



# Listing and Technical Evaluation Report™

A Duly Authenticated Report from an Approved Agency

Report No: 2204-05



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Subject to Renewal: April 1, 2026

## Use of ArmorWall™ BG Exterior Wall Sheathing in Areas of “Very Heavy” Probability of Termite Infestation

Trade Secret Report Holder:

DuPont™ de Nemours, Inc.

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### CSI Designations:

**DIVISION:** 06 00 00 - WOOD, PLASTICS AND COMPOSITES

**DIVISION:** 07 00 00 - THERMAL AND MOISTURE PROTECTION

**DIVISION:** 31 00 00 - EARTHWORK

Section: 06 16 00 - Sheathing

Section: 07 21 00 - Thermal Insulation

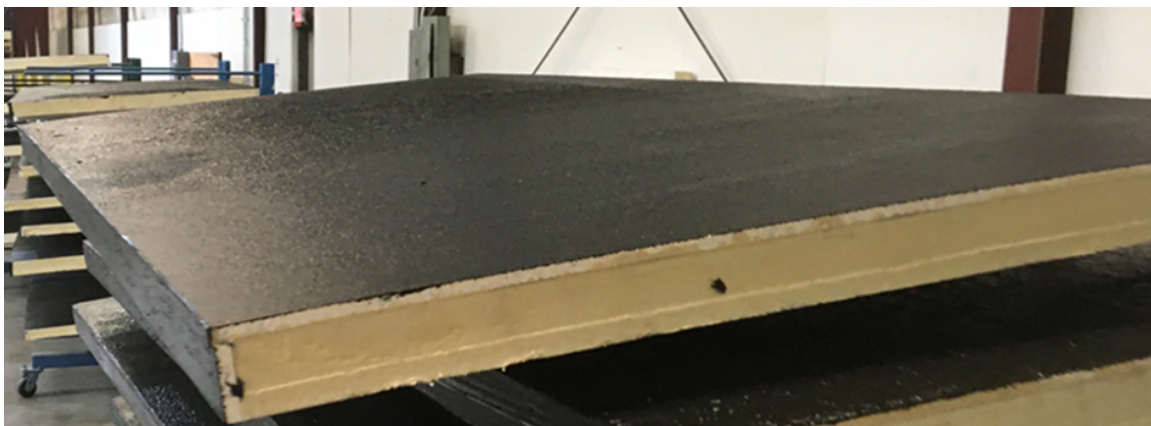
Section: 31 31 16 - Termite Control

### 1 Innovative Product Evaluated<sup>1</sup>

1.1 ArmorWall BG

### 2 Product Description and Materials

2.1 The innovative product evaluated in this report is shown in **Figure 1**.



**Figure 1.** ArmorWall BG



- 2.2 ArmorWall BG is a below-grade factory waterproofed wall sheathing.
- 2.3 ArmorWall BG consists of Magnesium Oxide (MgO) substrate that is a tested high strength fire resistant exterior insulated wall-sheathing product with a core comprised of urethane insulation.
  - 2.3.1 The panels are manufactured with MgO sheathing capping both of the long dimension edges allowing for horizontal installation.
- 2.4 *Material Availability*
  - 2.4.1 *Thickness:*
    - 2.4.1.1 2.0"
    - 2.4.1.2 2.75"
    - 2.4.1.3 3.75"
  - 2.4.2 *Dimensions:*
    - 2.4.2.1 Standard panel dimensions are 48" x 96".
    - 2.4.2.2 Panels 48" x 120" may be special ordered.
- 2.5 As needed, review material properties for design in **Section 6** and the regulatory evaluation in **Section 8**.

### 3 Definitions

- 3.1 New Materials<sup>2</sup> are defined as building materials, equipment, appliances, systems, or methods of construction not provided for by prescriptive and/or legislatively adopted regulations, known as alternative materials.<sup>3</sup> The design strengths and permissible stresses shall be established by tests<sup>4</sup> and/or engineering analysis.<sup>5</sup>
- 3.2 Duly authenticated reports<sup>6</sup> and research reports<sup>7</sup> are test reports and related engineering evaluations, which are written by an approved agency<sup>8</sup> and/or an approved source.<sup>9</sup>
  - 3.2.1 These reports contain intellectual property and/or trade secrets, which are protected by the Defend Trade Secrets Act (DTSA).<sup>10</sup>
- 3.3 An approved agency is "approved" when it is ANAB ISO/IEC 17065 accredited. DrJ Engineering, LLC (DrJ) is listed in the ANAB directory.
- 3.4 An approved source is "approved" when a professional engineer (i.e., Registered Design Professional) is properly licensed to transact engineering commerce. The regulatory authority governing approved sources is the state legislature via its professional engineering regulations.<sup>11</sup>
- 3.5 Testing and/or inspections conducted for this duly authenticated report were performed by an ISO/IEC 17025 accredited testing laboratory, an ISO/IEC 17020 accredited inspection body, and/or a licensed Registered Design Professional (RDP).
  - 3.5.1 The Center for Building Innovation (CBI) is ANAB<sup>12</sup> ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO/IEC 17020 accredited.
- 3.6 The regulatory authority shall enforce<sup>13</sup> the specific provisions of each legislatively adopted regulation. If there is a non-conformance, the specific regulatory section and language of the non-conformance shall be provided in writing<sup>14</sup> stating the nonconformance and the path to its cure.
- 3.7 The regulatory authority shall accept duly authenticated reports from an approved agency and/or an approved source with respect to the quality and manner of use of new materials or assemblies as provided for in regulations regarding the use of alternative materials, designs, or methods of construction.<sup>15</sup>
- 3.8 ANAB is an International Accreditation Forum (IAF) Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) signatory where recognition of certificates, validation and verification statements issued by conformity assessment bodies accredited by all other signatories of the IAF MLA with the appropriate scope, shall be approved.<sup>16</sup> Therefore, all ANAB ISO/IEC 17065 duly authenticated reports are approval equivalent.<sup>17</sup>
- 3.9 Approval equity is a fundamental commercial and legal principle.<sup>18</sup>



## 4 Applicable Standards for the Listing; Regulations for the Regulatory Evaluation<sup>19</sup>

### 4.1 Standards

- 4.1.1 *ASTM C518: Standard Test Method for Steady-State Thermal Transmission Properties by Means of the Heat Flow Meter Apparatus*
- 4.1.2 *AWPA E1: Standard Method for Laboratory Evaluation to Determine Resistance to Subterranean Termites*
- 4.1.3 *UL 723: Test for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials*

### 4.2 Regulations

- 4.2.1 *IBC – 15, 18, 21: International Building Code®*
- 4.2.2 *IRC – 15, 18, 21: International Residential Code®*

## 5 Listed<sup>20</sup>

- 5.1 Equipment, materials, products, or services included in a List published by a nationally recognized testing laboratory (i.e., CBI), approved agency (i.e., CBI and DrJ), and/or approved source (i.e., DrJ), or other organization concerned with product evaluation (i.e., DrJ) that maintains periodic inspection (i.e., CBI) of production of listed equipment or materials, and whose listing states either that the equipment or material meets nationally recognized standards or has been tested and found suitable for use in a specified manner.

## 6 Tabulated Properties Generated from Nationally Recognized Standards

- 6.1 ArmorWall BG complies with IBC Chapter 26 and IRC Section R316 for the use of foam plastics in building construction.
- 6.2 ArmorWall BG is used as continuous insulation as required in some climate zones on wood-frame walls, basement walls, crawl space walls, and under slabs (IRC Table N1102.1.3,<sup>21</sup> IECC Table C402.1.3,<sup>22</sup> and IECC Table R402.1.3<sup>23</sup>). ArmorWall BG is often used in these applications due to its high resistance to thermal energy loss per inch of thickness.
- 6.3 The IRC requires wood-framed buildings to be protected from termite damage, regardless of the sheathing or cladding applied:

### R318.1 Subterranean Termite Control Methods

In areas subject to damage from termites as indicated by Table R301.2<sup>24</sup> methods of protection shall be one, or a combination, of the following methods:

- 1. Chemical termiticide treatment in accordance with Section R318.2
- 2. Termite-baiting system installed and maintained in accordance with the label.
- 3. Pressure-preservative-treated wood in accordance with the provisions of Section R317.1.
- 4. Naturally durable termite-resistant wood.
- 5. Physical barriers in accordance with Section R318.3 and used in locations as specified in Section R317.1.
- 6. Cold-formed steel framing in accordance with Sections R505.2.1 and R603.2.1.

- 6.4 The IBC does not contain a similar list of termite control methods. However, IBC Section 2304.12 describes methods to protect wood framing against decay and termites. These methods are outside the scope of this report since they do not relate to the use of Foam Plastic Insulating Sheathing (FPIS).

6.5 Both the IBC and IRC provide termite infestation probability maps, as shown in **Figure 2** and **Figure 3**, respectively.

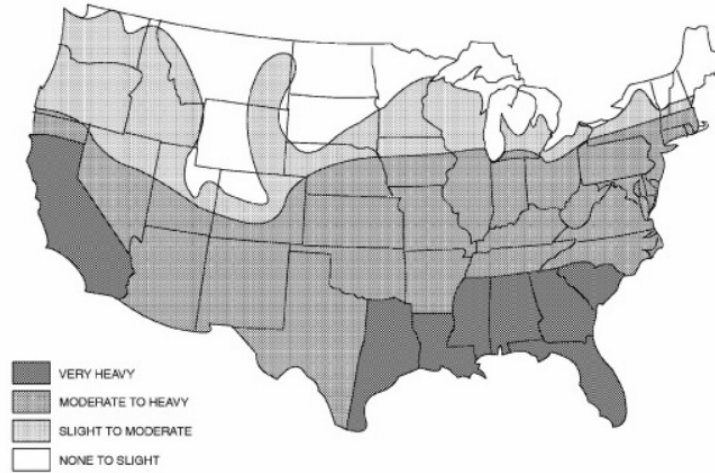
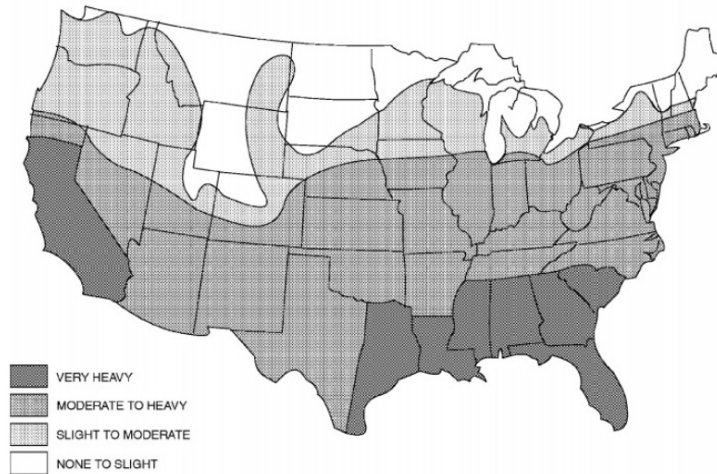


FIGURE 2603.8

TERMITE INFESTATION PROBABILITY MAP

**Figure 2.** Termite Infestation Probability Map - IBC Figure 2603.8



Note: Lines defining areas are approximate only. Local conditions may be more or less severe than indicated by the region classification.

FIGURE R318.4

TERMITE INFESTATION PROBABILITY MAP

**Figure 3.** Termite Infestation Probability Map - IRC Figure R318.4<sup>25</sup>



- 6.6 In addition to the general provisions for protection of wood structures against termites, provisions for the use of foam plastic insulation in areas subject to “*very heavy*” termite infestation probability are found in both the IBC and IRC.

#### IBC Section 2603.8 Protection Against Termites

In areas where the probability of termite infestation is very heavy in accordance with [Figure 2603.8](#), extruded and expanded polystyrene, polyisocyanurate and other foam plastics shall not be installed on the exterior face or under interior or exterior foundation walls or slab foundations located below grade. The clearance between foam plastics installed above grade and exposed earth shall be at least 6 inches (152 mm).

#### **Exceptions:**

1. Buildings where the structural members of walls, floors, ceilings and roofs are entirely of noncombustible materials or preservative-treated wood.
2. An approved method of protecting the foam plastic and structure from subterranean termite damage is provided.
3. On the interior side of basement walls.

#### IRC Section R318.4 Foam Plastic Protection

In areas where the probability of termite infestation is “*very heavy*” as indicated in [Figure R318](#), extruded and expanded polystyrene, polyisocyanurate and other foam plastics shall not be installed on the exterior face or under interior or exterior foundation walls or slab foundations located below grade. The clearance between foam plastics installed above grade and exposed earth shall be at least 6 inches (152 mm).

#### **Exceptions:**

1. Buildings where the structural members of walls, floors, ceilings and roofs are entirely of noncombustible materials or pressure-preservative-treated wood.
2. When in addition to the requirements of [Section R318.1](#), an approved method of protecting the foam plastic and structure from subterranean termite damage is used.
3. On the interior side of basement walls.

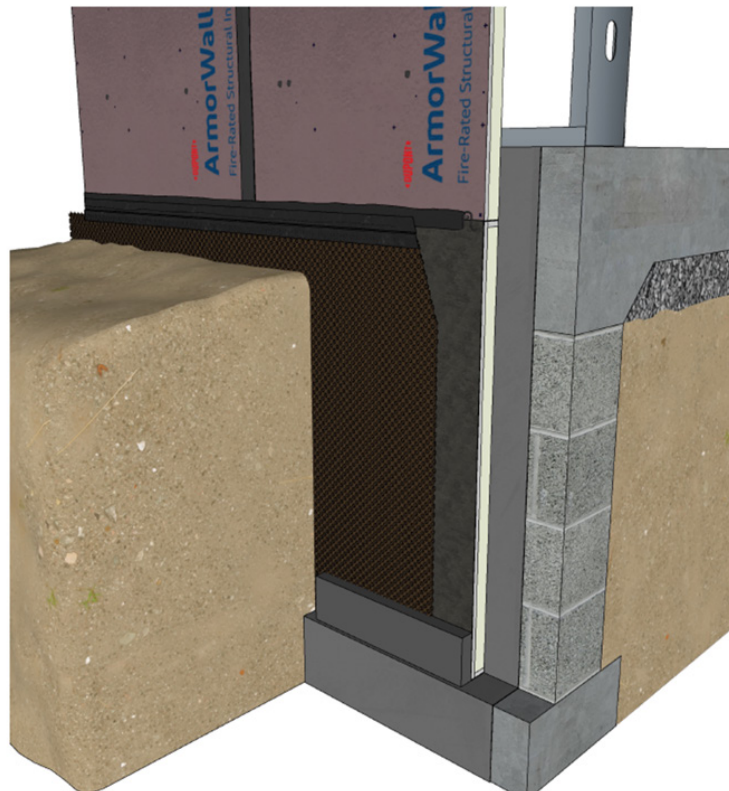
- 6.7 The use of FPIS in three locations is addressed as needing special consideration:

- 6.7.1 Under slab foundations below grade
- 6.7.2 On the exterior face of foundation walls
- 6.7.3 Under interior or exterior foundation walls

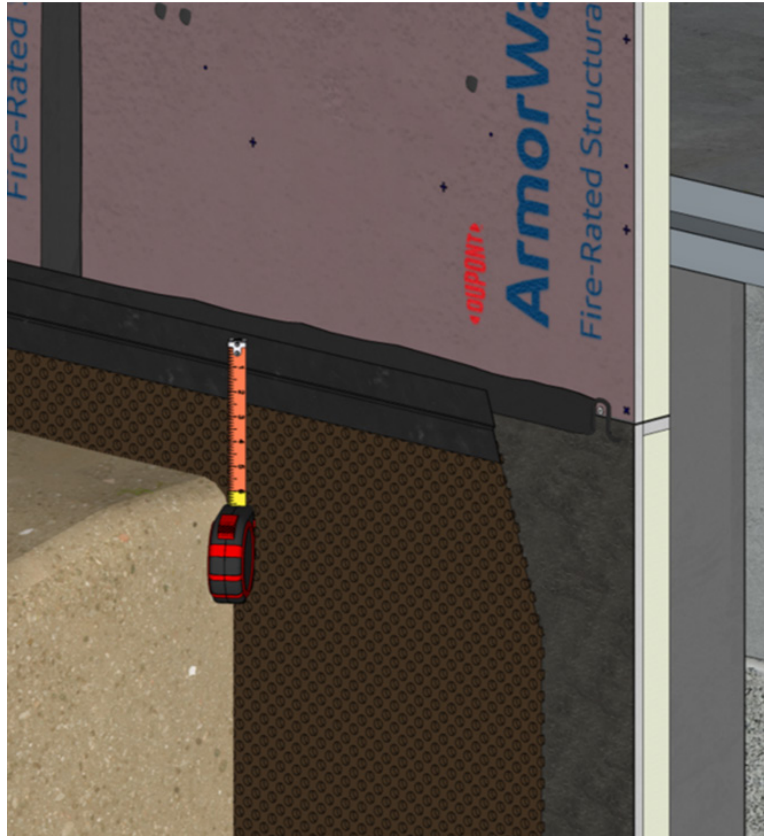
- 6.8 In areas subject to “*very heavy*” termite infestation probability, the use of foam plastic insulation is permitted in the following circumstances, per the exceptions given in [IBC Section 2603.8](#) and [IRC Section R318.4](#):

- 6.8.1 **Exception #1:** Where the structure in its entirety is made of noncombustible materials or pressure preservative treated wood.
- 6.8.2 **Exception #2:** In addition to the requirements of [IRC Section R318.1](#), where an approved method of protecting the foam and the structure is used.
- 6.8.3 **Exception #3:** In cases where continuous insulation is required on basement walls, that it be installed on the interior side.

- 6.9 The following methods can be considered for approval for the protection of the FPIS in “very heavy” termite infestation probability areas (Exception #2).
- 6.9.1 Use of ArmorWall BG insulation that incorporates a termite barrier, like TERM Barrier System or Termimesh Termite Control System.
- 6.9.1.1 ArmorWall BG exceeds the performance requirements set forth by the U.S. EPA, which enables code approval for use in below-grade applications in “very heavy” termite infested areas.
- 6.10 FPIS is not a food source for the termites. However, FPIS may serve as a pathway for termites to travel through causing damage that is not visible for inspection.
- 6.11 Products called termite shields generally provide only a physical deterrent to termites and may expose their activity, but do not by themselves necessarily protect against termites, although they make inspection easier. These products need to be used in conjunction with another method of protection in accordance with [IRC Section R318.3](#).
- R318.3 Barriers** Approved physical barriers, such as metal or plastic sheeting or collars specifically designed for termite prevention, shall be installed in a manner to prevent termites from entering the structure. Shields placed on top of an exterior foundation wall are permitted to be used only if in combination with another method of protection.
- 6.12 ArmorWall BG is approved as a physical barrier system. **Figure 4** and **Figure 5** show the use of ArmorWall BG on the exterior side of foundation walls and comply with the IBC and IRC for use in areas of “very heavy” probability of termite infestation.



**Figure 4.** Wall Assembly Detail



**Figure 5.** Wall Assembly Detail

- 6.13 Where the application falls outside of the performance evaluation, conditions of use, and/or installation requirements set forth herein, alternative techniques shall be permitted in accordance with accepted engineering practice and experience. This includes but is not limited to the following areas of engineering: mechanics or materials, structural, building science, and fire science.

## 7 Certified Performance<sup>26</sup>

- 7.1 All construction methods shall conform to accepted engineering practices to ensure durable, livable, and safe construction and shall demonstrate acceptable workmanship reflecting journeyman quality of work of the various trades.<sup>27</sup>
- 7.2 The strength and rigidity of the component parts and/or the integrated structure shall be determined by engineering analysis or by suitable load tests to simulate the actual loads and conditions of application that occur.<sup>28</sup>



## 8 Regulatory Evaluation and Accepted Engineering Practice

- 8.1 This report evaluates the use of ArmorWall BG exterior wall sheathing in areas designated by the building code as requiring protection from subterranean termites.
- 8.2 This report also examines the use of ArmorWall BG exterior wall sheathing in areas designated by the applicable building code as having a “*very heavy*” probability of termite infestation.
- 8.3 ArmorWall BG is evaluated for use under slab foundations below grade, on the exterior face of foundation walls and under exterior foundation walls.
- 8.4 Any building code, regulation and/or accepted engineering evaluations (i.e., research reports, duly authenticated reports, etc.) that are conducted for this Listing were performed by DrJ Engineering, LLC (DrJ), an ISO/IEC 17065 accredited certification body and a professional engineering company operated by RDP/approved sources. DrJ is qualified<sup>29</sup> to practice product and regulatory compliance services within its scope of accreditation and engineering expertise, respectively.
- 8.5 Engineering evaluations are conducted with DrJ’s ANAB accredited ICS code scope of expertise, which are also its areas of professional engineering competence.
- 8.6 Any regulation specific issues not addressed in this section are outside the scope of this report.

## 9 Installation

- 9.1 Installation shall comply with the approved construction documents, the manufacturer installation instructions, this report, and the applicable building code.
- 9.2 In the event of a conflict between the manufacturer installation instructions and this report, the more restrictive shall govern.
- 9.3 For application details not covered in this report, use of ArmorWall BG insulation is permitted, provided the application is approved and meets the intent of the applicable code.
- 9.4 Installation in areas designated as “*very heavy*” termite infestation probability must comply with IBC Section 2603.8 or IRC Section R318.4.

## 10 Substantiating Data

- 10.1 Testing has been performed under the supervision of a professional engineer and/or under the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025 as follows:
  - 10.1.1 Protection against termites in accordance with AWPA E1
  - 10.1.2 Thermal transmission properties testing in accordance with ASTM C518
  - 10.1.3 Flame spread and smoke development testing in accordance with UL 723
- 10.2 Information contained herein may include the result of testing and/or data analysis by sources that are approved agencies, approved sources, and/or RDPs. Accuracy of external test data and resulting analysis is relied upon.
- 10.3 Where applicable, testing and/or engineering analysis are based upon provisions that have been codified into law through state or local adoption of regulations and standards. The developers of these regulations and standards are responsible for the reliability of published content. DrJ’s engineering practice may use a regulation-adopted provision as the control. A regulation-endorsed control versus a simulation of the conditions of application to occur establishes a new material as being equivalent to the regulatory provision in terms of quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability, and safety.





- 10.4 The accuracy of the provisions provided herein may be reliant upon the published properties of raw materials, which are defined by the grade mark, grade stamp, mill certificate, or duly authenticated reports from approved agencies and/or approved sources provided by the supplier. These are presumed to be minimum properties and relied upon to be accurate. The reliability of DrJ's engineering practice, as contained in this duly authenticated report, may be dependent upon published design properties by others.
- 10.5 Testing and engineering analysis: The strength, rigidity, and/or general performance of component parts and/or the integrated structure are determined by suitable tests that simulate the actual conditions of application that occur and/or by accepted engineering practice and experience.<sup>30</sup>
- 10.6 Where additional condition of use and/or regulatory compliance information is required, please search for ArmorWall BG on the DrJ Certification website.

## 11 Findings

- 11.1 As outlined in **Section 6**, ArmorWall BG has performance characteristics that were tested and/or meet applicable regulations and are suitable for use pursuant to its specified purpose.
- 11.2 When used and installed in accordance with this duly authenticated report and the manufacturer installation instructions, ArmorWall BG shall be approved for the following:
  - 11.2.1 Installation in areas designated at having "very heavy" termite infestation probability in the following installation scenarios:
    - 11.2.1.1 Under the slab foundation below grade
    - 11.2.1.2 On the interior or exterior face of foundation walls
    - 11.2.1.3 Under interior or exterior foundation walls
- 11.3 Any application specific issues not addressed herein can be engineered by an RDP. Assistance with engineering is available from DuPont de Nemours, Inc.
- 11.4 IBC Section 104.11 (IRC Section R104.11 and IFC Section 104.10<sup>31</sup> are similar) in pertinent part states:

**104.11 Alternative materials, design and methods of construction and equipment.** The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the installation of any material or to prohibit any design or method of construction not specifically prescribed by this code. Where the alternative material, design or method of construction is not approved, the building official shall respond in writing, stating the reasons the alternative was not approved.
- 11.5 **Approved:**<sup>32</sup> Building regulations require that the building official shall accept duly authenticated reports.<sup>33</sup>
  - 11.5.1 An approved agency is "approved" when it is ANAB ISO/IEC 17065 accredited.
  - 11.5.2 An approved source is "approved" when an RDP is properly licensed to transact engineering commerce.
  - 11.5.3 Federal law, Title 18 US Code Section 242, requires that where the alternative product, material, service, design, assembly, and/or method of construction is not approved, the building official shall respond in writing, stating the reasons why the alternative was not approved. Denial without written reason deprives a protected right to free and fair competition in the marketplace.
- 11.6 DrJ is a licensed engineering company, employs licensed RDPs and is an ANAB-Accredited Product Certification Body – Accreditation #1131.
- 11.7 Through the IAF Multilateral Agreements (MLA), this duly authenticated report can be used to obtain product approval in any jurisdiction or country because all ANAB ISO/IEC 17065 duly authenticated reports are equivalent.<sup>34</sup>



## 12 Conditions of Use

- 12.1 Material properties shall not fall outside the boundaries defined in **Section 6**.
- 12.2 As defined in **Section 6**, where material and/or engineering mechanics properties are created for load resisting design purposes, the resistance to the applied load shall not exceed the ability of the defined properties to resist those loads using the principles of accepted engineering practice.
- 12.3 As listed herein, ArmorWall BG shall be used as:
- 12.3.1 Termiticides shall be applied in accordance with the manufacturer installation instructions and shall comply with all applicable state and federal regulations pertaining to their use.
  - 12.3.2 Installation of the methods of protection shall be in accordance with the installation instructions provided by the manufacturer of the product used for protection.
- 12.4 When required by adopted legislation and enforced by the building official, also known as the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) in which the project is to be constructed:
- 12.4.1 Any calculations incorporated into the construction documents shall conform to accepted engineering practice and, when prepared by an approved source, shall be approved when signed and sealed.
  - 12.4.2 This report and the installation instructions shall be submitted at the time of permit application.
  - 12.4.3 This innovative product has an internal quality control program and a third-party quality assurance program.
  - 12.4.4 At a minimum, this innovative product shall be installed per **Section 9** of this report.
  - 12.4.5 The review of this report by the AHJ shall comply with IBC Section 104 and IBC Section 105.4.
  - 12.4.6 This innovative product has an internal quality control program and a third party quality assurance program in accordance with IBC Section 104.4, IBC Section 110.4, IBC Section 1703, IRC Section R104.4, and IRC Section R109.2.
  - 12.4.7 The application of this innovative product in the context of this report is dependent upon the accuracy of the construction documents, implementation of installation instructions, inspection as required by IBC Section 110.3, IRC Section R109.2, and any other regulatory requirements that may apply.
- 12.5 The approval of this report by the AHJ shall comply with IBC Section 1707.1, where legislation states in part, *"the building official shall accept duly authenticated reports from approved agencies in respect to the quality and manner of use of new material or assemblies as provided for in Section 104.11,"* all of IBC Section 104, and IBC Section 105.4.
- 12.6 Design loads shall be determined in accordance with the regulations adopted by the jurisdiction in which the project is to be constructed and/or by the building designer (i.e., owner or RDP).
- 12.7 The actual design, suitability, and use of this report for any particular building, is the responsibility of the owner or the authorized agent of the owner.



### 13 Identification

- 13.1 The innovative product listed in **Section 1.1** is identified by a label on the board or packaging material bearing the manufacturer name, product name, this report number, and other information to confirm code compliance.
- 13.2 Additional technical information can be found at [www.dupont.com](http://www.dupont.com).

### 14 Review Schedule

- 14.1 This report is subject to periodic review and revision. For the latest version, visit [drjcertification.org](http://drjcertification.org).
- 14.2 For information on the status of this report, please contact [DrJ Certification](#).

### 15 Approved for Use Pursuant to U.S. and International Legislation Defined in Appendix A

- 15.1 ArmorWall BG is included in this report published by an approved agency that is concerned with evaluation of products or services, maintains periodic inspection of the production of listed materials or periodic evaluation of services. This report states either that the material, product, or service meets recognized standards or has been tested and found suitable for a specified purpose. This report meets the legislative intent and definition of being acceptable to the AHJ.



## Appendix A

### 1 Legislation that Authorizes AHJ Approval

- 1.1 **Fair Competition:** State legislatures have adopted Federal regulations for the examination and approval of building code referenced and alternative products, materials, designs, services, assemblies, and/or methods of construction that:
  - 1.1.1 Advance innovation.
  - 1.1.2 Promote competition so all businesses have the opportunity to compete on price and quality in an open market on a level playing field unhampered by anticompetitive constraints.
  - 1.1.3 Benefit consumers through lower prices, better quality, and greater choice.
- 1.2 **Adopted Legislation:** The following local, state and federal regulations affirmatively authorize this innovative product to be approved by AHJs, delegates of building departments, and/or delegates of an agency of the federal government:
  - 1.2.1 Interstate commerce is governed by the Federal Department of Justice to encourage the use of innovative products, materials, designs, services, assemblies, and/or methods of construction. The goal is to “*protect economic freedom and opportunity by promoting free and fair competition in the marketplace.*”
  - 1.2.2 Title 18 US Code Section 242 affirms and regulates the right of individuals and businesses to freely and fairly have new products, materials, designs, services, assemblies, and/or methods of construction approved for use in commerce. Disapproval of alternatives shall be based upon non-conformance with respect to specific provisions of adopted legislation and shall be provided in writing stating the reasons why the alternative was not approved, with reference to the specific legislation violated.
  - 1.2.3 The federal government and each state have a public records act. In addition, each state also has legislation that mimics the federal Defend Trade Secrets Act 2016 (DTSA),<sup>35</sup> where providing test reports, engineering analysis, and/or other related IP/TS is subject to prison of not more than ten years<sup>36</sup> and/or a \$5,000,000 fine or 3 times the value of<sup>37</sup> the Intellectual Property (IP) and Trade Secrets (TS).
    - 1.2.3.1 Compliance with public records and trade secret legislation requires approval through the use of Listings, certified reports, Technical Evaluation Reports, duly authenticated reports, and/or research reports prepared by approved agencies and/or approved sources.
  - 1.2.4 For new materials<sup>38</sup> that are not specifically provided for in any regulation, the design strengths and permissible stresses shall be established by tests, where suitable load tests simulate the actual loads and conditions of application that occur.
  - 1.2.5 The design strengths and permissible stresses of any structural material shall conform to the specifications and methods of design using accepted engineering practice.<sup>39</sup>
  - 1.2.6 The commerce of approved sources (i.e., registered PEs) is regulated by professional engineering legislation. Professional engineering commerce shall always be approved by AHJs, except where there is evidence provided in writing, that specific legislation have been violated by an individual registered PE.
  - 1.2.7 The AHJ shall accept duly authenticated reports from approved agencies in respect to the quality and manner of use of new materials or assemblies as provided for in IBC Section 104.11.<sup>40</sup>



- 1.3 **Approved<sup>41</sup> by Los Angeles:** The Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) states in pertinent part that the provisions of LAMC are not intended to prevent the use of any material, device, or method of construction not specifically prescribed by LAMC. The Department shall use Part III, Recognized Standards in addition to Part II, Uniform Building Code Standards of Division 35, Article 1, Chapter IX of the LAMC in evaluation of products for approval where such standard exists for the product or the material and may use other approved standards that apply. Whenever tests or certificates of any material or fabricated assembly are required by Chapter IX of the LAMC, such tests or certification shall be made by a testing agency approved by the Superintendent of Building to conduct such tests or provide such certifications. The testing agency shall publish the scope and limitation(s) of the listed material or fabricated assembly.<sup>42</sup> The Superintendent of Building Approved Testing Agency Roster is provided by the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LADBS). The Center for Building Innovation (CBI) Certificate of Approval License is TA24945. Tests and certifications found in a DrJ Listing are LAMC approved. In addition, the Superintendent of Building shall accept duly authenticated reports from approved agencies in respect to the quality and manner of use of new materials or assemblies as provided for in the California Building Code (CBC) Section 1707.1.<sup>43</sup>
- 1.4 **Approved by Chicago:** The Municipal Code of Chicago (MCC) states in pertinent part that an Approved Agency is a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL) acting within its recognized scope and/or a certification body accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) acting within its accredited scope. Construction materials and test procedures shall conform to the applicable standards listed in the MCC. Sufficient technical data shall be submitted to the building official to substantiate the proposed use of any product, material, service, design, assembly, and/or method of construction not specifically provided for in the MCC. This technical data shall consist of research reports from approved sources (i.e., MCC defined Approved Agencies).
- 1.5 **Approved by New York City:** The 2022 NYC Building Code (NYCBC) states in part that an approved agency shall be deemed<sup>44</sup> an approved testing agency via ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation, an approved inspection agency via ISO/IEC 17020 accreditation, and an approved product evaluation agency via ISO/IEC 17065 accreditation. Accrediting agencies, other than federal agencies, must be members of an internationally recognized cooperation of laboratory and inspection accreditation bodies subject to a mutual recognition agreement<sup>45</sup> (i.e., ANAB, International Accreditation Forum also known as IAF, etc.).
- 1.6 **Approved by Florida:** Statewide approval of products, methods or systems of construction shall be approved, without further evaluation by:
- 1.6.1 A certification mark or listing of an approved certification agency,
  - 1.6.2 A test report from an approved testing laboratory,
  - 1.6.3 A product evaluation report based upon testing or comparative or rational analysis, or a combination thereof, from an approved product evaluation entity, or
  - 1.6.4 A product evaluation report based upon testing, comparative or rational analysis, or a combination thereof, developed, signed, and sealed by a professional engineer or architect, licensed in Florida.
  - 1.6.5 For local product approval, products or systems of construction shall demonstrate compliance with the structural wind load requirements of the Florida Building Code (FBC) through one of the following methods:
    - 1.6.5.1 A certification mark, listing, or label from a commission-approved certification agency indicating that the product complies with the code,
    - 1.6.5.2 A test report from a commission-approved testing laboratory indicating that the product tested complies with the code,
    - 1.6.5.3 A product-evaluation report based upon testing, comparative or rational analysis, or a combination thereof, from a commission-approved product evaluation entity which indicates that the product evaluated complies with the code,



- 1.6.5.4 A product-evaluation report or certification based upon testing or comparative or rational analysis, or a combination thereof, developed and signed and sealed by a Florida professional engineer or Florida registered architect, which indicates that the product complies with the code, or
- 1.6.5.5 A statewide product approval issued by the Florida Building Commission.
- 1.6.6 The [Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation \(DBPR\)](#) website provides a listing of companies certified as a [Product Evaluation Agency](#) (i.e., EVLMiami 13692), a [Product Certification Agency](#) (i.e., CER10642), and as a [Florida Registered Engineer](#) (i.e., ANE13741).
- 1.7 **Approved by Miami-Dade County (i.e., Notice of Acceptance [NOA]):** A Florida statewide approval is an NOA. An NOA is a Florida local product approval. By Florida law, Miami-Dade County shall accept the statewide and local Florida Product Approval as provided for in Florida legislation [553.842](#) and [553.8425](#).
- 1.8 **Approved by New Jersey:** Pursuant to the 2018 Building Code of New Jersey in [IBC Section 1707.1 General](#),<sup>46</sup> it states: “*In the absence of approved rules or other approved standards, the building official shall accept duly authenticated reports from [approved agencies](#) in respect to the quality and manner of use of new materials or assemblies as provided for in the administrative provisions of the Uniform Construction Code (N.J.A.C. 5:23)*.”<sup>47</sup> Furthermore N.J.A.C 5:23-3.7 states: “*Municipal approvals of alternative materials, equipment, or methods of construction.*”
  - 1.8.1 **Approvals:** Alternative materials, equipment, or methods of construction shall be approved by the appropriate subcode official provided the proposed design is satisfactory and that the materials, equipment, or methods of construction are suitable for the intended use and are at least the equivalent in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability, and safety of those conforming with the requirements of the regulations.
    - 1.8.1.1 A field evaluation label and report or letter issued by a nationally recognized testing laboratory verifying that the specific material, equipment, or method of construction meets the identified standards or has been tested and found to be suitable for the intended use, shall be accepted by the appropriate subcode official as meeting the requirements of the above.
    - 1.8.1.2 Reports of engineering findings issued by nationally recognized evaluation service programs such as but not limited to, the Building Officials and Code Administrators (BOCA), the International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO), the Southern Building Code Congress International (SBCCI), the International Code Council (ICC), and the National Evaluation Service, Inc., shall be accepted by the appropriate subcode official as meeting the requirements of the above.
  - 1.8.2 The [New Jersey Department of Community Affairs](#) has confirmed that technical evaluation reports, from any accredited entity listed by [ANAB](#), meets the requirements of item the previous paragraph, given that the listed entities are no longer in existence and/or do not provide “*reports of engineering findings.*”
- 1.9 **Approved by the Code of Federal Regulations Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards:** Pursuant to Title 24, Subtitle B, Chapter XX, [Part 3282.14](#)<sup>48</sup> and [Part 3280](#),<sup>49</sup> the Department encourages innovation and the use of new technology in manufactured homes. The design and construction of a manufactured home shall conform to the provisions of Part 3282 and Part 3280 where key approval provisions in mandatory language follow:
  - 1.9.1 “*All construction methods shall be in conformance with accepted engineering practices.*”
  - 1.9.2 “*The strength and rigidity of the component parts and/or the integrated structure shall be determined by engineering analysis or by suitable load tests to simulate the actual loads and conditions of application that occur.*”
  - 1.9.3 “*The design stresses of all materials shall conform to accepted engineering practice.*”



- 1.10 **Approval by US, Local and State Jurisdictions in General:** In all other local and state jurisdictions, the adopted building code legislation states in pertinent part that:
- 1.10.1 For new materials that are not specifically provided for in this code, the design strengths and permissible stresses shall be established by tests.<sup>50</sup>
  - 1.10.2 For innovative alternatives and/or methods of construction, the building official shall accept duly authenticated reports from approved agencies with respect to the quality and manner of use of new materials or assemblies.<sup>51</sup>
    - 1.10.2.1 An approved agency is “*approved*” when it is ANAB ISO/IEC 17065 accredited. DrJ Engineering, LLC (DrJ) is in the ANAB directory.
    - 1.10.2.2 An approved source is “*approved*” when an RDP is properly licensed to transact engineering commerce. The regulatory authority governing approved sources is the state legislature via its professional engineering regulations.<sup>52</sup>
  - 1.10.3 The design strengths and permissible stresses of any structural material...shall conform to the specifications and methods of design of accepted engineering practice performed by an approved source.<sup>53</sup>
- 1.11 **Approval by International Jurisdictions:** The USMCA and GATT agreements provide for approval of innovative materials, designs, services, and/or methods of construction through the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade and the IAF Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA), where these agreements:
- 1.11.1 State that conformity assessment procedures (i.e., ISO/IEC 17020, 17025, 17065, etc.) are prepared, adopted, and applied so as to grant access for suppliers of like products originating in the territories of other Members under conditions no less favourable than those accorded to suppliers of like products of national origin or originating in any other country, in a comparable situation.
  - 1.11.2 **Approved:** The purpose of the MLA is to ensure mutual recognition of accredited certification and validation/verification statements between signatories to the MLA and subsequently, acceptance of accredited certification and validation/verification statements in many markets based on one accreditation for the timely approval of innovative materials, designs, services, and/or methods of construction.
  - 1.11.3 ANAB is an IAF-MLA signatory where recognition of certificates, validation, and verification statements issued by conformity assessment bodies accredited by all other signatories of the IAF MLA, with the appropriate scope, shall be approved.<sup>54</sup>
  - 1.11.4 Therefore, all ANAB ISO/IEC 17065 duly authenticated reports are approval equivalent.<sup>55</sup>
- 1.12 Approval equity is a fundamental commercial and legal principle.<sup>56</sup>



# Notes

- 1 For more information, visit [drjcertification.org](http://drjcertification.org) or call us at 608-310-6748.
- 2 <https://up.codes/viewer/wyoming/ibc-2021/chapter/17/special-inspections-and-tests#1702>
- 3 Alternative Materials, Design and Methods of Construction and Equipment: The provisions of any regulation code are not intended to prevent the installation of any material or to prohibit any design or method of construction not specifically prescribed by a regulation. Please review <https://www.justice.gov/atr/mission> and <https://up.codes/viewer/colorado/ibc-2021/chapter/1/scope-and-administration#104.11>
- 4 <https://up.codes/viewer/wyoming/ibc-2021/chapter/17/special-inspections-and-tests#1706>:-:text=the%20design%20strengths%20and%20permissible%20stresses%20shall%20be%20established%20by%20tests%20as
- 5 The design strengths and permissible stresses of any structural material shall conform to the specifications and methods of design of accepted engineering practice. <https://up.codes/viewer/wyoming/ibc-2021/chapter/17/special-inspections-and-tests#1706>:-:text=shall%20conform%20to%20the%20specifications%20and%20methods%20of%20design%20of%20accepted%20engineering%20practice
- 6 <https://up.codes/viewer/wyoming/ibc-2021/chapter/17/special-inspections-and-tests#1707.1>:-:text=the%20building%20official%20shall%20accept%20duly%20authenticated%20reports%20from%20approved%20agencies
- 7 <https://up.codes/viewer/wyoming/ibc-2021/chapter/17/special-inspections-and-tests#1703.4.2>
- 8 [https://up.codes/viewer/wyoming/ibc-2021/chapter/2/definitions#approved\\_agency](https://up.codes/viewer/wyoming/ibc-2021/chapter/2/definitions#approved_agency)
- 9 [https://up.codes/viewer/wyoming/ibc-2021/chapter/2/definitions#approved\\_source](https://up.codes/viewer/wyoming/ibc-2021/chapter/2/definitions#approved_source)
- 10 <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/1832> (b) Any organization that commits any offense described in subsection (a) shall be fined not more than the greater of \$5,000,000 or 3 times the value of the stolen trade secret to the organization, including expenses for research and design and other costs of reproducing the trade secret that the organization has thereby avoided. The federal government and each state have a public records act. To follow DTSA and comply state public records and trade secret legislation requires approval through ANAB ISO/IEC 17065 accredited certification bodies or approved sources. For more information, please review this website: [Intellectual Property and Trade Secrets](#).
- 11 <https://www.nspe.org/resources/issues-and-advocacy/professional-policies-and-position-statements/regulation-professional> AND <https://apassociation.org/list-of-engineering-boards-in-each-state-archive/>
- 12 <https://www.cbiteest.com/accreditation/>
- 13 <https://up.codes/viewer/colorado/ibc-2021/chapter/1/scope-and-administration#104>:-:text=to%20enforce%20the%20provisions%20of%20this%20code
- 14 <https://up.codes/viewer/colorado/ibc-2021/chapter/1/scope-and-administration#104.11>:-:text=Where%20the%20alternative%20material%20design%20or%20method%20of%20construction%20is%20not%20approved%20the%20building%20official%20shall%20respond%20in%20writing%20stating%20the%20reasons%20why%20the%20alternative%20was%20not%20approved AND <https://up.codes/viewer/colorado/ibc-2021/chapter/1/scope-and-administration#105.3.1>:-:text=If%20the%20application%20or%20the%20construction%20documents%20do%20not%20conform%20to%20the%20requirements%20of%20pertinent%20laws%20the%20building%20official%20shall%20reject%20such%20application%20in%20writing%20stating%20the%20reasons%20therefore
- 15 <https://up.codes/viewer/colorado/ibc-2021/chapter/17/special-inspections-and-tests#1707.1>:-:text=the%20building%20official%20shall%20accept%20duly%20authenticated%20reports%20from%20approved%20agencies%20in%20respect%20to%20the%20quality%20and%20manner%20of%20use%20of%20new%20materials%20or%20assemblies%20as%20provided%20for%20in%20Section%20104.11
- 16 <https://iaf.eu/en/about-iaf>:-:text=it%20is%20required%20to%20recognise%20certificates%20and%20validation%20and%20verification%20statements%20issued%20by%20conformity%20assessment%20bodies%20accredited%20by%20all%20other%20signatories%20of%20the%20IAF%20MLA%20with%20the%20appropriate%20scope
- 17 True for all ANAB accredited product evaluation agencies and all International Trade Agreements.
- 18 <https://www.justice.gov/crt/deprivation-rights-under-color-law> AND <https://www.justice.gov/atr/mission>
- 19 Unless otherwise noted, all references in this Listing are from the 2021 version of the codes and the standards referenced therein. This material, product, design, service and/or method of construction also complies with the 2000-2021 versions of the referenced codes and the standards referenced therein.
- 20 <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-24/subtitle-B/chapter-XX/part-3280#p-3280.2>(Listed%20or%20certified); <https://up.codes/viewer/colorado/ibc-2021/chapter/2/definitions#listed> AND <https://up.codes/viewer/colorado/ibc-2021/chapter/2/definitions#labeled>
- 21 [2018 IRC Table N1102.1.2](#)
- 22 [2018 IECC Table C402.1.4](#)
- 23 [2018 IECC Table R402.1.2](#)
- 24 [2018 Table R301.2\(1\)](#)
- 25 [2018 IRC Figure R301.2\(7\)](#)
- 26 <https://up.codes/viewer/colorado/ibc-2021/chapter/17/special-inspections-and-tests#1703.4>
- 27 <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-24/subtitle-B/chapter-XX/part-3280#>:-:text=All%20construction%20methods%20shall%20be%20in%20conformance%20with%20accepted%20engineering%20practices%20to%20insure%20durable%20livable%20and%20safe%20housing%20and%20shall%20demonstrate%20acceptable%20workmanship%20reflecting%20journeyman%20quality%20of%20work%20of%20the%20various%20trades
- 28 <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-24/subtitle-B/chapter-XX/part-3280#>:-:text=The%20strength%20and%20rigidity%20of%20the%20component%20parts%20and/or%20the%20integrated%20structure%20shall%20be%20determined%20by%20engineering%20analysis%20or%20by%20suitable%20load%20tests%20to%20simulate%20the%20actual%20loads%20and%20conditions%20of%20application%20that%20occur
- 29 Qualification is performed by a legislatively defined Accreditation Body. ANS National Accreditation Board (ANAB) is the largest independent accreditation body in North America and provides services in more than 75 countries. DrJ is an ANAB accredited product certification body.
- 30 See Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 24 Subtitle B Chapter XX Part 3280 for definition.





31 [2018 IFC Section 104.9](#)

32 Approved is an adjective that modifies the noun after it. For example, Approved Agency means that the Agency is accepted officially as being suitable in a particular situation. This example conforms to IBC/IRC/IFC [Section 201.4](#) where the building code authorizes sentences to have an ordinarily accepted meaning such as the context implies.

33 <https://up.codes/viewer/wyoming/ibc-2021/chapter/17/special-inspections-and-tests#1707.1>

34 Multilateral approval is true for all ANAB accredited product evaluation agencies and all International Trade Agreements.

35 <http://www.drjengineering.org/AppendixC> AND <https://www.drjcertification.org/cornell-2016-protection-trade-secrets>

36 <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/1832#:~:text=imprisoned%20not%20more%20than%2010%20years>

37 <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/1832#:~:text=Any%20organization%20that,has%20thereby%20avoided>

38 <https://up.codes/viewer/wyoming/ibc-2021/chapter/17/special-inspections-and-tests#1706.2>

39 [IBC 2021, Section 1706.1 Conformance to Standards](#)

40 [IBC 2021, Section 1707 Alternative Test Procedure, 1707.1 General](#)

41 See **Section 11** for the distilled building code definition of **Approved**.

42 [Los Angeles Municipal Code, SEC. 98.0503. TESTING AGENCIES](#)

43 <https://up.codes/viewer/california/ca-building-code-2022/chapter/17/special-inspections-and-tests#1707.1>

44 [New York City, The Rules of the City of New York, § 101-07 Approved Agencies](#)

45 [New York City, The Rules of the City of New York, § 101-07 Approved Agencies](#)

46 <https://up.codes/viewer/new-jersey/ibc-2018/chapter/17/special-inspections-and-tests#1707.1>

47 <https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/codes/codreg/ucc.html>

48 <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-24/subtitle-B/chapter-XX/part-3282/subpart-A/section-3282.14>

49 <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-24/subtitle-B/chapter-XX/part-3280>

50 [IBC 2021, Section 1706 Design Strengths of Materials, 1706.2 New Materials](#). Adopted law pursuant to IBC model code language 1706.2.

51 [IBC 2021, Section 1707 Alternative Test Procedure, 1707.1 General](#). Adopted law pursuant to IBC model code language 1707.1.

52 <https://www.nspe.org/resources/issues-and-advocacy/professional-policies-and-position-statements/regulation-professional> AND <https://apassociation.org/list-of-engineering-boards-in-each-state-archive/>

53 [IBC 2021, Section 1706 Design Strengths of Materials, Section 1706.1 Conformance to Standards](#) Adopted law pursuant to IBC model code language 1706.1.

54 <https://iaf.nu/en/about-iaf-mla/#:~:text=it%20is%20required%20to%20recognise%20certificates%20and%20validation%20and%20verification%20statements%20issued%20by%20conformity%20assessment%20bodies%20accredited%20by%20all%20other%20signatories%20of%20the%20IAF%20MLA%2C%20with%20the%20appropriate%20scope>

55 True for all ANAB accredited product evaluation agencies and all International Trade Agreements.

56 <https://www.justice.gov/crt/deprivation-rights-under-color-law> AND <https://www.justice.gov/atr/mission>