During its annual conference, the Industrialized Buildings Commission agreed that data plates should specify exposure categories and service panel sizes as recommended by the Rules Development Committee.

The Commission and the RDC felt that, to be meaningful, the data plate should specify both the basic wind speed and the exposure category for which a structure is designed instead of the wind velocity load as required by the current regulations. The figures provided should be consistent with the building code listed on the data plate. For example, structures designed to the 2000 edition of the I-codes should reflect basic “3-second gust” wind speeds whereas those designed to the 1996 edition of BOCA should reflect basic “fastest-mile” wind speeds.

The Commission and the RDC agreed that data plates should specify service panel sizes. North Dakota, which signed an interim reciprocity agreement with the Commission, adopted the Model Rules and Regulations with an amendment to require service panel sizes on data plates. The Commissioners agreed that most states already require this information and current member states should amend their regulations to be consistent.

These changes will not become mandatory until member states amend their regulations. Until then, manufacturers are requested to provide this information voluntarily.