

Attached Awning Rating Feasibility Research Project Conference Call

Conference Call Notes

Thursday, October 8, 2009

1. Attendees: Ray McGowan, Ross McCluney, John Gant, Don Smallwood, Willie DuPont, Michelle Sahlin
2. This conference call was the initial meeting of the project monitoring task group to ensure that the project was on task and in scope. An overview was given to the purpose of the Awning Rating Feasibility Research. The research is to search literature for research and white papers that describe how to determine relevant properties of awnings for shading windows, define and categorize any methods used in the past, and come up with 3-4 methodologies of what could be used. The end product would give the consequences for using the proposed methodologies, essentially sorting through the options and possibilities. The methodologies could be listed from simple to complex and keep in mind the designers, architects and other users. The ultimate goal is to present 3-4 rating strategies to the NFRC.
3. The work group reviewed a letter to be sent to key contacts asking for research and studies that could be used in the literature review. Paper documents should be sent directly to Willie DuPont and electronic documents should be sent to both Willie and Ross McCluney.
4. The work group reviewed a document with illustrations of awnings and similar shade devices for accuracy. Concern was expressed that there was no illustration of a "traditional" awning with sides. Also that it would be a more conclusive document if more than one name was used for the illustrated examples. For example the document listed a "hood" awning, and this is what PAMA refers to as a "traditional" awning.
5. The work group discussed whether the covering material properties should be included. This led to a lengthy discussion about what should be included in the research of methodology. The opaqueness of the materials may contribute to rating factors, and that PAMA represented fabric awnings and canopies and was paying for the rating feasibility research. It was suggested that in an attempt to conserve resources, that the group focus on rating fabric awnings.
6. The group reviewed the Reference Database and recommended that methodology and the source of who sent the reference be added. John Gant asked for an action that the researchers interview key energy contacts, and that he had a few for which he would send contact information.
7. The workgroup set a follow up call for Friday October 23 at 2 PM