

# Florida Product Approval System

**Florida Building Commission  
Florida Department of  
Community Affairs  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100  
(850) 487-1824**

**[www.floridabuilding.org](http://www.floridabuilding.org)**





# The New Florida Product Approval System

- ✦ The new system includes a web-site, [www.floridabuilding.org](http://www.floridabuilding.org) for submittal of applications, payment of fees for entity approvals and state product approvals, the Building Code Information System (BCIS).

# The New Florida Product Approval System

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Florida Department of Community Affairs Building Code Information System. The header features the department's logo and the title "The Florida Department of Community Affairs Building Code Information System". A welcome message is displayed in a blue banner. The main content area includes a "FBC Main Telephone Line" link, a notice about credit card payments, and information about the prototype buildings program. A "WHAT'S NEW?" section lists recent updates like "Yellow Pages - Glitch Code" and "Surcharges Online Instructions". A sidebar on the left provides site navigation, and a support section on the right offers login and contact options.

**DEPARTMENT OF Community Affairs**

## The Florida Department of Community Affairs Building Code Information System

Welcome to the website of the Florida Department of Community Affairs Building Code Information System! This site provides access to public and secured electronic information associated with the Florida Building Code. If you have not previously visited this site, please take a moment and register as an authorized user. Or, you can access general public information with out registering.

**SITE NAVIGATION**

- Home
- Florida Building Code
- Manufact. Buildings
- Prototype Building
- Surcharges
- Training
- Product Approval

**FBC Main Telephone Line: (850) 487-1824**

**\*\*\* NOTICE \*\*\*** When buying on this site be sure to only enter and submit your Credit Card number ONE (1) time. If you get an error instead of a receipt, DO NOT ENTER CREDIT CARD NUMBER AGAIN. Call FBC staff support at 850-487-1824 to report the error, and what you were purchasing. Credits back to your account may take between 10 - 30 days.

This website no longer accepts VISA for payment for Insignias, Code Orders, Training Material Orders, CE Entry, Organization Registration, or Product submittal. For the above we accept Master Card, American Express, Discover, and Electronic Checks. This website ONLY ACCEPTS VISA in two areas (both of which receive payments outside BCIS): These two areas are: 1) Payment to FSU for the Online Core Course and 2) Prototype Buildings Program.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**New Surcharges Online!**

**Prototype Buildings**

Legislation related to prototype buildings was passed during the 2000 Legislative session. The Prototype Building Program went live on this site on 5/12/2003. To view Chapter 9B-74 Prototype Plan Review and Approval, click on the following link. For ALL Prototype information, please email William York at [wYork@ara.com](mailto:wYork@ara.com).

Chapter 9B-74

**WHAT'S NEW?**

- [Yellow Pages - Glitch Code \(view only\)](#)
- [Surcharges Online Instructions ---\(Click Surcharge button on the left to go to Surcharge Program\)---](#)
- [Product Approval - Recent Questions and Answers](#)
- [2004 Base Code Modification Tracking Documents](#)
- [Search or Request](#)

**SUPPORT**

- Log In
- New User
- Contact Us
- About





# The New Florida Product Approval System

✦ A database is available on the Building Codes Information System to search for approved entities and state approved products.

# BCIS Product Approval Page

**DEPARTMENT OF**  
**Community Affairs**

*The Florida Department of Community Affairs*  
**Building Code Information System**

**PRODUCT APPROVAL**

Overview Product Search Organization Search Product Application View Attachments

**User: Public User - Not Associated with Organization -**

Approval of products by The Florida Building Commission for statewide use is limited to the following categories of products: (1) Panel Walls; (2) Exterior Doors; (3) Roofing Products; (4) Skylights; (5) Windows; (6) Shutters; (7) Structural components; and (8) Products comprising a building's envelope introduced as a result of new technology.

[Product Approval Process Overview](#)

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[What is Product Approval? View Powerpoint Presentation. \(pdf Reader 5.0 Required\)](#)  
[Product Approval Process Flowcharts](#)  
[Questions and Answers - Product Approval 08/03](#)  
[Product Approval Rule 9B-72 \(Updated Sept 4, 2003\)](#)

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[Validation Entity Instructions](#)  
[Online Statewide Product Application Instructions](#)  
[State-wide Product Approval Application \(must log in to view\)](#)  
[Product Approval Application Cutoff Dates](#)

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[Organization Search](#)  
[Product Approval Entity Registration](#)  
[Local Product Approval Application Form](#)  
[Local Product Approval Validation Checklist](#)

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The Florida Product Approval system includes applications for entity approval, statewide

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- Surcharges
- Training
- Product Approval

# State Approved Product Search

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**Community Affairs**

*The Florida Department of Community Affairs*  
**Building Code Information System**

**PRODUCT APPROVAL** Product Search

Overview **Product Search** Organization Search Product Application View Attachments

**User:** Public User - Not Associated with Organization - [Need Help ?](#)

Product Manufacturer: (ALL) [v]

Category: (ALL) [v]

Subcategory: [v]

Application/Seq #: [text input]  
(### or ###.#)

Application Status: (ALL) [v]

Evaluation Method: (ALL) [v]

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# Organization Search

**DEPARTMENT OF**  
  
**Community Affairs**

*The Florida Department of Community Affairs*  
**Building Code Information System**

**FLORIDA BUILDING CODE** *Organization Search*

Overview   User Registration   Organization Registration   User Authorization   **Organization Search**   Organization Accreditation

Select the organization type, status, or name to find an organization.

Organization Type: (ALL)

Approval Status: (ALL)

Organization Name: (ALL)

**SITE NAVIGATION**

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-  Product Approval



# The New Product Approval System

- ✦ This two pronged system will allow manufacturers the choice of applying with local jurisdictions for local approvals or applying with the Florida Building Commission for state approval.
- ✦ Criteria has been established for the approval of entities that test, evaluate and certify products. Quality assurance programs will be used to monitor manufacturing production of approved products.

# Florida Entity Approval System

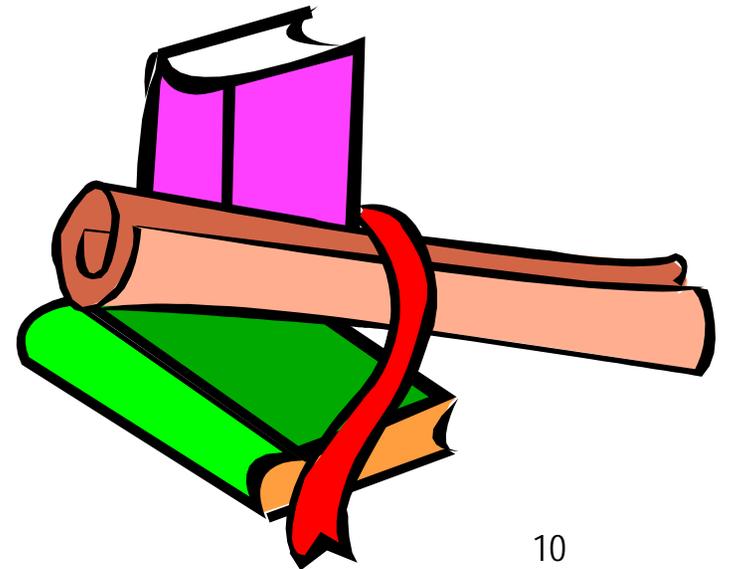


Applications for entity approvals to the Florida Building Commission can be made on-line at:

[www.floridabuilding.org](http://www.floridabuilding.org)

# Accreditation Bodies

Accreditation bodies accredit and monitor the competency and performance of an agency carrying out specific tasks.



# Evaluation Entities

Evaluation entities conduct product evaluations based on tests reports, and/or rational analysis.



# Testing Labs

Testing labs conduct product tests.



# Certification Agencies

Certification agencies evaluate products based on tests and/or rational analysis; conduct quality assurance; certify compliance with standards; and list and label products.



# Quality Assurance Agencies

Quality assurance agencies monitor product production.



# Validation Entities

Validation entities certify compliance with standards and certify to the Florida Building Commission that product approval applications are correct.



# Florida Product Approval System



Local Product Approval  
or

“Optional”

State Product Approval





# Florida Product Approval System

The following category of products **must be approved by local building departments** using this system or the **manufacturer has the option** of seeking state approval by the Florida Building Commission:

- ✦ Panel Walls
- ✦ Exterior Doors
- ✦ Roofing Products
- ✦ Skylights
- ✦ Windows
- ✦ Shutters
- ✦ Structural Components
- ✦ New and Innovative Building Envelope Products



# Florida Product Approval System

## **The following products are exempt:**

1. Structural components covered by United States Department of Commerce Product Standards;
2. Structural components comprised of materials or products that are assembled or placed in the field may demonstrate compliance by a batch ticket or bill of lading made available at the site of assembly or placement; and



# Florida Product Approval System

## Exempt products continued:

### **3. 553.842(11), Florida Statutes**

**Products...which are custom fabricated or assembled shall not require separate approval under this section provided the component parts have been approved...and the components meet the standards and requirements of the Florida Building Code...**



# Florida Product Approval System

**VERY IMPORTANT!!**

**All products in the eight categories must be manufactured with a quality assurance program in place, monitored by a Commission approved quality assurance entity.**



# Florida Product Approval System

Methods for demonstrating a product's compliance with the Florida Building Code:

**METHOD 1** {9B-72.040(2) and 9B-72.070(1) }

Products with Code Performance Criteria and Standardized Test, or Comparative or Rational Analysis

**METHOD 2** {9B-72.040(3) and 9B-72.070(2)}

Products Which Have No Standardized Test, or Comparative or Rational Analysis



# Florida Product Approval System

**METHOD 1** - Products with Code Performance Criteria and Standardized Test, or Comparative or Rational Analysis using one of the following four options:

- ➡ Option A: a certification mark or listing
- ➡ Option B: a test report
- ➡ Option C: an evaluation report from an evaluation entity
- ➡ Option D: an evaluation report from an Florida Architect or Engineer



# Florida Product Approval System

**METHOD 2** - Products Which Have No Standardized Test, or Comparative or Rational Analysis using one of the following two options:

- ➡ **Option A:** an evaluation report from an evaluation entity
- ➡ **Option B:** an evaluation report from an Florida Architect or Engineer

# Florida Product Approval System

## Products Submitted with an Evaluation Report from an Evaluation Entity



- Provides verifiable documentation that the product complies with the Code.
- Product evaluation report from an approved product evaluation entity.

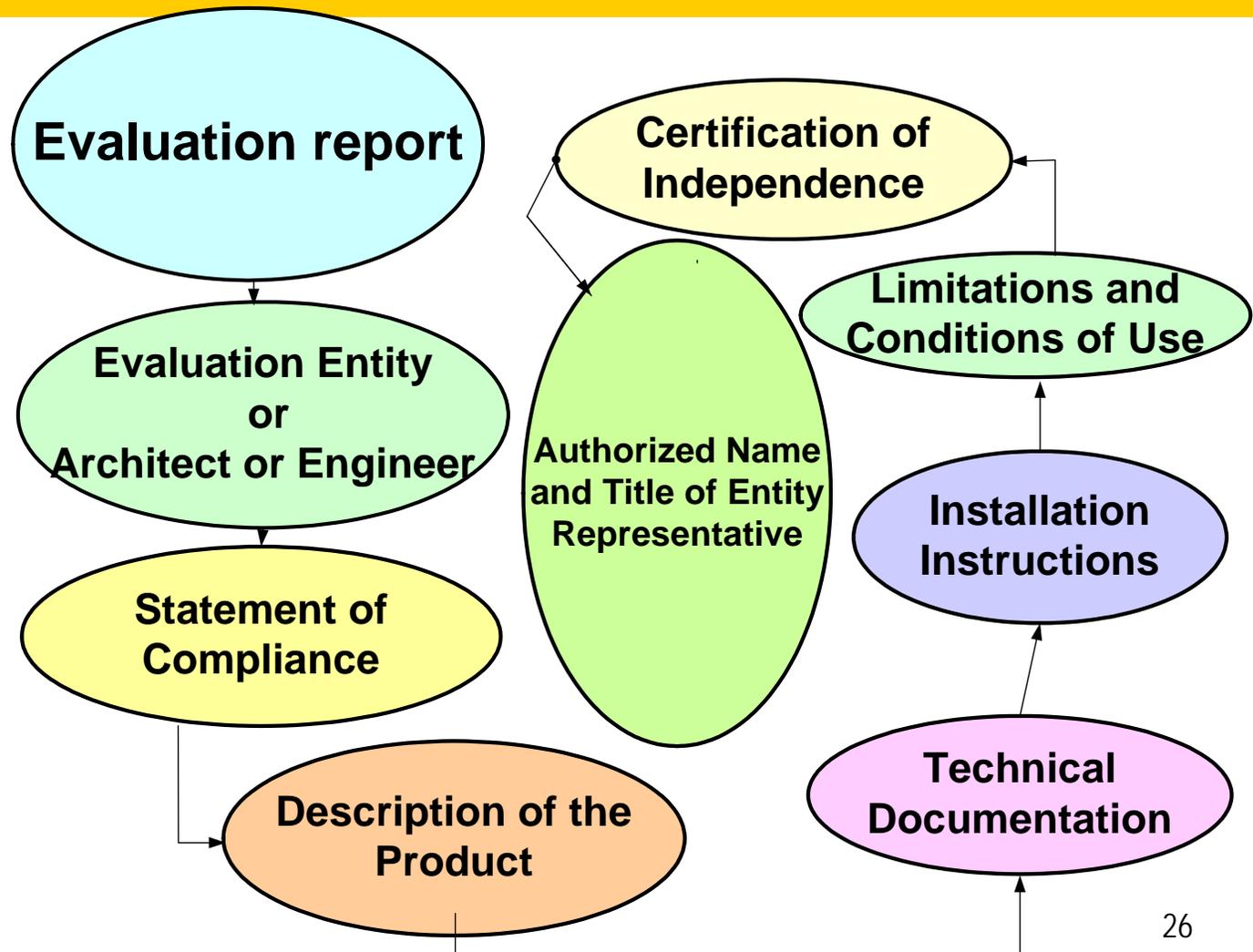
# Florida Product Approval System

## Products Submitted with an Evaluation Report from an a Florida Architect or Engineer



- Signed and sealed product evaluation report from a Florida Registered Architect or Florida Professional Engineer.
- Based on testing or comparative or rational analysis or a combination.
- Provides verifiable documentation that the product complies with the Code.

# Florida Product Approval System



# Local Product Approval

- ✦ Local Product Approval is required for the eight categories of products. The manufacturer has the "OPTION" of seeking state approval from the Florida Building Commission.
- ✦ The state has established uniform rules for the local product approval process.
- ✦ Local Building Departments began using this process October 1, 2003.





# Local Product Approval

## *Application for Local Product Approval*

**NOTE:** The following is an example of the information to be submitted for approval by local jurisdictions.



# Local Product Approval

- **Application for Approval by Method 1 / Method 2**
- **Category of Product**
- **Name of Applicant (Company)**
- **Mailing Address**
- **Telephone No. and Fax No.**
- **E-Mail Address**
- **Name applicant's technical representative (if any)**
- **Florida Professional Registration No. (if any)**
- **Florida Professional Firm Registration No. (if any)**



# Local Product Approval

- **Name of Approved Quality Assurance Entity**
- **Address, Telephone Number, Fax Number**
- **E-mail Address**
- **Name of Applicant's Authorized Representative**
- **Florida Professional Reg. No. (if any)**
- **Florida Professional Firm Reg. No. (if any)**



# Local Product Approval

**Provide the information about the product:**

- Product name and model number (if any);**
- Name, address and reports of the applicable testing lab, evaluation entity, or certification agency**
- List of requirements with which the product complies including Code section numbers and/or reference standards**
- List of limitations on product's use**
- Installation instructions for the product**



# Local Product Approval

- **Give any other information that may be of assistance to the local jurisdiction in considering the application.**
- **Name and title of person authorized to sign on behalf of applicant.**



# Local Product Approval

## Validation Checklist For Local Product Approval Form No.: 9B-72.130(5)



# Local Product Approval

-  **1. Verify the submission and completeness of product approval application form.**
-  **2. Verify the method of demonstrating compliance is from an entity approved by the Florida Building Commission.**

# Local Product Approval

## Local Validation Checklist (Cont.)

- ✦ **3. Verify submission of the evaluator's certification of independence.**

*Note: The evaluator may be a test lab, certification agency, evaluation entity or Florida Registered Architect or Florida Professional Engineer which produced the report.*



# Local Product Approval

## Local Validation Checklist (Cont.)

- ✦ **4. Verify the method of demonstrating compliance is current and has not been suspended, recalled or revoked.**
  
- ✦ **5. Verify the product has not been recalled or revoked by the Florida Building Commission.**



# Local Product Approval

## Local Validation Checklist (Cont.)

- ✦ **6. Verify the Code sections and reference standards for which the evaluation demonstrates compliance.**
- ✦ **7. Verify the method of demonstrating compliance indicates any limitations on the use of the product, as intended.**



# Local Product Approval

## Local Validation Checklist (Cont.)

- ✦ **8. Verify manufacturer's installation instructions are provided, if required.**
  
- ✦ **9. Verify that a quality assurance program audited by a Florida Building Commission approved third party quality assurance agency is in place.**

# "Optional" State Product Approval

Applications for state product approval can be made to the Florida Building Commission on-line at [www.floridabuilding.org](http://www.floridabuilding.org)





## **“Optional” State Product Approval**

**Applications for state product approval are \$300 per product sub-category.**



## **“Optional” State Product Approval**

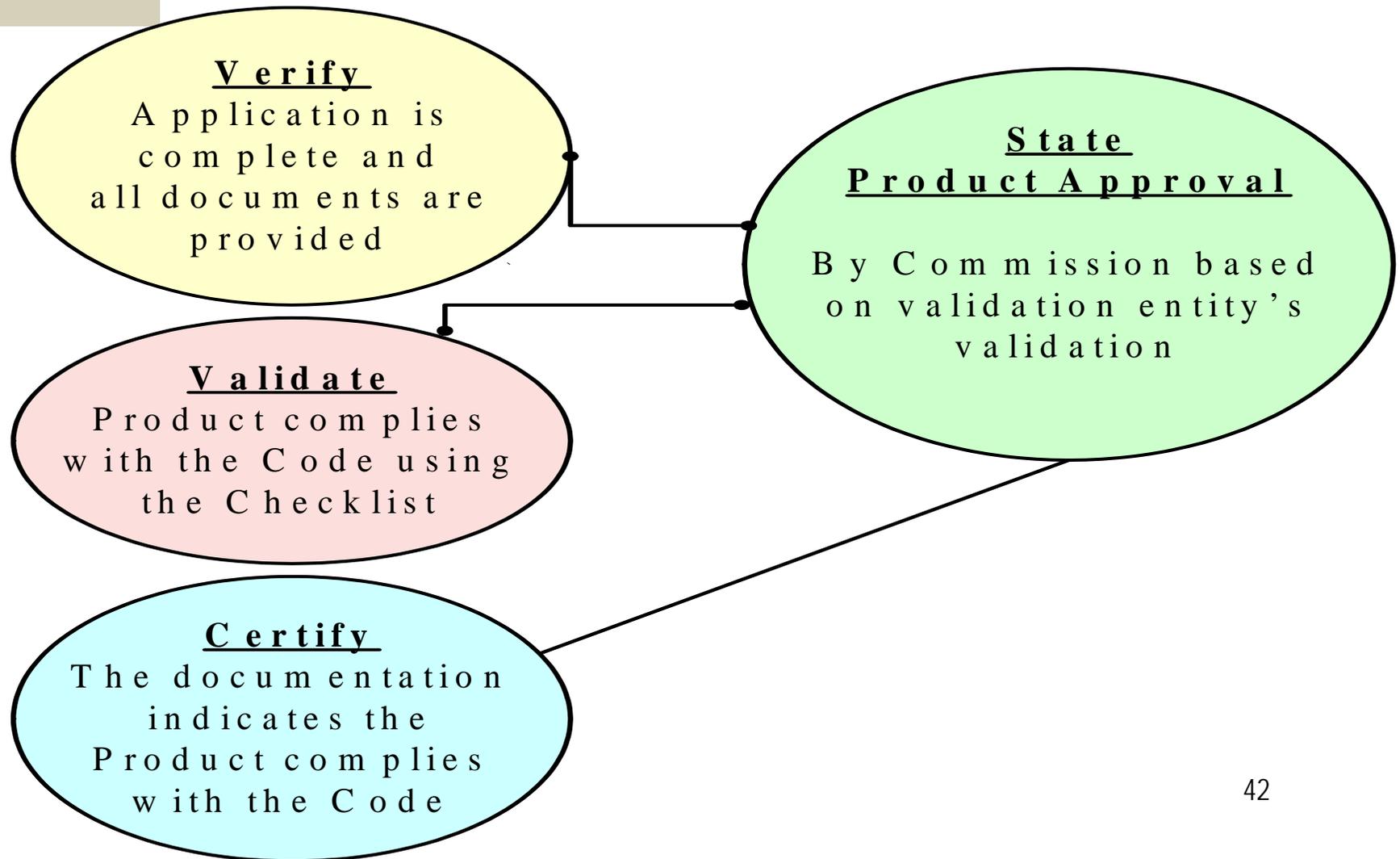
- Each of the categories of products has been divided into sub-categories.**

*For example, under the category of windows, the sub-categories are awning, casement, dual action, double hung, single hung, fixed, horizontal slider, projected, pass through, mullions, wind breaker or other.*

- One \$300 application would cover a manufacturer’s entire line under one of these sub-categories.**

# "Optional" State Product Approval

## A p p l i c a t i o n V a l i d a t i o n



# **“Optional” State Product Approval**

## **State Validation Checklist**

- 1. Verify evaluator is an approved entity**
- 2. Verify approved Evaluator’s certificate of Independence**
- 3. Verify entity approval is not suspended, recalled or revoked**
- 4. Verify test or evaluation report has not been recalled or revoked**
- 5. Verify evaluation complies with Code adopted standards**
- 6. Verify limitations of use are consistent with report**
- 7. Verify installation instructions are consistent with report**
- 8. Verify Q.A. program is audited by approved Q.A. entity**



# The End



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