

ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA FOR TEST REPORTS

AC85

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PREFACE

Evaluation reports issued by ICC Evaluation Service, Inc. (ICC-ES), are based upon performance features of the International family of codes and other widely adopted code families, including the Uniform Codes, the BOCA National Codes, and the SBCCI Standard Codes. Section 104.11 of the International Building Code® reads as follows:

The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the installation of any materials or to prohibit any design or method of construction not specifically prescribed by this code, provided that any such alternative has been approved. An alternative material, design or method of construction shall be approved where the building official finds that the proposed design is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this code, and that the material, method or work offered is, for the purpose intended, at least the equivalent of that prescribed in this code in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability and safety.

Similar provisions are contained in the Uniform Codes, the National Codes, and the Standard Codes.

This acceptance criteria has been issued to provide all interested parties with guidelines for demonstrating compliance with performance features of the applicable code(s) referenced in the acceptance criteria. The criteria was developed and adopted following public hearings conducted by the ICC-ES Evaluation Committee, and is effective on the date shown above. All reports issued or reissued on or after the effective date must comply with this criteria, while reports issued prior to this date may be in compliance with this criteria or with the previous edition. If the criteria is an updated version from the previous edition, a solid vertical line (|) in the margin within the criteria indicates a technical change, addition, or deletion from the previous edition. A deletion indicator (→) is provided in the margin where a paragraph has been deleted if the deletion involved a technical change. This criteria may be further revised as the need dictates.

ICC-ES may consider alternate criteria, provided the report applicant submits valid data demonstrating that the alternate criteria are at least equivalent to the criteria set forth in this document, and otherwise demonstrate compliance with the performance features of the codes. Notwithstanding that a product, material, or type or method of construction meets the requirements of the criteria set forth in this document, or that it can be demonstrated that valid alternate criteria are equivalent to the criteria in this document and otherwise demonstrate compliance with the performance features of the codes, ICC-ES retains the right to refuse to issue or renew an evaluation report, if the product, material, or type or method of construction is such that either unusual care with its installation or use must be exercised for satisfactory performance, or if malfunctioning is apt to cause unreasonable property damage or personal injury or sickness relative to the benefits to be achieved by the use of the product, material, or type or method of construction.

Acceptance criteria are developed for use solely by ICC-ES for purpose of issuing ICC-ES evaluation reports.

ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA FOR TEST REPORTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose: The purpose of this acceptance criteria is to establish general requirements for laboratory test reports submitted to ICC-ES in support of applications for ICC-ES evaluation reports.

1.2 Scope: This criteria includes requirements for test reports and testing laboratories, and for sampling of specimens used in tests to qualify products for recognition in evaluation reports.

1.3 Reference Standards:

1.3.1 ISO/IEC Standard 17025, General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories.

2.0 SOURCE OF TEST REPORTS

2.1 Accredited Laboratories: ICC-ES can consider test reports from laboratories that are accredited as complying with ISO/IEC Standard 17025 by the International Accreditation Service (IAS) or by any other accreditation body that is a signatory to the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA). The scope of the laboratory's accreditation shall include the specific type of testing covered in the test report. The laboratory's accreditation certificate shall be provided to show that the laboratory is accredited for the testing reported.

2.2 Nonaccredited Laboratories: ICC-ES can consider test reports from nonaccredited laboratories, but only if the report applicant has submitted data on the nonaccredited laboratory, and the laboratory has undergone an on-site assessment by IAS, indicating to the satisfaction of ICC-ES that the laboratory meets ICC-ES requirements for laboratories, as stated in the ICC-ES Rules of Procedure for Evaluation Reports, and is competent to perform the testing in question. Fees apply for the review of the nonaccredited laboratory's quality documentation, and the report applicant is responsible for expenses incurred for on-site assessments of the nonaccredited laboratory.

2.3 Manufacturer's Testing Facility: Occasionally, a manufacturer seeking an evaluation report will want to submit data resulting from tests conducted at the manufacturer's testing facility. In this case, the testing shall be done under the supervision of an accredited laboratory (as described in Section 2.1), and the accredited laboratory shall issue the test report. The accredited laboratory shall take necessary steps to ensure that the integrity and condition of the test specimens is maintained and that the test specimens have not been altered during periods when a laboratory representative is not present. Also, the manufacturer's testing facility shall show to the satisfaction of the accredited laboratory that it meets ICC-ES requirements for laboratories.

3.0 TESTING OF REPRESENTATIVE PRODUCTS

3.1 Test specimens of products subject to third-party quality control inspections as a requirement of the code or ICC-ES acceptance criteria shall be sampled at the manufacturing site by the accredited testing laboratory or by an IAS-accredited inspection agency. The sampled product shall be truly representative of the standard manufactured product for which recognition is being sought. In lieu of sampling at the manufacturing site,

sampling at a warehouse or distribution center is permitted, provided the testing laboratory or accredited inspection agency samples the materials and correlates the sampled materials with the product specifications.

3.2 Test specimens of products that do not require third-party quality control inspections are not required to be independently sampled. However, along with the test report, the applicant shall submit a signed and dated declaration certifying that the product tested is representative of the standard manufactured product to be covered in the evaluation report. As an alternative, the testing laboratory may independently draw samples from the manufacturing site.

3.3 If the test specimen is an assembly, laboratory personnel shall witness or verify the proper construction of the assembly.

3.4 Identical products that are manufactured at multiple facilities shall be correlated to the samples on which the initial qualifying tests were conducted.

4.0 CONTENT OF TEST REPORTS

Test reports shall be submitted in their entirety and shall include at least the following:

4.1 Name, address, and telephone number of the laboratory.

4.2 Unique identification number of the test report. Each page of the report should include the identifier to ensure that each page is part of the same test report.

4.3 The report shall be paginated and the total number of pages indicated.

4.4 Date of testing and date of the report.

4.5 The test standard with date of issue, and an explanation of any deviation from the standard.

4.6 Signatures (dated) and titles (or equivalent identification) of persons authorizing the test report.

4.7 Description of the product tested, and the source of the test samples.

4.8 If assemblies are tested (structural assemblies, fire-rated assemblies, etc.), there shall be a description of the assemblies, preferably with illustrations. The report shall identify the parties constructing the assemblies and shall also address witnessing and/or verifying the construction.

4.9 Description of the test procedure, if necessary for interpretation of the test results.

4.10 Any specifics required by the test standard or applicable acceptance criteria or evaluation guideline, such as ambient conditions, graphs, calculations, drawings, photographs, and interpretation of results, if required.

4.11 Location where the testing was conducted, if different from the address of the testing laboratory.

4.12 Failure mode, with a description of the failure.

4.13 Conclusions or summary statements, including, when applicable, a statement indicating whether the product passed or failed the test. ■