



City of Houston
Building Inspection
CODE WORD 2012

INTERPRETATIONS AND APPLICATIONS OF
THE HOUSTON ADOPTED CODES
2012 IBC, 2012 IRC, 2014 NEC, 2012 UMC, 2012 UPC,
2015 IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2013

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PUBLICATION:	January 4, 2017				
SUBJECT:	Interpretation- Minor Structures				
CODE(S):	Building				
SECTION(S)	1704.2				

Section 1704.2 (Special Inspections) requires that the owner or the design professional acting as the owner's agent shall employ one or more *approved agency* to perform inspections during construction on the type of work listed under section 1705.

The exception to this section states that special inspections are not required for construction of minor nature.

It is our interpretation that light weight steel/Aluminum shade structures (Canopies, awnings, patio covers, and carports) are considered structures of minor nature, and therefore do not require special inspections and the fabricators of such structures are exempt from being *approved fabricators*. These structures however, are still required to comply with all the relevant provisions of the code, and be designed by a professional engineer, licensed in the state of Texas.

Approved:


Earl N. Greer, Building Official