

Validation Testing Task Group

Task Group Meeting
Monday, March 2nd, 2009
Chair: Sneh Kumar, TRACO

1. Sneh Kumar, chair, called the meeting to order at 11:05 am
2. Caleb Willis, from Switch Materials, was appointed recording secretary
3. The agenda was reviewed and approved.
4. Discussion followed on the proposal to change section 4.2.6 of NFRC 100 to allow validation test with a center of glass U-Factor of 0.30 or less. {Current rules require additional validation test for any product which has U-factor less than 0.1 or 20% better than the validated product. Some of the comments included that:
 - The best products should go through the validation test.
 - Suggestion on using same center of glass used during the calibration test of hot box to be used as the standard center of glass for validation testing.
 - If the frame validates at a certain center of glass, then it should be good for all other center of glass.

It was pointed out that as per section 4.2.8, manufacturer would required to validate only one product line with better glazing performance (which improves product U-Factor by 0.1 or 20%) instead of validating each and every product line. Overall task group did not feel the need to change this rule.

5. The second proposal was to add option in section 4.2.3.2 (Muti-purpose product line) to allow inclusion of products with same base frame profiles as a validated product, in the same validation test matrix.
 - Sneh showed example of such cases which would allow different products with similar frame profiles those are available in multiple product types to be included in the same matrix for validation matrix.
 - It was also proposed that if multiple products are grouped with frame additions then products using a flipped frame and sash (interior to exterior) should be able to be within a validation matrix.
 - Task group felt it was reasonable to include such products in one validation test matrix. Task group will work towards developing the proposed language.

6. Chair asked people to come up with other cases where they feel changes in the product line or within multiple product line validation testing was not required and current rules do not include such cases. These will be reviewed on a case-by-case situation by the Validation Task Group.
7. Chair updated the group on the validation test requirement for recertification and plant qualification. Task group felt that the work of this Task Group falls under technical and Ratings committees and that it should report to both these committees. Sneh will take up this request with the Ratings Committees chair.
8. Willie DuPont updated the TG on the Quality Assurance validation test program that this TG is starting to work on and considering options for the validation requirements.
9. The Task group meeting adjourned at 11:36 am.