The National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC) provides this twice-monthly newsletter to keep you informed of pending deadlines, volunteer opportunities, and NFRC news.

Calendar and Deadlines

April 2018

- April 16-20 -- In honor of National Volunteer Week, NFRC will be hosting a series of FREE webinars for those interested in volunteering:
  - April 16 -- Understanding NFRC Documents
  - April 18 -- Roberts Rules and How They Apply to NFRC
  - April 20 -- Using the NFRC Community
  - Register HERE
- April 23 -- Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) is conducting a market study to understand the Canadian market for low-rise residential windows, doors, and skylights. More information may be found here. The deadline to respond to the survey is Monday, April 23, 2018.

August 2018

- August 3 -- Meeting requests for inclusion in the Fall Membership Meeting program are due to staff liaisons
- August 15 -- Ballots are due to NFRC Staff Liaisons for the Fall 2018 Ballot Cycle
- August 24 -- Fall 2018 Ballot Cycle Opens

September 2018

- September 13 -- Fall Ballot Cycle Closes

October 2018

- October 8-11 -- Fall Membership Meeting, Albuquerque, NM. Details, registration, and the draft schedule will be available this summer.

2018 NFRC Volunteer Campaign

One of our major initiatives this year is enhancing the NFRC volunteer program and experience. This includes everything from recruiting new volunteers, training current volunteers, and showing our appreciation to volunteers.

We want to encourage everyone to get involved. As Deb Callahan, CEO, said during the Opening General Session “Since all of you are part of our team, I want you to be part of our game plan – our strategic plan – which is designed to create an unmistakable sense of direction for NFRC during 2018 and beyond.”
Click here for a list of groups that are actively recruiting members. If you don’t see anything on that list, click here to add your name and expertise to our Volunteer Rolodex.

Mark your calendars for National Volunteer Week, April 16-20. This week we will be offering trainings to all of our members on the following topics:

- Understanding NFRC Documents
- Roberts Rules and How They Apply to NFRC
- Using the NFRC Community

To register for one or all of these sessions, click here.

NFRC 2017 Annual Report Now Available

The NFRC 2017 Annual Report: Success Through Intention is now available to all interested parties. Questions may be directed to Tom Herron, NFRC Senior Director, Communications and Marketing, at 240-821-9505.

New Members

NFRC would like to welcome these new members in 2018:

- iGlass Technology
- Charles Schultz
- Glas Trösch AG
- PRL Glass Systems
- B&B Doors and Windows

NRCan Seeking Input from Organizations Active in Canada

This study will inform potential future federal regulations and other market transformation activities to decrease energy use in the built environment.

We are seeking input from organizations active in Canada’s fenestration market to help us understand the potential overall impact these proposed changes may have on manufacturers, consumers and home builders. The survey should take approximately 20 minutes to complete. Individual responses will not be shared and will only be reported in aggregate.

As we have engaged industry associations to support our efforts in reaching relevant stakeholders, we apologize in advance for any duplicate invitations. Please complete the survey only once. The deadline to respond to the survey is Monday, April 23, 2018.

Take the survey HERE.

NFRC Front-and-Center at MiaGreen Expo

NFRC’s staff and board exemplified the power of teamwork during the recent MiaGreen Expo by collaborating to educate a diverse group of the organization’s stakeholders.

NFRC’s Vice Chair, Daniel Huard, delivered the keynote address during the event, which was held in Miami, March 14 – 15.
Speaking to a group of nearly 70 design-build professionals and energy officers from the U.S., Latin America, and the Caribbean, Huard’s presentation, entitled *Increasing Buildings’ Resiliency and Efficiency by Adopting Energy Storage Technology*, discussed the importance of understanding resiliency as it relates to a building’s ability to operate following a catastrophic event.

Huard also talked about the components of the infrastructure grid and the differences between grid supported and independent energy storage solutions.

“Now, more than ever, an aging and overwhelmed power delivery infrastructure is concerning for building and portfolio managers, who need consistent and reliable energy delivery,” Huard told the audience. “Coupled with climate change, the need for resiliency becomes more prominent.”

Following the keynote, the topic shifted to fenestration.

Tom Herron, NFRC’s Sr. Director, Communications & Marketing, spoke to a similar audience about NFRC’s origins, introduced the benefits of its ratings, and discussed the energy savings achieved through the strategic installation of high-performance fenestration products in the Empire State Building.

Both speakers also educated attendees from their respective booths on the expo floor.

On the second day of the event, Huard returned to the stage to talk about optimizing building performance through commissioning.

Providing an overview of commissioning and its purpose for new and existing buildings, Huard discussed using the NFRC label to achieve code compliance and said the growing emphasis on commissioning promises to expand the use and relevance of the organization’s ratings.

During the talk, Huard pointed out that buildings that meet code are the worst buildings that can be created without breaking the law and added that green building does not necessarily cost more. He said that upfront expenses are usually offset by a decrease in long-term lifecycle costs.

“Studies also show green buildings more easily attracting tenants and commanding higher rental rates,” Huard added.

NFRC’s CEO, Deb Callahan, praised the collaboration between the organization’s staff and its board.

“This is a great example of how we can tap into each other’s talents to educate our stakeholders more effectively,” Callahan said. “Collaboration is more than just a strategy -- it is the key to long-term success.”

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**FenStar Certification Program Information**

NFRC is pleased to announce the beginning of the Pilot Program for the FenStar Certification Program. A growing number of manufacturers are participating in the
program and are providing important feedback for improvements on workflow and user friendliness. The Pilot Program will continue on until all of the current product lines are certified. Along the way, NFRC will also be certifying new products and new manufacturers in the program.

An important part of the Pilot Program is to return your signed license agreement to NFRC. The license agreement can be downloaded here. Please download the file, sign it and send it to FCP@nfrc.org with the subject line “License Agreement.” The license agreement will be countersigned by NFRC and sent back.

Updates to the NFRC webpages for the FenStar Certification Program are expected to be finished this month so please check back soon. Updates to the FAQ page will also be made shortly with new questions and answers added.

Notices of selection for the Verification Testing portion of the certification program will be going out this month. The verification testing is taking the place of the now defunct Independent Verification Program (IVP). As mentioned in our webinar series, there will be no noticeable change in that program for everyone who passes the test.

- FenStar Certification Program Announcement
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) -- this webpage will be updated frequently
- If you would like to ensure receipt of program emails, please email FCP@nfrc.org

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NFRC Staff Spotlight

Airienne Jeffery, Billing Specialist, joined staff in 2013. Airienne creates the invoices for the annual and semi-annual billing. She manages and monitors account receivables. She, also, manages the PCP program. She earned her BBA in marketing from Howard University. Contact Airienne with any questions about billing or the PCP Program.

The full list of NFRC staff with contact information can be found HERE.

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NFRC Meeting Information

- Presentations Delivered at the Spring Committee Meeting, March 19-21, 2018, in St. Louis, MO, are available HERE.

Dates through 2019

The following dates have been vetted thoroughly, are published early, and were reported to affiliated industry contacts to avoid potential conflict. Please mark your calendars with the following meeting dates through the fall of 2019:

2018

- Fall Membership Meeting -- October 8-11, 2018
  Albuquerque, New Mexico

2019*

- Spring Committee Meeting -- March 25-27, 2019
  Location to be determined
• Fall Membership Meeting -- September 23-25, 2019  
  Location to be determined

Volunteer Opportunities

- The Alternate Terminology Exploration Task Group was created, will be chaired by Jason Seals, and will report to the Ratings Committee. The scope will be developed regarding exploring alternate terminology to replace current "residential" and "commercial" terms. To join the task group, please go to the group page and click "Join Group."

- WINDOW/THERM Approval Task Group is needing additional volunteers. The scope of the group, the option to join, and additional information can be found on the linked group page. Please contact Stewart Nicholas at 240-821-9506 for additional information.

- The CMA Technical Task Group is seeking additional volunteers to meet their scope of "To maintain a component based nonresidential procedure for fenestration products that will yield accurate energy performance data for use in code compliance and for meaningful building energy analysis." NFRC staff liaison, Steve Urich, may be contact for more information.

- The Diffuse Glazing Task Group is seeking comment on an RFP they have developed, titled Diffuse glazing characterization - Research Project to Verify Measurement." Comments on the RFP are requested by Monday, April 30, 2018. Please submit comments and questions to Kevin Louder, task group liaison.

- The NFRC 100 Product Line Updating Task Group was formed at the Fall Membership Meeting in San Diego, CA. This group will report to the NFRC U-factor Subcommittee. Mason Fritz is the task group chair. Information on the group, including the option to request to join the task group can be found via the link above or by contacting the NFRC staff liaison, Steve Urich, at 240-821-9514.

- The NFRC 700 Certification Process -- Streamline Task Group conducted an in depth analysis of the NFRC product certification program during a kaizen event that took place in June 2017. Results of that analysis were presented to NFRC membership at the Fall Membership Meeting in San Diego, CA. The presentation by Steve Strawn, task group chair, may be viewed HERE. Co-chair, Jason Seals, presented an update on the status of all projects associated with the NFRC 700 PCP Streamlining Task Group at the NFRC Spring Meeting in St. Louis, MO. That presentation is available HERE.

  Work groups have been formed and are meeting to tackle the projects which include:

  • Validation Simplification
  • A Scaled Approach to Recertification
  • One Singular Process and Database
  • Removing Grids from the CPD
  • Modeling with 3mm & 6mm Glass
  • Removing the IA Code from the CPD Number
NFRC members and program participants are invited to join the task group, and to volunteer for these work groups. Please request to join the task group by clicking on the linked task group name above or contact the NFRC staff liaison, Una Moneypenny, at 240-821-9509.

- The ANS Standards Committee is seeking members, particularly in the User and General Interest categories. This group is responsible for the adoption and revisions to ANSI/NFRC 100, ANSI/NFRC 200, and ANSI/NFRC 400, and to ensure the ANSI consensus process is followed. Additional information (including definitions of the member categories) and the applications for the committee may be found on the group page linked or you may contact Robin Merrifield at 240-821-9513.

- Volunteer opportunities are always listed on the NFRC community.

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**NFRC Billing Information**

NFRC’s membership dues and participation fees invoices were emailed January 4, 2018. If you have not received your invoice, or if you have questions, please contact NFRC at accounting@nfrc.org.

NFRC offers the ability to pay invoices online. Once logged in, you will see all of the open invoices. This is a secure site and it is PCI Compliant. It will not process payments automatically. If you choose to pay by credit card, click here: PAYMENT PORTAL.

If you have any questions regarding billing or the new portal, please contact us at accounting@nfrc.org.

NFRC envisions a future where every window, door, and skylight purchase decision is made using the NFRC label to evaluate energy performance.

Visit us at www.nfrc.org

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