

Safety and Buildings Division History Timeline

as presented by Robert DuPont, Program Development Bureau Director at the 2006 Division Conference

1867 WI Has First Worker Safety Law in U.S.	1915 Mandatory Certification of Boiler Inspectors
1870 Two Percent Fire Dues Program Started	1915 Commercial Building Plan Review Started
1876 State Board of Health Created	1916 WI Supreme Court Upholds "Reasonable" Safety
1883 WI Bureau of Labor Statistics Created	1917 First Electrical Code
1883 Labor Bureau Located in State Capitol	1917 Fire Prevention Came to Ind. Comm.
1884 First WI Labor Statistics Report	1918 Elevator Inspections by Insurance Companies
1885 Fire Escapes Law for Commercial Bldgs.	1918 First Mechanical Refrigeration Code
1887 First Machine Guard Safety Law	1918 First Fire Prevention Code
1889 Inspectors Began to Enforce Safety Laws	1922 First Mine Safety Code
1904 State Capitol Destroyed by Fire	1926 2 Bldg. Plan Reviewers 2 Bldg. Inspectors
1911 Industrial Commission Established	1926 1,645 Bldg. Plans 224 Ventilation Plans
1911 Industrial Commission Located in Capitol	1926-1927 7,028 Plbg. Inspections by 3 State Inspectors
1913 Six States Have Industrial Commissions	1927 9,000 Private Sewage Systems in Wisconsin
1913 Fire Inspections by Municipalities Required	1933 First Explosive Materials Code
1913 First Elevator Code	1936 Admin. Rule is Main Form of Safety Regulation
1914 First Plumbing Code	1941 Much Inspector Travel is by Railroad
1914 Plumber Licensing Started for Cities	1943 Ind. Comm. Moved to 1 W. Wilson St.
1914 First Commercial Building Code	1948 First Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code
1914 First Boiler Code	
1914 Boiler Inspections by Insurance Companies	

1955
Safety and Sanitation Department Renamed
1955
Div. of Industrial Safety and Buildings Named

1957
WI Adopts National Model Boiler Code

1960
First Anhydrous Ammonia Code

1963
Law Required Buildings to be Accessible

1963
Plumber Licensing Required Statewide

1967
Industrial Commission Replaced by DILHR

1967
Dept. of Industry, Labor & Human Relations

1967
Safety and Building Division is Named

1967
DILHR Located at Hill Farms State Office Bldg.

1967
First Amusement Ride Code

1967
First Tramway, Lift and Tow Code

1968
Electric Typewriters Standard Equipment

1970
S&B Located at "Old Hilldale Bowling Alley"

1971
Counties Must Issue Septic Tank Permits

1971
Petroleum Inspection Transferred to S&B

1971
Fed. OSHA Modeled After Wisconsin Program

1972
Licensing of All Fire Sprinkler Fitters

1972
Licensing of All Fire Sprinkler Contractors

1972
S&B Located at 201 E. Washington Ave.

1972
Plumbing Code Became a Uniform Code

1972
First Adoption of National Model Electrical Code
1974
Certification of All Soil Testers Started at DHSS

1974
Septic System Plan Review Began at DHSS

1974
Plumbing Plan Review Began at DHSS

1975
Dwelling Code Council Created

1975
Job Safety Inspections Transferred to Feds.

1975
First Public Sector Employee Safety Code

1978
Private Sewage Field Unit Created – 4 Staff

1978
Wisconsin Fund Program Started at DNR

1979
Plumbing Bureau Transferred to S&B

1979
Code Development Bureau Created

1980
By Law, Counties Must Inspect Septic Systems

1980
First Uniform Dwelling Code

1980
Certification of All UDC Inspectors

1981
Law Requires Historic Building Code

1982
Passage of Employee "Right to Know" Law

1982
Public Employee Safety Pegged to OSHA Stds.

1983
Rental Unit Energy Efficiency Program Began

1983
First Adoption of National Model Elevator Code

1983
Certification of All Elevator Inspectors

1985
Wang Computer System Installed

1985 Voluntary Cert. of Comm. Bldg. Inspectors	1996 S&B Div. Transferred to Commerce
1985 First Liquefied Natural Gas Code	1996 Env. & Regulatory Services Div. Created
1986 Voluntary Certification of Electricians	1997 Madison Office Moved to Current Location
1987 Hayward Office Opened	1997 PC Computer System Installed
1987 Certification of All Comm. Elect. Inspectors	1998 Shawano Office Moved to Current Location
1988 Shawano Office Opened	1998 Green Bay Office Opened
1989 LaCrosse Office Opened	1999 Hayward Office Moved to Current Location
1989 First Compressed Natural Gas Code	1999 LaCrosse Office Moved to Current Location
1990 Waukesha Office Opened	1999 Rental Energy Program Gets Citation Authority
1991 First Fire Dept. Safety and Health Code	2000 Mobile Home Sales Licensing Came to S&B
1991 Wisconsin Fund Program Transferred to S&B	2000 Mobile Home Park Licensing Came to S&B
1992 First Soil Erosion Rules in the UDC	2001 Field Staff Got Laptop Computers
1993 DILHR 110 Years Old with 2,200 Employees	2001 Mobile Home Titling Came to S&B
1994 DILHR Creates Internet Website	2002 First Adoption of Model Comm. Bldg. Code
1994 First Soil Erosion Rules in the CBC	2002 First Adoption of Model Fire Prevention Code
1994 Public Swimming Pool Program Transferred to S&B	2003 Inspection of Public Pools by S&B Started
1995 Registration of All HVAC Contractors	2003 Waukesha Office Moved to Current Location
1995 Licensing of All UDC Contractors	2004 First Hydrogen Gas Code
1995 S&B Reorganized into Function Areas	2005 Bachelor Jim Miller Succumbs to Marriage
1995 First Uniform Multifamily Dwelling Code	2005 100,000 Visitors to S&B Website Monthly
1996 Department of Commerce Created	2005 UDC Permits and Inspections Required Statewide

2005
Soil Erosion Rule Revisions Proposed

2006
280 Municipal Agents in Place

2006
800,000 POWTS in Wisconsin

2007
Homeowner Public Education Upgrade

2007
Licensing All Manuf. Home Installers

2007
UDC Includes Manufactured Homes

IMAGINE
Handheld Computers for Field Staff

IMAGINE
S&B as Coach: Local Inspectors Everywhere

IMAGINE
Agent Municipality Education Institute

IMAGINE
Licensing of All Elevator Installers

IMAGINE
Licensing of All Electricians

IMAGINE
A Uniform Commercial Building Code

IMAGINE
Statewide Soil Erosion Inspections

IMAGINE
Statewide Electrical Inspections

IMAGINE
Comm. Bldg. Permits Required Statewide

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Resources in Balance with Workload