

# STREAMLINING TOOLS - TOOLS TO MAKE GOVERNMENT MORE EFFECTIVE and EFFICIENT

## THE STREAMLINING TOOLKIT: HOW TO USE, ITS ORIGIN AND SPONSORS

The Streamlining Toolkit was developed to share with public officials, policy makers, and the construction community simple, one-sheet summaries describing guides, model processes and other materials that have been developed and successfully applied in building codes administration and land use programs across the nation to enable state and local governments to strengthen public safety, economic competitiveness and disaster resiliency of their communities.

The Toolkit was created by the members of the Alliance for Building Regulatory Reform in the Digital Age, a private-public partnership to address the problem of “information overload,” by providing easy to follow one-sheet summaries on successful best practices and other materials.

Each one-page sheet in the Toolkit describes a different streamlining tool or resource. The sheets contain sections on:

- “ABOUT THE TOOL”
- “BENEFITS” of the tool
- “SAVINGS TO GOVERNMENT ” and “SAVINGS TO THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR”
- “ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND” on the tool
- One or more brief “EXAMPLES OF APPLICATION AND JURISDICTION CONTACTS” who are prepared to answer any questions on their use of that tool
- A closing “SUMMARY” and “FOR MORE INFORMATION” provide directions to a website where the reader can either download the complete tool or obtain more detailed information.

The Streamlining Toolkit is being developed and released to the nation’s elected officials, building officials and the construction community in three stages during 2007 and early 2008. The tools covered in this kit have strengthened codes enforcement by identifying and eliminating areas of regulatory overlap and inefficiency and reduced by between 40 to 60 percent of the amount of time it takes to move a building through the regulatory process.

### BACKGROUND ON THE TOOLKIT

Attendees at the Alliance for Building Regulatory Reform in the Digital Age’s 2007 National Streamlining Conference cited the fact that jurisdictions and their customers are often overwhelmed by the amount of information concerning the need for, benefits of, and steps to take to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of government regulatory programs.

To address that problem, conference attendees unanimously supported the development of a “Streamlining Toolkit” targeted primarily at state and local elected, appointed and career officials sharing with them best practices and tools that have helped state and local governments to take actions in their building code and land use programs to strengthen public safety, economic competitiveness and disaster resiliency in their communities.

The Streamlining Toolkit contains best practices, guides and information that have been developed by the Alliance and its partners over the past six years and been successfully applied in jurisdictions across the nation.



## ABOUT THE ALLIANCE

The Alliance for Building Regulatory Reform in the Digital Age was formed in the summer of 2001 by national associations representing state and local government, the construction industry and Federal agencies to promote improvements in the effectiveness and efficiency of the building regulatory process through streamlining and use of information technology.

Partners in the public-private sector Alliance include:

- American Institute of Architects
- Associated General Contractors
- Building Owners and Managers Association
- FIATECH
- National Association of Home Builders
- U.S. Conference of Mayors
- National Association of Counties
- National Governors Association
- The National Association of State Chief Information Officers
- The National Institute of Standards and Technology
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

In June 2007, the Alliance accepted an invitation for Alliance partner FIATECH for secretariat services as “The FIATECH Project on Streamlining the Building and Land Use Regulatory Processes.”

## ALLIANCE VISION

The Alliance vision is for a future state in which the building and land use regulatory process is online, streamlined, effective and efficient. In this future state, there is no regulatory overlap or duplication and information flows digitally between the construction and building community and the regulatory community.

## TOOLKIT SPONSORS

- American Institute of Architects
- FIATECH
- National Association of Home Builders
- U.S. Conference of Mayors
- Building Owners and Managers Association International
- National Association of Counties
- Target Corporation

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE ALLIANCE AND ON FIATECH including a complete list of Alliance and FIATECH programs visit the Alliance website at [www.nationpartnerstreamline.org](http://www.nationpartnerstreamline.org) and [www.fiatech.org](http://www.fiatech.org) or call Alliance Director, **Robert Wible** at **703-568-2323**.