



Informal Interpretation Report Number 7743



Date March 23, 2016

Edition 2014

Section 1609.1.2

Question:

Is it the intent of Section 1609.1., reference exception in paragraph, "to allow" approved window coverings (wind borne debris zone) on residential new construction with a mean roof height below 45' feet?

Answer

The mean roof height limitation and the number of stories limitations apply solely to wood structural panels. All impact resistant coverings or systems are required to have either a Florida Approval or a local approval per Ch. 553.842 or Ch 553.8425, F.S. Being accessible from a deck or other walking surface is irrelevant.

Commentary:

In the wind borne debris region, all openings within 30 feet of grade are required to be protected from large missile impact. All openings above 30 feet are required to be protected from small missile impact. ALL protection products are required to be tested to conform to the standards listed. A Florida Product Approval is an optional method of proving conformance. If it is an R-3 or R-4 residential structure, Exception 1 for wood structural panels can be utilized.

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.