

# California Compliance Software Symposium 2

## Industry Perspective: CABEC

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Lucas Morton  
Morton Green Building Services

Gina Rodda  
Gabel Associates



## Who Is CABEC?



## California Association of Building Energy Consultants

- Non-profit dedicated to support energy consultants who implement Title 24 part 6 compliance
- Certified Energy Analyst certification
- Members largely freelancers and sole proprietors.
- Board and Committees largely volunteer-supported
- In a transition between autodidactic and formal education and certification

CABEC's members are fundamentally motivated to execute the letter and intent of the energy efficiency standards (and beyond) and look forward to continually improving the tools and processes to ever better implementation

## Some observations



- Energy code compliance is largely (and increasingly) algorithmic
- There are often discrepancies between compliance reports, contract documents, and constructed building
- Plan checkers and Building Inspectors: checking compliance is opaque
- Energy Consultants manage inputs into performance models, therefore manage compliance for project teams

**CABEC is mission-driven to improve compliance process and outcomes**

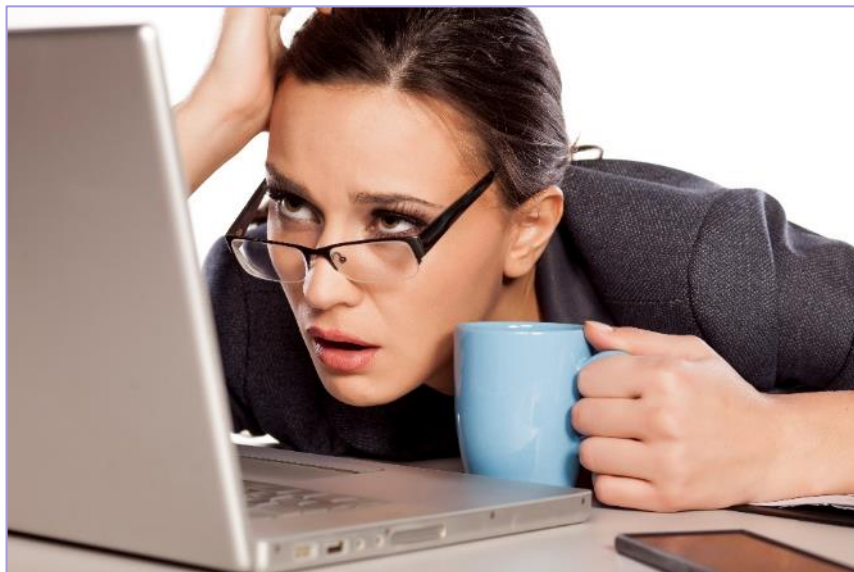
# General Compliance Software comments and issues



1. Bugs and beta-testing
2. Workarounds
3. “Simplification” and transparency
4. Compliance reports: working with Building depts.
5. Software development and feature requests

These all are continuous tasks!

# General Compliance Software comments and issues



## 1. Bugs and beta-testing

- More industry-faced tracking of bugs and modeling issues
- Better coordination between CBECC team and third-party software vendors
- A well articulated problem can itself be a kind of solution
- Solution or workaround for bugs (as applicable)
- Beta-testing

# General Compliance Software comments and issues

## 2. Workarounds

- Workarounds are happening, unavoidable.
- Can we 'standardize' workarounds, work towards official CEC approval?
  - Example: ADU and addition updates
- Timelines for software development underlying need for workarounds



## 3. Simplification & Transparency

- Posit: Simplicity is complexity that is well understood
- Increase transparency (human-readability) of what's going on 'under the hood'
- Reconcile/update ACM along with software code
- Describe all substantial changes and projected impacts with new releases



# General Compliance Software comments and issues

## 4. Compliance reports:

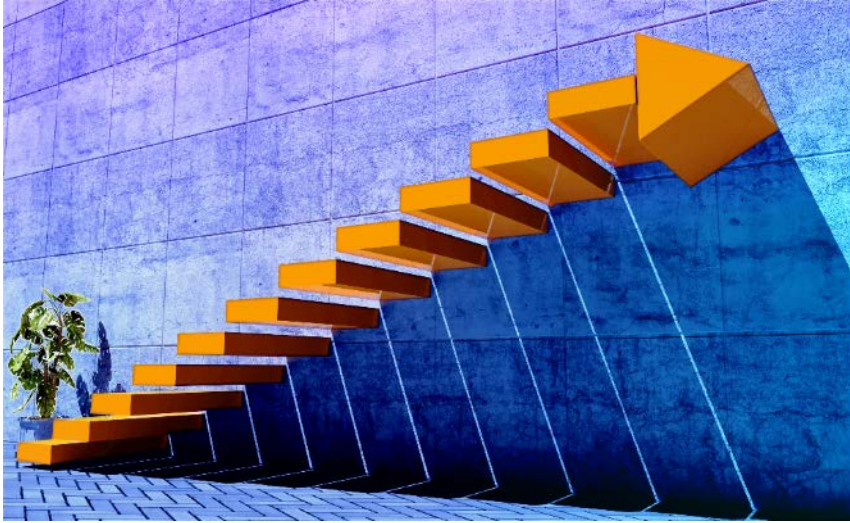
- Let's continue to work on compliance reports
- Visuals along with text
- Emphasize critical features (e.g. continuous insulation)



## 5. Feature Requests and further software development

- Plenty of ideas, how to prioritize?
- Expand materials and systems
- Search and Replace in CBECC GUIs
- Side-by-side output report to compare proposed and standard design
- Parametric analysis
- Improve workflow for visualization of results (e.g. DView)
- Reports: Opaque assembly schematics, mechanical system schematic

## Next steps



- Regular meetings with CEC staff
- Clearinghouse for information to and from energy consultants
- Workarounds, timeline for updates, feedback on important issues
- Beta-testing
- Better communication among Commission and compliance/enforcement partners is an energy efficiency measure



# What do you think?



- Any questions?
- Comments?

Let's move on to a discussion of..

# Industry Perspective: Cal TF Deemed Measure Development

Ayad Al-Shaikh

**Thank you.**

- **Luke Morton**  
mortongreenbuilding@gmail.com
- **Gina Rodda**  
Gina@gabelenergy.com