chapter 8 – 2
  • Chapter 9 – 1

Signage Related

• 25 Proposals

Gates and Doors

• Doors and gates – 29 places

• These provide consistent language with the ADA. ADA consistently uses gates when discussing doors. The amendments through this section are simply providing consistent coverage. The exception to Section 404.1 is relocating an existing exception found in A117.1 Section 404.2 and others to a location similar to ADA.
Bed Height

• Three (3) proposals
  • Transfer
  • Equipment

Add ADA Definitions

Add following new definitions.

106.5 Defined terms

circulation path. An exterior or interior way of passage provided for pedestrian travel, including but not limited to walk, pedestrian curb ramps, elevators, platform lifts, ramps, stairways, and landings.

common use. Interior or exterior circulation paths, rooms, spaces, or elements that are for public use and are not available for the exclusive use of two or more people.

employee work area. Any part of a space
Corridors, toilet rooms, restrooms and break rooms are not employee work areas.

Parking & Other Exterior

• Twenty-seven (27) proposals

Add new text as follows:

402.4 Parking. Accessible routes shall be located so that users are not required to wheel or walk behind parked vehicles or in traffic lanes.

Exceptions:
1. Users are permitted to wheel or walk behind the vehicle from which they exited.
Size of Floor Spaces & Related (23 proposals)

Revise as follows:

305.3 Size. The clear floor space shall be 48 54 inches (1220 1360 mm) minimum in length and 30 32 inches (760 802 mm) minimum in width.

The proposed revisions are based on new anthropometric information that was generated from the database of anthropometric measurements developed as part of the study.

Modifications to Reach Ranges

• Twelve (12) Proposals

Add/Modify Exceptions

• Twenty Three (23) Proposals

Revise as follows:

608.4.2 Standard Roll-in Showers. In standard roll-in showers, the controls and hand shower shall be located on the back wall above the grab bar: 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the shower floor and 18 inches (455 mm) minimum and 27 inches (685 mm) maximum from the end wall behind the seat.

EXCEPTION: Additional controls and hand shower shall be permitted on the end wall opposite the seat wall of a standard roll-in shower.
Modifying Figures to Match Text

- Twenty four (24) Proposals

Modifications to Communications

- Thirty six (36) proposals

Revise as follows:

705.3 Contrast. Detectable warning surfaces shall contrast visually with adjacent surfaces, either light-on-dark or dark-on-light.

The Light Reflectance Value (LRV) of the surfaces shall contrast 70 percent minimum, as determined in accordance with Equation 7-1r. The lighter surface shall have a LRV of not less than 45.

Plumbing Modifications

- One Hundred Thirty (130) Proposals
Clarifying Language

Revise as follows:

404.3.5 Controls Switches. Manually operated controls switches shall comply with Section 309. The clear floor space adjacent to the control switch shall be located beyond the arc of the door swing.

How Important is the 2015 Edition of A117.1?

- Accessibility isn’t just the law………..
- Its very good business!
- But only if we make businesses accessible!!!!!!

Sign up free NFPA “e-ACCESS” newsletter @www.nfpa.org/disabilities
We’ll be glad to sign up at the DARAC booth #914!
Thank You

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