Awning Task Group – conference call
Dec 12, 2008 - Minutes

In attendance:

John Gant	Jeff Bedard	Roland Temple
Ross McCluney	Don Smallwood	Dennis Anderson
Willie DuPont	Craig Dasse	Scott Hanlon

Not in attendance:

Doug Dubay	Marty Ackerman	Fred Higgins
Michelle Sahlin	Tim McCoy	Darrell Smith
Asaf Salama	Andrew Caldwell	
Vatche Azirian	Kim Eger	

1. Introduction - first meeting for this task group. John reviewed the actions during 2008 which led to this. Copies of a presentation to the Board, and the Board reply letter of October 1 had been shared with this group.

2. Scott Hanlon described structure of NFRC committees, and pointed to documentation on the NFRC website.

3. It was agreed that John Gant will chair this task group.

4. Discussion of the Research Proposal Draft Version (which had been shared). Ross McCluney described the concept to have a two phase approach, with phase 1 being for feasibility study and review of existing research and existing methods and ideas to address angular selectivity. Phase 2 would develop a concept further, and perhaps create test facility procedures, if a solution is found which satisfies the accuracy expectation, NFRC system needs and limits, and other requirements.

   John will work with Willie and Ross to develop a final RFP proposal to be submitted to the NFRC by January 23 so that it can be balloted at the Spring meeting. This working group will meet next Tuesday.

   NFRC's Dynamic Attachments description is an interesting reference as it describes guidelines used for internal shades. http://www.nfrc.org/documents/DynamicGlazing.pdf However, normal incidence methods lead to inaccuracy compared to real world due to the angles from the solar path. The level of inaccuracy should not be so much that it misleads the consumer. It's true that this type of inaccuracy applies to products that are already rated by the NFRC, and that may be a serious dilemma for the organization.

   This is the reason that an "Annual Energy Rating" may be the solution, but this concept is stalled for technical and political reasons. An annual energy rating possibly may be an

alternate path to EnergyStar certification. Nevertheless, a "standard" NFRC rating for Solar Heat Gain Coefficient and Visible Transmission should be our goal. This will require innovative technical solutions to achieve a simple set of numbers for a label.

5. Mike Rubin at Berkeley Labs (LBL) *may* host a workshop in January to discuss technical details regarding angular selectivity, and daylighting. *Details yet to be announced* – John will share with this group what he learns. Ross hopes that an alliance of researchers will issue a recommendation to the NFRC regarding optical properties including angularly selectivity of fenestration and attachments. LBL's new goniometer may become a key development tool for new methods and to help build a reference database for many things, including light-diffusing cover materials. Such a database is needed for LBL's WINDOW6 software.

   John Gant provided fabric samples with Mike that may eventually be evaluated, including Ferrari Soltis, Phifertex, and Glen Raven Sunbrella.

6. A Scope Statement and Product List should be developed in the next meeting.

7. The next conference call meeting will be January 7th at 2 pm Eastern time.

Respectfully submitted by John Gant.