



May 18, 2011

Mr. Ted Berman
Product Approval System Administrator
Ted Berman and Associates LLC
925 41st Street, Suite 104
Miami Beach, FL 33140

Subject: *FL-9445-R1 Revised*

Mr. Berman,

Executive Summary

This letter clarifies that QUIKRETE[®] One Coat Fiberglass Reinforced Stucco and the concentrated version are approved products allowed within the code. ICC-ES developed acceptance criteria for Cementitious Exterior Wall Coatings as the code standard test guideline. The evaluation report (ESR 1240) certifies that these QUIKRETE[®] products exceed test requirements of the standard. This certification is based on performance testing against specification standards including fire testing of wall assemblies. Section 2501.1.3 allows for the use of other coverings based on the condition of approval (*in this case the ESR 1240 report*). The QUIKRETE[®] products listed in FL-9445-R1 qualify under 2501.1.3 and also fall under the IBC, IRC, and UBC based on the testing and certification provided through the ESR-1240 report; these products are not alternates.

FL-9445-R1 Revised

Florida Building Code Approval of QUIKRETE[®] One Coat Fiberglass Reinforced Stucco and the concentrated version listed in ESR-1240.

I understand there are concerns that the evaluation report (ESR-1240) used as the certification mark for approval is outside the scope of Rule 9N-3 FAC. I understand that “alternates” to the building code are not allowed for statewide product approval and there is uncertainty if QUIKRETE[®] One Coat Fiberglass Reinforced Stucco and the concentrated version are “alternate” materials. I will here clarify that the evaluation report (ESR-1240) is within the scope of Rule 9N-3 FAC and QUIKRETE[®] One Coat Fiberglass Reinforced Stucco and the concentrated version are approved products allowed within the code.

Section 9N-3.005¹ explains that rational analyses, as defined in Section 9N-3.002², cannot be used in lieu of a standard test unless approved through local jurisdictions. The appropriate standard tests allows for

¹ 9N-3.005

(2) (C) “Rational engineering analysis cannot be used in lieu of standard test required by the code for approval of products within the scope of the standard, except that project specific approval by local authorities having jurisdiction in accordance with alternate methods and materials authorized in the code.”

² 9N-3.002

(26) “Rational analysis means a standardized or non-standardized method by which a Florida registered architect or a licensed Florida professional engineer or approved evaluation entity used mathematical or scientific analyses to evaluate the product behavior and to demonstrate that the product evaluated complies with the code for which the evaluation or engineering report is issued. Rational analysis shall be performed in accordance with well established principles or mechanics and sound engineering practices.”

THE QUIKRETE[®] COMPANIES Inc.

Technical and Engineering Center
500 Marathon Parkway
Lawrenceville, GA 30045
770.216.9580 · 770.237.2548 Fax · www.quikrete.com

statewide approval. ICC-ES developed acceptance criteria for Cementitious Exterior Wall Coatings as the code standard test guideline for the evaluation of cementitious exterior wall coatings.

Extensive testing, including fire-resistance studies, was performed where test data was submitted as evidence to qualify QUIKRETE® One Coat Fiberglass Reinforced Stucco and the concentrated version for the ESR-1240 report. Testing included fire exposure to wall assemblies in accordance with ASTM E119, *Standard Test Method for Fire Test of Building Construction and Materials*. This testing was used to show the system, when applied in accordance with ESR-1240, may be used in combustible construction to construct one-hour fire-resistance-rated wall assemblies. Section 6.1 (*Evidence Submitted*) of the ESR-1240 report states, "Data in accordance with the ICC-ES Acceptance Criteria for Cementitious Exterior Wall Coatings..." Since standard tests were used to qualify the product/system via an approved entity, ICC-ES, the product/system is approved for use on a statewide level.


The ESR-1240 report utilizes the word "alternate" to explain that the products are alternatives to field mixing 3-coat stucco materials. The material is not an alternate to approved coatings; it is an approved coating based on code approved performance testing including flame testing (ASTM E119) of wall assemblies.

Section 2501.1.3 (*International Building Code -- Chapter 25*) states, "Other approved wall or ceiling coverings shall be permitted to be installed in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer and the conditions of the approval." QUIKRETE® One Coat Fiberglass Reinforced Stucco & the concentrated version are "other" approved coverings. The ESR-1240 report (*certification mark*) is the condition of the approval. Section 2501.1.3 allows for the use of other coverings as long as they are applied in accordance with the certification mark. Therefore, the code allows for the use of this "other" approved covering. The QUIKRETE® One Coat Fiberglass Reinforced Stucco & the concentrated version are not alternatives to coverings specified in the code. They are coverings that are allowed within the code through the certification mark. The word "alternate" was used to differentiate from other products.

Not only do QUIKRETE® One Coat Fiberglass Reinforced Stucco & the concentrated version meet the code, but they allow for several advantages over field mixed stuccos. The QUIKRETE® One Coat Fiberglass Reinforced Stucco & the concentrated version have been tested extensively providing excellent results showing performance is acceptable. QUIKRETE® follows the ICC-ES quality system to ensure a high quality, consistent product is provided in a pre-packaged form. Field stuccos may be created with raw materials not providing adequate performance and the performance is never verified. The probability of having non-uniform product in field prepared stuccos is significantly higher compared to QUIKRETE® pre-packaged material where high tech computer/batching systems and quality measures are implemented to ensure high quality, consistent product is provided. QUIKRETE® One Coat Fiberglass Reinforced Stucco & the concentrated version have been used commercially for many years in Florida and construction markets throughout the United States and have an excellent performance history.

I am confident that the clarification of the code will lead to the approval of QUIKRETE® One Coat Fiberglass Reinforced Stucco & the concentrated version under FL-9445-R1 Revised. QUIKRETE® wishes to continue to service the Florida market and continue to provide high quality material throughout the state of Florida.

If you have any questions, please let me know.


Joseph Spahn
Senior Product Engineer