



Public Notice Concerning Misleading Use of ICC-ES Evaluation Reports on Insulating Concrete Forms

One of the easiest ways for insulating concrete form (ICF) manufacturers and their representatives to demonstrate compliance with local building codes is through an ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) report on the product. ICF manufacturers and their local representatives need to note, however, that they may use an ICC-ES report to show code compliance *only* for products produced in plants *specifically mentioned* in the evaluation report.

ICC-ES is aware that, currently, there are many ICF manufacturers producing product in plants not recognized in their evaluation reports. These manufacturers cannot, under ICC-ES rules, use their ICC-ES evaluation reports in conjunction with such product. If a manufacturing plant is not “listed” in the report, its product is not recognized by ICC-ES as being in compliance with applicable codes. It is important that code officials and building professionals be aware of this fact, and be on the lookout for false or misleading claims of “code compliance” for nonrecognized products.

Code officials and construction professionals can easily verify whether the ICF product submitted for approval or specification is recognized by ICC-ES. This may be done by determining what plant manufactured the product, and then checking the manufacturer’s ICC-ES evaluation report to see if this is a recognized plant. Building professionals should note, also, that it is violation of ICC-ES rules for a report holder to put a report number on a product produced in a nonlisted facility.

Manufacturers are constantly updating their reports, so the ICC-ES web site should be consulted for the most current information on recognized manufacturing facilities.

ICF manufacturers can, as necessary, add manufacturing facilities to their existing evaluation report. This requires, among other things, an initial inspection at the plant to verify that an effective quality system is in place; and continuing inspections to ensure continued compliance with all conditions of the evaluation report.

ICC-ES also cautions construction professionals to be on the lookout for marketing and technical literature, from ICF producers, that claims or implies ICC-ES recognition for ICFs produced at plants not recognized in the report. Instances of such product literature should be reported to ICC-ES, so action can be taken to correct the misleading literature.

In summary, ICC-ES urges all code officials and building professionals, when using an ICC-ES evaluation report as evidence of code compliance for an ICF product, to make sure the report actually applies to the plant where the product was produced. *If the*

manufacturing plant is not specifically mentioned in the evaluation report, then product from that plant is not recognized by ICC-ES as code-compliant.

Questions regarding this information should be directed to Michael Beaton, P.E., Senior Regional Manager.