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TECHNICAL BULLETIN

NAFS I.S.4 Requirement for Exterior Doors

AAMA/CSA/WDMA 101/I.S.2/A440-08 NAFS, North American Fenestration Standard / Specification for windows, doors, and skylights

WDMA I.S.4 Industry Specification for Preservative Treatment for Millwork

The WDMA Technical Committee has reviewed an interpretation request from Fenestration Canada regarding the WDMA I.S.4, Industry Specification for Preservative Treatment for Millwork treating requirement as it applies to the wood stiles and rails within flush (i.e. wood, fiberglass, and steel skin and core constructed) exterior doors. Fenestration Canada has requested that these wood stile and rail components on exterior doors be temporarily exempt from I.S.4 treatment requirements.

AAMA/CSA/WDMA 101/I.S.2/A440-North American Fenestration Standard/Specification for windows, doors, and skylights (NAFS-08), Section 6.3.2.3, states that wood or wood composite profile components as described in WDMA I.S.4 shall comply with WDMA I.S.4. The WDMA I.S.4 specification states that for the purposes of the I.S.4 standard, millwork includes exterior products and products with potential to contact a moisture source such as wood windows, sash, screens, window frames, blinds, shutters, wood stile and rail doors, door frame and jambs, mullions and other structural components, cut-to-length trim and machined knocked-down (K.D.) parts of those products. The confusion occurs with flush doors, which are assembled using wood or composite stile and rail components which “cap” the core and provide a substrate for attachment of hinge and lock hardware. “Even though treating to I.S.4 is not a new requirement in NAFS, past building codes have not required flush doors to comply with NAFS. With adoption of the 2010 Canadian National Building Code enforcing compliance to NAFS-08, treating of these rail and stile components is a new requirement for the flush door industry.”

The WDMA Technical Committee, with recommendations from the Treatments and Coatings, Supplier Technology, Exterior Products Standards, and Hallmark Certification Committees, has determined that compliance to the WDMA I.S.4 requirement found in the NAFS-08 should be waived for flush door stile and rail components, for a period of two years to allow the industry to respond to the requirements being implemented in Canada.

Please note that each manufacturer and supplier is encouraged to exceed the I.S.4 performance requirements, to establish its own quality level and practices and procedures, and to determine the appropriateness of their products for specified uses and application.

WDMA encourages users, specifiers and code authorities to accept compliance to NAFS-08 without meeting the requirements of the I.S.4 treating requirement as it applies to wood stiles and rails on exterior doors until January of 2016 as satisfying any contract, specification or code requirement for compliance to NAFS-08.