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June 22, 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 AC424-0610-R2 (MO/MR)**

Dear Madam or Sir:

On June 17, 2010, the proposed new criteria was held for further study by the ICC-ES Evaluation Committee. The criteria was also held for further study at the February 2010 Evaluation Committee meeting.

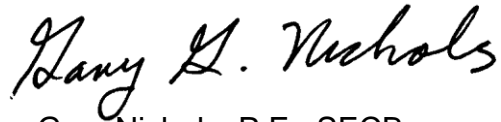
The revised June 2010 criteria addressed public comments and testimony provided at the February hearing, with the exception of minimum retention, future industry specification and structural concerns. Public comments and testimony were provided regarding the minimum retention for zinc borate (ZB) and decay and termite testing (Section 4.9 of the criteria).

In our recommendation for further study of the criteria, we identified the need to address the following:

1. The minimum retention of ZB proposed by the criteria is less than that required by AWPA Standard T1, Section J.
2. Section 4.9 of the criteria, on decay and termite testing, needs to establish a specific test protocol for the wood-based exterior composite trim treated with ZB. The revisions needed include:
  - a. A benchmark control product for comparison of test results (recommend LSL siding recognized in AWPA T1).
  - b. Specific testing procedures from AC326 that are applicable to exterior trim products.
3. Whether to delay the criteria pending development of a new ANSI standard for hardboard trim, as was recommended by the Composite Panel Association.

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](mailto:es@icc-es.org).

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary L. Nichols". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "G" and "L".

Gary Nichols, P.E., SECB  
Vice President

GN/raf

cc: Evaluation Committee