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February 9, 2010

TO: PARTIES INTERESTED IN EVALUATION REPORTS ON WOOD-BASED EXTERIOR COMPOSITE TRIM TREATED WITH ZINC BORATE (ZB) PRESERVATIVE BY A NON-PRESSURE PROCESS

SUBJECT: Proposed Acceptance Criteria for Wood-based Exterior Composite Trim Treated with Zinc Borate (ZB) Preservative by a Non-pressure Process, Subject AC424-0210-R1 (MO/MR)

Dear Madam or Sir:

On February 2, 2010, the proposed new criteria was held for further study by the ICC-ES Evaluation Committee. Questions were raised, both in written comments and at the hearing, about the scope of the criteria, product definition, testing procedures, standards and minimum retention for zinc borate (ZB).

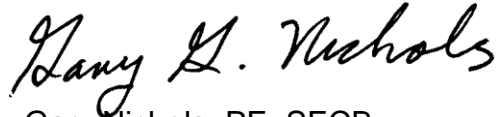
In staff's recommendation for further study of the criteria, staff discussed with the proponent the need to revise the criteria to address public comments, and then bring back the criteria for consideration by the committee at a future meeting.

The following are comments that will need to be addressed in a revised criteria:

1. The minimum retention of zinc borate (ZB) proposed by the criteria is less than that required by AWPA Standard T1, Section J.
2. The minimum number of test samples, three, may not be adequate, and should be increased to a minimum of ten.
3. There was a request to delete references to product thickness.
4. There was a recommendation that products covered under this criteria be evaluated to the same requirements of ANSI A135.6 as referenced in the 2009 IRC, since the only difference is the product thickness.
5. A recommendation was made to clearly exclude products covered under AC321. Staff would also add AC203 to this request.
6. The Composite Panel Association recommended delaying the criteria pending development of a new ANSI standard for hardboard trim.

If you have any questions, please contact Michael O'Reardon, Regional Manager, at (800) 423-6587, extension 5685. You may also reach us by e-mail at es@icc-es.org.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary D. Nichols". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gary Nichols, PE, SECB
Vice President

GN/raf

cc: Evaluation Committee