



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 7122**



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Edition 2010

Section 1203.1

Question:

Q1 - Are perforated vinyl soffits permitted in Tampa? Q2 - Are there limitations on soffit material based on overall soffit width? Q3 - If blocking or bridging is provided that does not interfere with air movement and meets soffit manufacturer installation instructions can vinyl soffit be used to soffit widths of 4'-6" in Tampa?

Answer

Q1 Perforated vinyl soffits are permitted in accordance with the referenced section, but there is no restriction on location. (i.e. Tampa) They may not provide the sole means of ventilation. The section calls for at least 50% of the required ventilating area to be located in the upper portion of the space to be ventilated at least 3 feet above eave or cornice vents. The net free ventilating area can not be less than 1/300 of the area of the space ventilated.

Q2. The code contains no limits on soffit width, but requires Product Approval and labeling and installation in accordance with the manufacturer's installation

instructions. They are required to be designed for the design pressure for walls for components and cladding and to be tested at 1.5 times the design pressure. (FBCB s.1715.9 and FBCR s.616)

Q3. Yes, provided the width meets the manufacturer's installation instructions and the product approval limits.

Commentary:

None

Notice:

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, ICC, and industry and professional experts offer this interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This interpretation is informal, non-binding and subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.