

NFRC Exterior Attachments Task Group

Conference Call

June 19, 2008 3 pm EDT

Attendance:

Fred Higgins, Chair
Dennis Anderson
Charlie Curcija
John Gant

Kerry Haglund
Scott Hanlon
Steve Harp
Joe Jonely

Jim Krahn
Roger LeBrun
Tom Zaremba

1. Review of Agenda

2. Antitrust Reminder

3. Review Revised Scope

Discussion about the name of the task group – revision from “External” to “Exterior”. A vote was taken and this change was approved and made.

4. Discussion on methodology

Fred commented that there is some support for a Center-of-Glass approach to measuring these products. It allows a simpler model, and is expected to serve the Storm Window rating system well. Other comments were made that the Internal Attachment group is using a Whole Window with selected reference windows method, and that Film Attachment uses and Interior Attachments expects to use Whole Window. Many exterior attachments will provide a U-Value performance improvement, and so the Whole Window is necessary.

Tom Zaremba noted that there was a recent review that thoroughly discussed COG calculations, and found them dependable.

The Film label includes SHGC and VT. Storm Windows Committee opted to create a Single Category Performance Rating (A,B,C,D,...) to avoid presenting a consumer with like measures of new windows, so that they are not compared inappropriately.

Roger LeBrun asks: How would we rate an exterior roller shade product, one which is a single product of glazed window and shade in one package? Response was that there are rating methods in place today to handle this.

5. Review Product Selections

Scott reminds that all products to be considered for rating must be presented by the manufacturer or someone in a Product Questionnaire, to be delivered to the Board. Some PQ's already submitted are approved, while others are in purgatory. Some PQ's are general and those products need definition.

The European Solar-Shading Organization's product definition document has been shared with the members of this task group as a reference.

Discussion leads to Fred's request to all task group members to list the exterior attachment products that are desired to be considered for rating. The submitted list should include the name, sample drawing, photograph, and description. Send to Scott Hanlon.

It is noted that some products provide only solar protection while others also provide insulation. Improved U-Value, Visible Transmission, and Solar Heat Gain protection should be identified if it is a benefit of the product. A list will be compiled and reviewed in the next conference call. Classes of products could result. Criteria for discerning products to recommend should be developed. After the recommendation is finalized, Fred will then carry it up to the Subcommittees and the Board as a recommendation from this Task Group.

Comments recognize that NFRC's resources are limited and must be marshaled. The group is reminded to be open to product submissions, and not condemn products perceived to be lesser impact – the purpose of the NFRC is to rate performance, not discriminate. Comments that NFRC could address this large wave of Attachment work with organizational changes, or with a broader attachment strategy, ... various options should be considered. Charlie will deliver his thoughts to the Attachment forum as well as the Attachment SC; the topic will be on the agenda of the Chicago meeting.

6. No other new business

7. Next conference call: July 10, 3 pm EDT

Agenda – review product information to be submitted, develop letter to Board

Notes taken and respectfully submitted by John Gant