



National Fenestration Rating Council Bulletin

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April 29, 2014

Subject: NFRC – Technical Bulletin 2014-05 (Information Only)

This is a revision to NFRC Technical Bulletin 2014-03 regarding the authorization to allow the limited use of WINDOW7/THERM7 for certification of existing product lines due for "re-certification" only. This revision does not alter the original intent approved by the NFRC Executive Committee.

The original bulletin items are summarized below, followed by the revisions that the Window-Therm Approval Task Group agreed to change from the original, as well as additional allowances. LBNL has already tested and compared version 6 to version 7 and found very few differences so the testing by the labs is not to confirm this but only to test the usability and effective functionality of WINDOW7/THERM7.

Summary of the original bullet points from Bulletin 2014-03 that are retained:

- To get the laboratories to effectively test all the functionalities and usability of this version of the software before it is officially rolled out and required on all products for the simulation.
- This is a voluntary decision from each of the accredited simulation laboratories; and those that participate, shall only be allowed to simulate up to three product lines that are due for re-certification.
- The laboratory will conduct the simulations and generate a full report using WINDOW7/THERM7 with the same procedures and steps as would be performed today per the laboratory's Simulation Operations Manuals and NFRC's LAP/CAP Programs.
- A copy of the THERM/WINDOW data files and report shall be sent to NFRC Staff (Dennis Anderson). If staff finds that the rating values previously rated in WINDOW6/THERM6 do not compare with WINDOW7/THERM7 as expected from LBNL's testing, then the laboratory may be required to re-certify using WINDOW6/THERM6.
- Do not attempt to create "workarounds" for situations that used to work in Version6 of the software. Immediately contact NFRC Staff ([Dennis Anderson](#)) or LBNL Staff ([Robin Mitchell](#) / [Christian Kohler](#)).

Revisions to be followed/adhered to:

- The laboratory shall not upload the data to the CPD until authorized by NFRC Staff. Once approved, provide all required information to the NFRC Inspection Agency (IA). NFRC staff will keep a log of laboratories and report numbers that were reported and rated using WINDOW7 / THERM7.
- The version of WINDOW7 shall be 7.2.34 or later:
<http://windows.lbl.gov/software/window/7/index.html>
- The version of THERM7 shall be 7.2.5 or later:
<http://windows.lbl.gov/software/therm/7/index.html>
- LBNL will evaluate subsequent versions of WINDOW7/THERM7 to verify equivalency to the prior version before posting to the above sites.

If you have any questions concerning the information in this *NFRC Technical Bulletin*, please contact [Dennis Anderson](#) at 240-821-9514 or [Scott Hanlon](#) at 240-821-9519.

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