

# Photovoltaic panel installation on the roof of a subway building

# Can PV panels be installed on a new roof?

For example, some jurisdictions in CA and CO now require PV panels to be installed on certain new roof structures. The primary code used by structural engineers in the determination of applicable loads on buildings is ASCE 7: Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures which is adopted by reference in the IRC and IBC.

## How do I install a solar PV system?

Install a mounting system for solar thermal or solar photovoltaic panels. Consider the roof type (material and slope), weatherproofing, installation convenience, and wind and snow loadings. Choose an appropriate racking and mounting system for the type of PV module, and install the system along with needed flashing and seals.

## How high can a PV system be installed on a roof?

PV system installed on roof should not exceed 2.5m high. PV system exceeding the height of 1.5m should be certified by an Authorized Person who is registered under the Buildings Ordinance for submission of a safety certificate to the Lands Department for record. The average imposed load should not exceed 150kg/m 2.

# Can a solar system be installed on a new roof?

Both new and existing roof frames should have enough capacity to safely accommodate the additional load imposed from the installation of the solar system. The additional PV system weight can be incorporated in the design during early stage of the project life. The process is more complicated for existing building.

## What are the new requirements for rooftop-mounted photovoltaic panels?

The new requirements imposed more complicated loading effects which the roof where the PV panels installed should meet. 2015 IBC and 2015 IRC states the following: "1603.1.8.1 Photovoltaic panel systems. The dead load of rooftop-mounted photovoltaic system, including rack support systems, shall be indicated on the construction documents."

#### Can a PV system be installed on a village house?

PV system installed on roof of village houses Photovoltaic (PV) systems installed on roofs or roofs of stairhoods of village houses must comply with the specified requirements for green and amenity facilities and must be properly installed and not adversely affect the structural safety of the buildings.

"R324.4.1 Roof live load. Roof structures that provide support for photovoltaic panel systems shall be designed for applicable roof live load..." "R907.2 Wind Resistance. Rooftop-mounted photovoltaic panel or modules systems shall be ...



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