



Informal Interpretation Report Number 9075



Date February 12, 2025

Edition 2010

Section 1917.1

Question:

Is it correct that a FI Product Approval is the minimum requirement for the material, fasteners and installation of a tested assembly to meet a specific maximum design wind pressure? And is it correct that a FI Professional Engineer (P.E.) or Registered Architect (R.A.) can design more stringent or rigid requirements, including fastening, the type of fastener for attachment, that meet standard practices and or certifications such as SDI/ANSI ? And that this is acceptable if approved by the AHJ? This would not change or modify the MDP of the assembly.

Answer

There are three (3) methods available for product approval. The system that has been in place for many editions of the codes is approval by the building official. The building official is authorized in Chapter 1 to approve products based on their suitability, in the opinion of the building official. As most building officials do not consider themselves to be a testing and approval authority, most building officials rely upon one of the next two (2) options. They may accept a report or letter, including a rational analysis from a design professional to base the approval on. This may also include tests and reports from a recognized authority, such as Underwriters Labs (UL), International Code Council Evaluation Services (ICC-ES), Miami-Dade Testing, Texas Department of Insurance (TDI), or others. These options may be used at the discretion of the building official and design professional. The other option is to use the Florida product approval database. If the choice is to use the Florida product approval database, the information that is a part of the approval must be followed. If that information is changed or modified, it then becomes an approval by the building official or a local product approval option. The information contained in the product approval should be followed, allowing for substitutions where so noted on the approval, or the product approval is not applicable.

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.