Subject: Compliance with NFRC Rating and Certification Documents.

The National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC) is asking for your cooperation.

NFRC is aware that NFRC licensed simulators, test labs, and ACEs may be requested to perform work which the manufacturer does not intend to submit for certification. These reports may be submitted as evidence of energy code compliance and it is important to understand they may or may not meet the requirements of the NFRC 100 and/or 200 for the reasons described below.

NFRC 100, Section 4.1.1 (Product Line Simulation and Testing) mandates each product line must have an associated validation test. For products rated using CMAST, Section 5.9.4 (Validation Testing) requires each framing product line to have an associated validation test. The issuance of an NFRC 100 and/or 200 simulation report, without the required validation test for the associated product line, does not fully comply with the requirements of NFRC 100 and should not be accepted as proof of energy code compliance. The same is true of a CMAST bid report unless it is using approved framing components, which then have a validation test associated with the framing product line.

National energy code documents, such as the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and ASHRAE 90.1, require energy performance be determined according to the requirements of NFRC 100 and NFRC 200. Without the required validation testing, NFRC 100 and 200 requirements are not satisfied.

Therefore, NFRC-licensed simulation laboratories should explain to manufacturers that these non-validated U-factor simulation reports are not fully NFRC 100 and 200 compliant and do not satisfy the IECC and ASHRAE 90.1 code requirement for NFRC 100 and 200 and should not be used for energy code compliance without additional documentation of the required validation testing for the associated product line (or using approved framing components in the case of CMAST).

Help Us Protect NFRC’s Reputation and Investment

NFRC’s mission is to provide the public with fair, accurate, and credible fenestration product energy performance ratings. Our 25 year commitment to that mission has
made us successful. In addition, NFRC members, participants, and the US DOE have invested significantly in its commercial ratings program and are working diligently to gain marketplace acceptance. By adhering to the NFRC 100 requirements, you are helping us accomplish this. We hope you will do your part to help NFRC preserve its reputation as an unbiased, third-party certification body and assist in maintaining the integrity of the programs we have all worked so hard to build.

Please contact NFRC’s Senior Program Manager, Ray McGowan, at 240-821-9510 with questions.

NFRC is the recognized leader in energy performance rating and certification programs for fenestration products. Visit NFRC News Now for the latest fenestration-related information.

Make sure NFRC is on your Approved Sender’s list to continue receiving bulletins, billings and other important NFRC e-mails.

6305 Ivy Lane, Suite 140, Greenbelt, MD 20770

If you wish to no longer receive this email, please click here to unsubscribe.