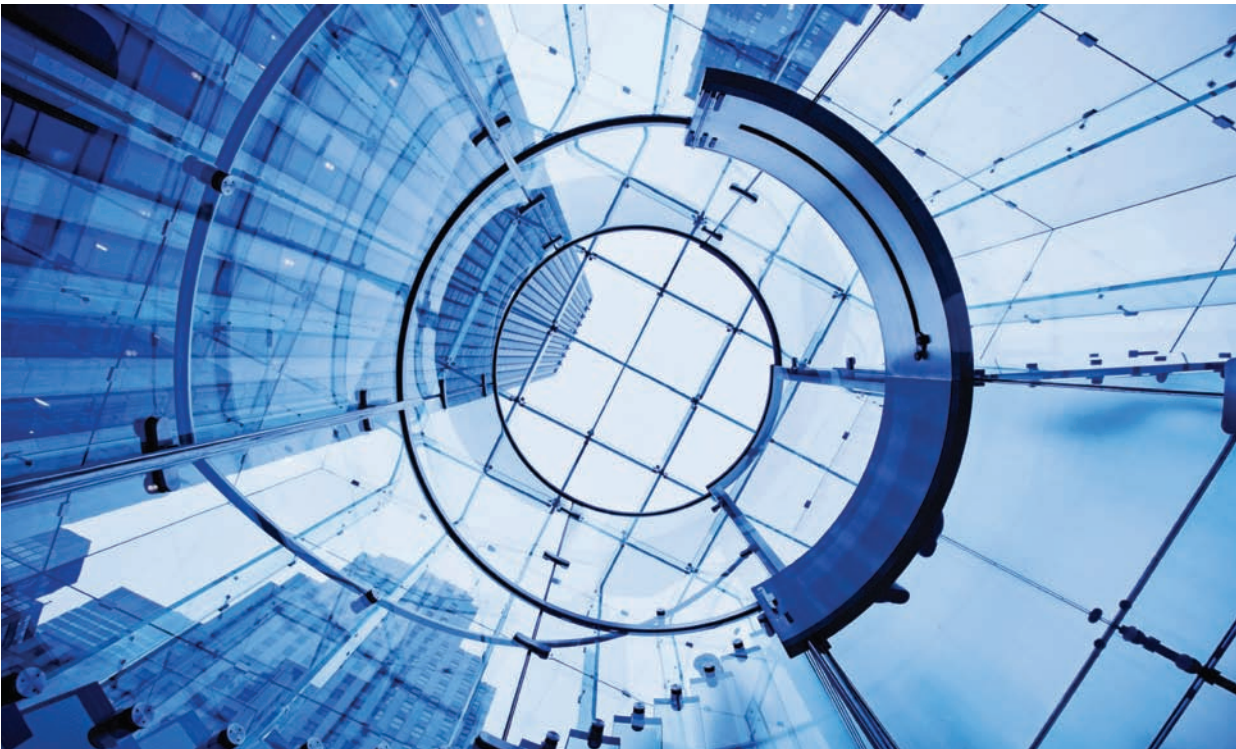




All About the Institute



The U.S. Congress authorized the establishment of the National Institute of Building Sciences through the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, Public Law 93-383. Congress recognized the need for an organization that could serve as an interface between government and the private sector. The Institute's mission is to serve the nation and the public interest by supporting advances in building science and technology to improve the built environment. Through the Institute, Congress established a public/private partnership to enable findings on technical, building-related matters to be used effectively to improve government, commerce and industry.

[More →](#)



All About the Institute

The Institute, a non-profit, non-governmental organization, brings together representatives of government, the professions, industry, labor and consumer interests to focus on the identification and resolution of problems and potential problems that hamper the construction of safe, affordable structures for housing, commerce and industry throughout the United States.

The Institute provides an authoritative source of advice for both the private and public sectors of the economy with respect to the use of building science and technology. Congress recognized that the lack of such an authoritative voice was a burden on all those who plan, design, procure, construct, use, operate, maintain and retire physical facilities and that this burden frequently resulted from failure to take full advantage of new useful technology that could improve our living environment.

The Institute provides the opportunity for free and open discussion of issues and problems where there was once conflict and misunderstanding between government and the private sector construction industries. It brings together representatives of regulatory agencies, legislators and representatives of the private sector to open working sessions that seek a consensus solution to problems of mutual concern.

A 21-member Board of Directors governs the Institute. The Board is composed of 15 elected members and six members appointed by the President of the United States subject to the approval of the U.S. Senate. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the Institute's professional staff provides essential technical, managerial and administrative support for all of the Institute's programs.

The Institute's councils, programs and standing committees – the Consultative Council; Coordinating Council; Advanced and High Performance Materials Council (AMC); the Building Enclosure Technology and Environment Council (BETEC); the Building Seismic Safety Council (BSSC); the buildingSMART alliance (bSa); the Council on Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (CFIRE); the Facility Maintenance and Operations Committee (FMOC); the High Performance Building Council (HPBC); the Multihazard Mitigation Council (MMC); the National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities (NCEF); the National Council of Governments on Building Codes and Standards (NCGBCS); and the Whole Building Design Guide (WBDG) – are integral and vital components of The Institute. They focus on broad-based and specialized building process issues. Each specialty council is governed by a voluntary board of direction comprised of nationally recognized leaders in appropriate disciplines. ■