



NFRC Technical Bulletin 2012-09

DATE: November 26, 2012
SUBJECT: OPTICS Software Update

This bulletin is to announce the required use of OPTICS6 for NFRC certification of applied films.

If you have any questions concerning the information in this *NFRC Technical Bulletin*, please contact Dennis Anderson at 240-821-9514; email: danderson@nfrc.org or Scott Hanlon at 240-821-9519; email: shanlon@nfrc.org.

Item 1: OPTICS Software Update

Recent testing was conducted to compare OPTICS5 and OPTICS6 regarding the building of applied films on clear, tinted, and LowE coated glass substrates per NFRC 304. Due to the significant difference in calculated optical property values for applied films on LowE coated glass, the NFRC Executive Committee has made mandatory the use of OPTICS6 immediately for any new or recertified applied film products and that any existing OPTICS5 certified data in the Applied Films Product Database for applied films over LowE glass substrates shall be null and void effective January 1, 2013.

Both versions of OPTICS (5.1 and 6) may be used for building laminates per NFRC 303 but be aware that OPTICS version 5.1 will be sunset on June 1, 2013.

It is required that the NFRC accredited simulation laboratories report which version of OPTICS was used so the NFRC Inspection Agencies (IA) may properly review the laboratories files with the correct version of OPTICS.

OPTICS6 may be downloaded from LBNL's website or you may click on the following link on NFRC's website:

<http://nfrc.org/software.aspx>