

**NFRC Interior Coverings Task Group**  
**Conference Call Notes for Wednesday, March 19, 2008**

**Attendees:**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>E-Mail</b>
Scott Hanlon	NFRC, LAP Mgr.	shanlon@nfrc.org
Michael Cienian - Chair	Hunter Douglas, Inc	Michael.cienian@ hunterdouglas.com
Jim Brown- Scribe	Hunter Douglas, Inc.	Jim.brown@ hunterdouglas.com
Sanjiv Malkan	Hunter Douglas, Inc.	Sanjiv.malkan@ hunterdouglas.com
Andrew Caldwell	Phifer	
Willie DuPont	Sunergy	
Mike Rubin	Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory	MDRubin@LBL.gov
Christian Kohler	Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory	CJKohler@LBL.gov
Jacob c. Jonsson	Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory	
Ross McCluney, Ph.D	Florida Solar Energy Center	rmccluney@comcast.net
Peter Lyons		Peter.lyons@fenestralia
Peter Schweinsberg	BMAA Blind Energy Rating Committee	peters@reflectiveblinds.com.au
Dennis Roberts	Advantage	Droberts43@sbcglobal.net
Ivan Lourido	BW	Ivan.lourido@bw-usa.com
John Gant	Glen Raven	jgant@glenraven.com
Mark LaFrance	US Dept of Energy	Marc.lafrance@ee.doe.gov
Robin Mitchell	Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory	RDMitchell@lbl.gov

**Noteworthy Points:**

- Meeting was a web conference call called to order by Scott Hanlon who is the NFRC facilitator for the Task Group.
- Mike Cienian, Chair conducted a role call, performed the anti-trust reminder, and went over the agenda with the participants. .
- The recent NFRC Meeting as it relates to this task group was reviewed by Mike.
- Our name has changed from “NFRC *Internal* Coverings Task Group” to “NFRC *Interior Attachment* Task Group”. Three different Attachment Task Groups are now active including ‘Exterior...’, Storm Door ...’, and our group ‘Interior...’.
- The scope of our team was amended and approved at the NFRC Spring meeting. It now states “The Interior Attachments Task Group shall develop and assess procedures for rating, certifying, and labeling interior attachments”
- Mike Cienian proposed a 7-step model for how our team should approach achieving our objectives (see attached). The use of such a model will help the TG keep focused on where it is in the overall project as more detailed work begins. This process was approved.
- Product Categories
  - Determining ‘Product Categories’ is thought to be foundational in determining the processes needed to rate the various Interior products.
  - The Team 1<sup>st</sup> went over Christian Kohler’s initial draft listing of various Interior attachments in The “Windows6” software. This will need to be expanded to include those missing ‘categories’ that need to be addressed.
  - Mike Cienian presented the “Window Covering Manufacturers Association” (WCMA) listing that uses illustrations to describe different products.

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- **Action Item: Mike Cienian to supply copy to Scott Hanlon for inclusion in the NFRC minutes.**
  - **The group agreed that a goal for the TG is that visual examples will be part of the final process. The use of illustrations and detailed descriptions will be useful when sharing our work with NFRC Committees and other key stakeholders.**
  - **Also it was agreed that ‘harmonization’ of Interior products should be part of the work to include the products from all partnering entities (companies, countries, etc.)**
  - **John Gantt relayed that currently European Products also have their own listing with visuals and may need to be included.**
    - **Action Item: John Gantt will secure a copy and share this with Scott Hanlon who will assure proper distribution to the team.**
  - **All participants were asked to submit any product categories or specific products they would like to see reflected in the simulation software.**
    - **Specifics should be sent to Mike Cienian so they can be included in the next meeting. Mike will send them to Christian Kohler for inclusion in the model population.**
    - **Dennis Roberts identified such a product...a window insulator.**
- **Measurements that Should be Included in the Rating System**
- **At the end of this meeting a general discussion was held regarding what the Team should consider.**
  - **Those discussed included:**
    - **Heat transfer indices (U-factor and/or R-values);**
    - **Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC)**
    - **Light Transfer indices (Lux)**
    - **Etc.**
  - **These discussions revealed that this would be a significant part of the work that needs to be done to develop a standardized rating process.**
- **Input Parameters**
- **Peter Schweinsberg went over his e-mail regarding input parameters.**
  - **Some countries (Australia for example) have already done a lot of work in this area and the group needs to evaluate what has been done**
    - **Action Item: Peter Schweinsberg and / or Peter Lyons will provide copies or a link to the Australian BMAA Blind Energy Rating Committee process for the team to review.**
  - **Mike Rubin discussed the difference between rating factors (significant measurements) and parameters (considerations). “Window 6” software has an example of a Venetian Blind that can be down loaded and viewed as an example.**
  - **Willie duPont lead a discussion on how our TG can approach comparative ratings. He offered that a ‘default’ foundation window would be needed to establish any kind of rating and Ross McCluney stated that a baseline and an “add-on” approach are “desirable”. There was much discussion on this topic and it was felt this is a critical next topic for the TG to reach agreement on. This topic had met with discussion in some of the other TG and committees at the recent NFRC Nashville meeting.**
  - **The NFRC Board is already planning to discuss the use of use of foundational test bases. Before the Board makes any decisions this Task**

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Group wants to 1<sup>st</sup> provide our input. Scott H pointed out that the input from manufacturers would be useful to the board in its considerations.

- Action Item #1: By March 28<sup>th</sup> all interested members need to submit their recommendations on the use and type of baseline. This information should be sent to Mike Cienian.
- Action Item #2: Scott Hanlon will advise the Board that we would like to make our inputs to the Board by April 11<sup>th</sup> and to delay by 1 month until April 25<sup>th</sup> any Board decisions regarding Foundational Test Base or Default approach.

→ The next meeting was scheduled for April 16, 2008. Time TBD based on input from our Australian members.

**ATTACHMENT**

