

11.12 Concrete Wall Construction

An alternative wall system is use of concrete. Concrete construction for small buildings and houses has been made easier with the development in recent years of insulating concrete forming systems, or ICFs. These are the same materials as described in Section 9.4.3 for foundations, but used in above-grade walls. The ICFs provide the formwork, insulation and sheathing in a single system that stays in place once the concrete has been placed.

Each manufacturer's details may vary but the essential features are similar. Professional design input may be required. Figure 11.28 shows a detail for a concrete wall system with wood interior floor framing. Figure 11.29 shows a detail for an all-concrete construction, with prestressed concrete planks used for the floors. This may be one system that could meet more stringent fire-resistance requirements, especially in multi-unit buildings.

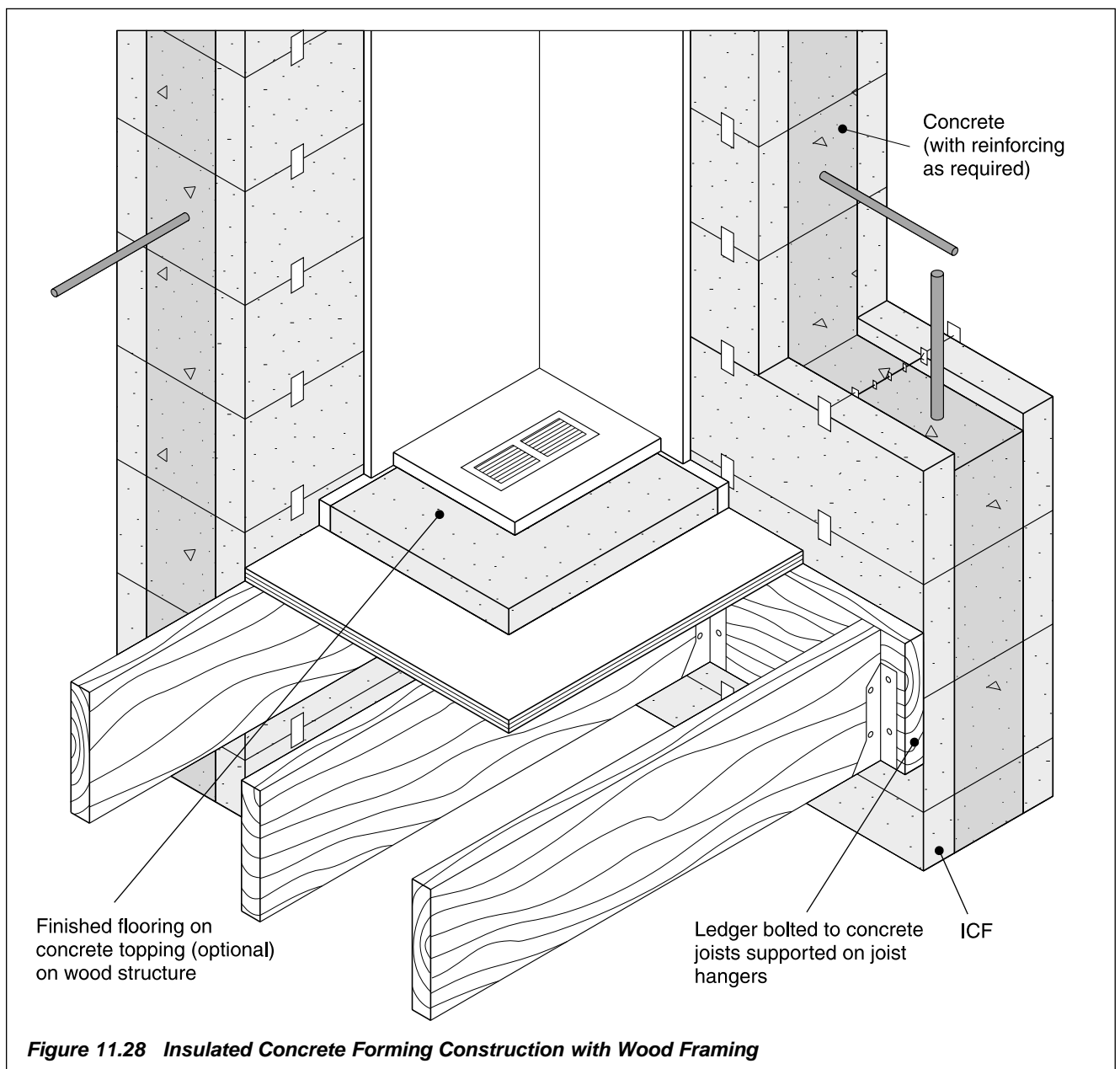


Figure 11.28 Insulated Concrete Forming Construction with Wood Framing