

NFRC IG Certification Frequently Asked Questions

When is IG Certification required?

NFRC Product Certification Program participants are required to have IG Certification for all products by July 1, 2010.

Does an IG Manufacturer need to be listed in NFRC Participating IG Certification Program Directory?

No, an IG Manufacturer would choose a third-party IG Certification Program to certify their IG products for fenestration manufacturer's to use in the NFRC Certified Products Directory (CPD). The role of the IG Manufacturer is to be a participant of an IG Certification Program which is listed on the NFRC IGC Directory.

Does a Fenestration Manufacturer not fabricating IG units need to be listed in NFRC Participating IG Certification Program Directory?

No, a Fenestration Manufacturer not fabricating IG units and purchasing IG units from an IG Manufacturer should verify that their IG Manufacturer participates in a NFRC listed IG Certification Program.

Does a Fenestration Manufacturer fabricating IG units need to be listed in NFRC Participating IG Certification Program Directory?

No. A Fenestration Manufacturer fabricating IG units would choose a third-party IG Certification Program to certify their IG products for fenestration manufacturer's to use in the NFRC Certified Products Directory (CPD).

What is the NFRC IGC Directory?

The NFRC IGC Directory lists all third-party IG Certification Programs which have applied and meet the requirements within the NFRC 706 to conduct the certification of IG units.

What is the NFRC 706?

The NFRC 706 provides details for IG Certification Programs which are interested in being listed in the NFRC IGC Directory. The document provides the requirements for a participating IG Certification Program, the duties of the IGC Entities, and the IG Program's performance criteria. This document can be found on the NFRC website at <http://www.nfrc.org/programdocs2.aspx>.

I make IG units, which and how do I contact an IG Certification Program?

All NFRC listed IG Certification Programs and contact details are listed on the NFRC IGC Directory, which can be found on the NFRC website at <http://www.nfrc.org/IGCertification.aspx>.

How long is the IG testing and certification process?

Based on the inspecting, curing, testing, reporting, and certification processes, the minimum estimated time period to complete the IGU testing and certification process is approximately 21 to 26 weeks.

How can I get questions about the NFRC IG Program answered?

Individuals can post questions to the NFRC Discussion Board under the IG Certification Program listing at <http://www.nfrc.org/boards/ShowForum.aspx?ForumID=60>, review the FAQ of the NFRC IG Certification Program, or contact NFRC Staff at info@nfrc.org.

Do products containing gas filling other than air need to be tested?

Yes. IG systems containing gas filling other than air must be tested and certified in accordance with the IG Certification Program which will establish proof of gas content to an average minimum initial 90% insulating gas fill content and an average minimum of 80% insulating gas fill content following completion of respective IG durability testing.

How are “sash-lite” systems tested?

The NFRC does not dictate how any IG system is tested. Please refer to the IG Certification Program’s testing procedures for testing and certification of IG systems.

Is IG certification required for decorative door lites?

The NFRC does not dictate what IG Certification is required for decorative door lites. Please refer to the IG Certification Program’s testing procedures for testing and certification of IG systems.

What specific documentation does a window manufacturer need from an IG Supplier to prove IG Certification to the Inspection Agency (IA) during inspection?

The NFRC does not stipulate the “specific” documentation a window manufacturer needs from an IG Supplier to prove IG Certification. The window manufacturer needs to provide documentation in which an NFRC IA can determine that products are IG certified. The NFRC recommends that the manufacturer works with the IG Supplier and IG Certification Program to determine the necessary documentation.

Given the number of companies testing and the volume of tests failing the first time, will the NFRC provide any time extension or does the company have to discontinue all labeling until they pass the retest?

The NFRC CPC and Board have not planned to provide a “blanket extension” to all participants regarding the IG Certification requirement. The CPC and the NFRC Executive Committee are taking exemption / extension requests on a case-by-case basis regarding IG Certification. Therefore, if a MFG is having any difficulty passing an initial certification test, and will not have the time to retest, the MFG can provide the NFRC with a request allowing an extension to have their products IG Certified. Please note, the MFG will not be EXEMPTED, but will need to request an extension and shall provide a date upon which they expect to be IG Certified. The manufacturer shall submit a letter from their IG Certification Program stating that their IG Certification is in progress. The MFG can obtain the exemption / extension request form at: <http://www.nfrc.org/ExemptionRequests.aspx>.

If a manufacturer fails a glass test I understand you cannot qualify for Energy Star, but can the NFRC Label still be used while undergoing retesting?

Failing a glass test prior to July 1, 2010 has no bearing on the manufacturer labeling their products with an NFRC Label to qualify for Energy Star. The complications of labeling a product for NFRC Certification and/or to be an Energy Star product, will surface July 1, 2010.

All NFRC certified products shall have valid IG Certification after July 1, 2010 which is a prerequisite for NFRC Labeling. Retesting requirements for IG Certification validation are governed by the manufacturer's IG Certification Program.

If Energy Star is requiring any additional criteria other than an NFRC label, please contact Energy Star directly.

Is NFRC mandating that the IGU glass needs to be labeled according to a third party certification agency or is being certified in the IGCC program enough?

A manufacturer shall follow the labeling requirements of their IG Certification Program. IGCC is one of the NFRC listed IGC Programs.

Do all of the products listed in the NFRC CPD contain insulating glass that has been certified by a third party certification agency listed as an NFRC Participating Insulating Glass Certification Program?

Some of the products currently in the CPD contain insulating glass units (IGUs) that have not yet been certified. The IGU certification requirement went into effect on July 1, 2010 but NFRC has granted extensions of time for some manufacturer's products to come into compliance with the IGU certification requirements. It is anticipated that all IGUs will meet the third party certification requirement by July 1, 2011. If you have any questions about whether a specific product's IGU is currently certified by a third party listed IGU certification program, please contact the manufacturer of that product.