

Fast-Track Approvals for Limited Alteration Applications:

Certain plumbing work that is considered to be a limited alteration can now be processed through an express same day filing. A licensed master plumber must file the proper paperwork with the NYC DOB for same day turn around on approvals and permits. In order to qualify for this, the scope of work including labor must not exceed \$25,000.00. To learn more, click [here](#).

Newly implemented asbestos abatement regulations modified.

Much confusion has arisen concerning the new asbestos abatement process. Earlier this year, the DOB passed a new regulation declaring all abatement must be filed with DEP and completed prior to approval and issuance of a work permit. This law meant all asbestos within the work area must be removed in its entirety and approved by DEP prior to filing with the DOB. The city has reevaluated this process in an effort to alleviate delays posed by required abatement by allowing phased abatement. DEP will issue variances to certain projects that require asbestos removal in phases in an effort to accelerate the construction process. Learn more [here](#).

NYC Energy Code Put into Action:

The NYC energy code (Local Law 85/2009) will be fully implemented starting July 1st, 2010 for all applications filed with the NYC DOB. Previously, typical alterations were exempt, however now the new law requires all alterations, renovations and repairs (with few exceptions) to meet the energy standard for the building envelope, mechanical systems and lighting. Supporting documentation showing compliance is to be submitted on the plans filed at the DOB prior to approval. To learn more, click [here](#).