

# **NFRC 700 PCP Process- Streamline TG**

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# Validation Simplification

- Chair: Jason Seals, AAMA; Staff Liaison: Michelle Scism
- Scope of idea: to develop a viable quality assurance process that eliminates the need for mandatory validation testing for recertification.
  - The process will be based on solid data-driven evidence and will allow for sufficient oversight to ensure that the integrity of NFRC certifications is maintained.
- Proposal- replace NFRC recertification validation test with a product verification
  - Product line will be modeled as usual.
  - Physical sample will be sent to an accredited lab to be cutup/disassembled and compared to the simulation option.
    - Tentatively being called a Component Evaluation
  - If the sample matches the simulation, product line is recertified

# Validation Simplification

- Advantages of this approach:
  - Cost: should be easier/ cheaper to perform a Component Evaluation rather than a full NFRC 102 test
  - Availability: recertification will no longer be dependent on the availability of test chambers
  - Laboratories: since having an approved test chamber will not be needed, more labs can be accredited to perform Component Evaluations
- Next Steps:
  - Gathering data from IA's, test labs, and the IVP to identify areas where product nonconformities occur
  - Use this data to develop new product validation process
- Contact: Jason Seals or Michelle Scism if you have any questions about the scope of this workgroup

# A Scaled Approach to Recertification

- Scope of idea: To develop a scaled approach to quantify changes to a product line. When the product line exceeds the designated threshold then a full recertification will be required.
- Each changed is individually rated on a scale.
- At the expiration of the product line's certification cycle, the summation of those changes is applied to determine the path for recertification.
- This would effectively change the mandatory re-simulation and validation testing at recertification, and move to a harmonization of the quality assurance and a quantitative method to determine what occurs at recertification.
- Contact: Steve Strawn or Michelle Scism if there are questions about the scope of this project

# Removing Grids and Modeling with 3mm and 6mm Glass in the CPD

- Purpose: removing complexity from the program by not rating grids, and only rating products with 3mm and 6mm glazing thickness options
- This approach will yield:
  - Increased accuracy in product labeling
  - A reduction in CPD complexity (**removal of 27 million listings**)
  - Reduction in cost to maintain the CPD and backup of data
  - Easier understanding for the consumer to compare products and understand ratings.
  - Will return the certification to it's original purpose of providing ratings for comparing products

# Removing Grids and Modeling with 3mm and 6mm Glass in the CPD

- Rationale for not rating grids:
  - The largest single set of product option in the CPD are those rated with internal muntin bars, a.k.a. grids: **21 million options**
  - Most products with internal muntins have the same U-factor as non-grid options, and 0.02 to 0.03 less SHGC
  - In most cases, windows with internal muntins are chosen for aesthetic reasons, not for the SHGC value
  - Rating grids does little for the consumer, and complicates the program for the manufacturer
- Contact: Jason Seals or Scott Hanlon to participate in the workgroup

# Removing Grids, and Modeling with 3mm and/or 6mm Glass in the CPD

- Rationale for rating products with a single glass thickness
  - Most products produced at the NFRC required size are produced with a 3mm glass option
  - Rating multiple glazing thicknesses does not add value, and complicates the program for consumers
  - 6mm glazing would be an option for products that do not use 3mm glass
- Net result of both objectives:
  - Elimination of 27 million options in the CPD
  - Savings to product manufacturers of \$80-100 million dollars per certification cycle
  - Greater understanding of the program by the consumer
- Contact: Joe Hayden or Scott Hanlon to participate in the workgroup

# Removing the IA Code from the CPD Number

- Purpose: Removing the IA code reduces costs when a licensee changes IAs, reduces confusing and time-consuming calls to IAs, and can provide significant savings related to product line transfers.
- Contact: Jason Seals or Una Money Penny to participate in the workgroup



# Harmonized IGC and PCP Cycles

- Scope of Idea: Impact the frequency of IG testing by harmonizing the IG and NFRC certification cycle. Accept IG certifications as valid for up to 5 years
- Was declined by the CPC in fall 2017. Staff recommendation is to bring back to CPC.

# One Process and One Database

- Scope of Idea: currently, the steps to take when entering the system are not well defined, and not easy to communicate. Both new and existing participants find the process complex and not intuitive.
- Phase 1: create a gated process for entering the system
- First phase internal. NFRC business analyst and PCP coordinator working on gated process
- Contact: There will be need for a workgroup in phase 2. Contact Jason Seals, Una Money Penny, or Airienne Jeffery with any questions

# Eight LAs into Two

- Scope of idea: The current license agreements are numerous, confusing, and require too much overhead. Let's turn eight license agreements into two (general, and applied film)
- Staff are working to bring this internal project into existence. Staff will reach out later this year with a simple, new general license agreement.

# Targeted Communications

Scope of Idea: Target the right people with focused messages by categorizing the types of information that can be delivered to the NFRC community, by soliciting their feedback on the types of messages they wish to receive, and how they'd like to receive them.

- Staff has already created more in-depth categories for recipients of NFRC messages.
- Contact: Contact Robin Merrifield if there are questions

# Targeted Communications

Interest Category	From Email
Update Newsletter	<a href="mailto:Update@nfrfc.org">Update@nfrfc.org</a>
Program Updates	<a href="mailto:ProUpdates@nfrfc.org">ProUpdates@nfrfc.org</a>
Technical Updates	<a href="mailto:TechUpdates@nfrfc.org">TechUpdates@nfrfc.org</a>
Software Updates	<a href="mailto:SoftwareUpdates@nfrfc.org">SoftwareUpdates@nfrfc.org</a>
Ballots	<a href="mailto:Ballots@nfrfc.org">Ballots@nfrfc.org</a>
Events/Workshops	<a href="mailto:Classes@nfrfc.org">Classes@nfrfc.org</a>
FenStar Updates	<a href="mailto:FSUpdates@nfrfc.org">FSUpdates@nfrfc.org</a>

# Face-to-Face Meeting

Idea: Improve communication at no cost. Hold face-to face meetings of the labs, IAs, and NFRC staff at membership meetings.

- Staff implemented this in fall 2017, and will continue to hold this as a regular session at every NFRC meeting.
- Any questions: contact Kevin Louder