

National Home Inspector Certification Council

Quality Control Procedures

Quality control consists largely of insuring *conformance* to maintaining a consistent standard for the Test Inspection with Peer Review process on all exams. Quality control in the Test Inspection with Peer Review process typically involves insuring compliance with maintaining the minimum standards to receive a pass grade in order to insure the performance of the candidate meets the established industry standard. These minimum standards are contained in the specifications described in the previous sections. For the purpose of insuring compliance, all exams are reviewed to assure compliance by the Chief Examiner. The Chief Examiner does not directly participate in the Test Inspection with Peer Review process. Additionally, statistical data is collected on the pass/fail rates and data on report compliance and used as the basis for tracking the potential weakness in the examination process.

The foundation for a successful quality control program is the quality control maintained by the Examiners to assure that the process, procedures and all materials submitted for review and acceptance of the candidate conform to the examination requirements.

To accomplish this, the Chief Examiner is required to receive, oversee and review all exam reports and submit recommendations to the NHICC Certification Council for ratification. Part of the final review process is requiring that all “Test Inspections” submissions by the Examiners have their written inspection report and digital images of the significant defects that are determined to be benchmarks for that specific “test” house. This information is critical since it is established as the largest percentage (75%) value that determines if the candidate passes or fails.

The other significant control is the submission of their home inspection report by the candidate that is assessed against a well known “Standard of Practice”. A detailed analysis checklist is utilized to assess compliant reporting – see appendix W: Standards Compliance Checklist.

Total quality control is difficult to apply, particular with respect to the unique nature of each “test” house, and the variability in the number of significant defects that are found in a particular house opposed to another “test” house. Nevertheless, a commitment to improved quality even without endorsing the goal of zero defects in quality can be realized in dealing with the variations that do exist, that are beyond the control of Examiners.

As such an appeal process is available to those candidates that believe that the TIPR process assessment was unfair.

Note: The NHICC has agreements with ASHI to publish and use their Standards of Practice & Code of Ethics, as well as the ASHI PARALLEL INSPECTION STANDARDS COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST.

References are made to:

Appendix S: The Test Inspection with Peer Review (TIPR) Process – page 3 and 4

Appendix V: Chief Examiner – Summary Evaluation Score Sheet

Appendix W: ASHI PARALLEL INSPECTION STANDARDS COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST

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Appendix V: Chief Examiner – Summary Evaluation Score Sheet

National Certification Program
Chief Examiners Report – Form 5

CHIEF EXAMINER - SUMMARY EVALUATION SCORE SHEET

PARTICIPANT NAME:

EXAMINER:

EXAMINER:

Date:

Location:

NOTE: Based on your participation in the TIPR Process, including your oral examination the following scores are noted for your information.

NOTE: 80% score for item #1 is mandatory to “pass” the TIPR

ITEM: List of Key Skills	Value %	Score %	Pass YES	NO
1. Summary of significant defects <i>Must score 80% or better to pass TIPR</i>	75			
2. Communication skills <i>Fluency (2) and clarity (2)</i> <i>Ability to inspire confidence (2)</i> <i>Ability to accurately convey facts (2)</i> <i>Talks to people – face-to face contact (2)</i>	10			
3. Technical Reporting to SOP	15			
TOTAL	100			

EXAMINER(s) - COMMENTS:

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SELF-IMPROVEMENTS: (FEEDBACK)

May 15, 2011

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-Walkways, patios, and driveways

4.1.B EXTERIOR; Components Described

-Exterior Wall Covering

-Deficiencies in Exterior

5.1.B ROOFING; Components Inspected

-Roof Covering

-Roof drainage systems

-Flashings

-Skylights, chimneys, roof penetration

5.1.B ROOFING; Components Described

-Roof Covering

-Method used to inspect roof

-Deficiencies in roof system

6.1.A PLUMBING; Components Inspected

-Interior water supply, distribution system, including all fixtures and faucets

-Drain, waste and vent systems including all fixtures

-Water heating equipment

-Vent systems, flues and chimneys

-Fuel storage & fuel distribution systems

-Drainage sumps, sump pumps and related piping

6.1.B PLUMBING; Components Described

-Supply, drain, waste, and vent piping material

-Water heating equipment & energy source

-Location of water main shut off

-Location of main fuel shut off

-Deficiencies in plumbing system

7.1.A ELECTRICAL; Components Inspected

-Service drop

-Service entrance conductors, cables, raceway

-Service equipment & main disconnects

-Service grounding

-Interior components of service panels & sub panels

-Conductors

-Overcurrent protection devices

-Lighting fixtures, switches & receptacles

-Ground fault circuit interrupters

7.1.B ELECTRICAL; Components Described

-Amperage and voltage rating of service

-Location of main disconnect(s) and sub panels

-Wiring methods (Romex, BX, Knob, Tube, etc.)

-Deficiencies in electrical systems

REF YES NO N/A

7.1.C ELECTRICAL; Components Reported

-Solid conductor aluminum brand wiring

-Smoke detectors

8.1.A HEATING; Components Inspected

-Installed heating equipment

-Vent systems, flues, and chimney

8.1.B HEATING; Components Described

-Energy source

-Distinguishing characteristics

-Deficiencies in heating system

9.1.A AIR CONDITIONING; Systems Inspected

-Central Equipment

-Through-wall cooling equipment

9.1.B AIR CONDITIONING; Systems Described

-Energy Source

-Cooling method(distinguishing characteristics)

-Deficiencies in air conditioning systems

10.1.A INTERIOR; Components Inspected

-Walls, ceilings, and floors

-Steps, stairways, and railings

-Countertops & representative # of cabinets

-Representative # of doors and windows

-Garage doors & garage door operators

10.1.B INTERIOR; Components Described

-Deficiencies in interior of house

11.1.A INSULATION & VENTILATION; Components Inspected

-Insulation & vapor retarders in unfinished spaces

-Ventilation of attics & foundation areas

-Mechanical ventilation system

11.1.B INSULATION & VENTILATION; Components Described

-Insulation & Vapor retarder in unfinished spaces

-Absence of insulation in unfinished spaces at conditioned surface

-Deficiencies in insulation and ventilation

12.1.A FIREPLACES AND SOLID FUEL BURNING APPLIANCES; Components Inspected

-System components

-Vent systems, flues, chimneys

12.1.B FIREPLACES AND SOLID FUEL BURNING APPLIANCES; Components Described

-Fireplaces & solid fuel burning appliances

-Chimneys

-Deficiencies in fireplaces & solid fuel burning appliances