

ARCHITECTURAL / ENGINEERING BULLETIN**Date: June 14, 2021****Bulletin No. 2021-004****Bulletin Title: Insulated Concrete Formwork (ICF)****Bulletin Contact: Carey Demas (323) 980-2610 | carey.demas@build-laccd.org****Background**

Design Professionals of Record (AoR / SEoR) providing design services for the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) are prohibited from the use of Insulated Concrete Formwork (Flat Wall Insulating Concrete Form Systems (ICF)) in their designs of new Bond projects. This system was implemented at the Diane E. Watson Center at West Los Angeles College, and approved by DSA during the plan check approval process. During construction, DSA identified and/or cited key concerns at West Los Angeles College regarding visual inspections, GPR scanning, concrete congestion, and voids in the concrete.

Directive

This type of system cannot be utilized for any building designs for the following reasons:

- Limitation on visual concrete inspections due to foam
- Potential for large voids or poorly consolidated concrete
 - Jambes and headers, building corners, pilasters, and other critical areas
- Scanning Requirements
 - Scanner calibration must be independently validated
 - Steel does not allow scanning waves to penetrate – reflects the waves
 - Does not accurately predict or locate voids
- Deconstructive examinations to visually inspect or verify proper concrete consolidation
 - Foam Removal is costly and time consuming
- Testing Reports and Acceptance
 - Laboratory of Record/Specialty Consultant
 - SEOR
- Additional DSA Requirements
 - SEOR Acceptance
 - Construction Change Document (CCD)

Note

Currently insulating concrete form material used for forming flat concrete walls are not permitted by OSHPD; and DSA is currently evaluating disposition at time of this Architectural/Engineering Bulletin's Issuance.