

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMMENT FORM**  
**FOR PROPOSED CODE CHANGES**  
(This form must be submitted electronically)

**IRC-35, R202**

*Author/requestor:* Rick Davidson  
*Email address:* rdavidson@ci.maple-grove.mn.us  
*Telephone number:* 763-494-6061  
*Firm/Association affiliation, if any:* AMBO

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**Proposed Code Change - Language**

**1309.0202 SECTION R202, DEFINITIONS.**

**FASTENER.** ~~A device for holding together two or more pieces, parts, or members.~~ Nails, staples, screws, or rivets.

**Proposed Code Change – Need and Reason**

It was found necessary in the last code change cycle that the term “fastener” be defined. It is also necessary that the definition be clear as to its intent and to be able to distinguish the definition for “fastener” from other terms that are used in the code. The current definition is overly broad and defines the term in ways not used in the trade or in the code. A fastener as used in the code is a nail, screw, staple or rivet as evidenced by Table R603.3(1) and others. A fastener, as used in the code, is not a clamp, strap, or other device. Connectors are typically confined to such items as straps, joist hangers, and hold down devices that are manufactured and approved for very specific uses. The current definition is also confusing due to its similarity to the definition of “connector” which follows:

**CONNECTOR.** A device for fastening together two or more pieces, members, or parts, including anchors, fasteners, and wall ties.

How is “holding” something together different than “fastening” something together? This is not understood by the public or code enforcement.

The proposed definition reflects how the term “fastener” is used in the code which is a nail, staple, screw, or rivet.

It is reasonable to provide clear and distinct definitions of terms used in the code so that the code can be understood by the users of the code and so that there is uniform enforcement.

**Proposed Code Change – Cost/Benefit Analysis**

This proposal will have no impact on the cost of construction.

## Other Factors to Consider Related to Proposed Code Change

1. Is this proposed code change meant to:

change language contained in a published code book? If so, list section(s).

change language contained in an existing amendment in Minnesota Rule? If so, list Rule part(s).

**1309.0202 SECTION R202, DEFINITIONS.**

delete language contained in a published code book? If so, list section(s).

delete language contained in an existing amendment in Minnesota Rule? If so, list Rule part(s).

neither; this language will be new language, not found in the code book or in Minnesota Rule.

2. Is this proposed code change required by a Minnesota Statute or new legislation? If so, please provide the citation to the Statute or legislation.

No

3. Will this proposed code change impact other sections of a published code book or of an amendment in Minnesota Rule? If so, please list the affected sections or rule parts.

No

4. Will this proposed code change impact other parts of the Minnesota State Building Code? If so, please list the affected parts of the Minnesota State Building Code.

No

5. Who are the parties affected or segments of industry affected by this proposed code change?

Code officials, building designers, contractors, building owners

6. Can you think of other means or methods to achieve the purpose of the proposed code change? If so, please explain what they are and why your proposed change is the preferred method or means to achieve the desired result.

No

7. Are you aware of any federal requirement or regulation related to this proposed code change? If so, please list the regulation or requirement.

No