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SUBJECT 2582

OUTLINE OF INVESTIGATION

FOR

RIDGE VENTS

Issue Number: 2

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Summary of Topics

This Second Issue of the Outline of Investigation for Ridge Vents, SU 2582, covers requirements intended to evaluate the fire and wind-driven rain performance of roof ridge vents. It was issued to correct an editorial error in 4.1.2.1 and to clarify 8.2 so that the continuation of glowing or flaming on the test room floor is with regards to ridge vent materials (not roof coverings) as it pertains to item (a) of 8.1 and not 7.1.

The UL Foreword is no longer located within the UL Outline of Investigation. For information concerning the use and application of the requirements contained in this Outline of Investigation, the current version of the UL Foreword is located on ULStandardsInfoNet at: <http://ulstandardsinfolnet.ul.com/ulforeword.html>

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INTRODUCTION

1 Scope

1.1 This Outline of Investigation covers requirements intended to evaluate the fire and wind-driven rain performance of roof ridge vents. These requirements are intended to evaluate a ridge vent's resistance to:

- a) Flame spread due to exposure to fire sources external to a building,
- b) Flame penetration resulting in flaming droplets, and
- c) Resistance to water infiltration to the interior attic space.

1.2 Class A ridge vents are considered effective against severe fire test exposures. Under such exposures, shingles of this class, afford a high degree of fire protection to the roof deck, do not slip from position, and are not expected to produce flying brands.

1.3 Class B ridge vents are considered effective against moderate fire test exposures. Under such exposures, shingles of this class, afford a moderate degree of fire protection to the roof deck, do not slip from position, and are not expected to produce flying brands.

1.4 Class C ridge vents are considered effective against light fire test exposures. Under such exposures, shingles of this class, afford a light degree of fire protection to the roof deck, do not slip from position, and are not expected to produce flying brands.

1.5 Fire tests conducted in accordance with these requirements are intended to demonstrate the performance of ridge vents during the types and periods of exposure involved, but are not intended to determine the acceptability of ridge vents for use after exposure to fire. These fire test methods do not provide a basis to compare expected performance under all actual fire conditions but they do provide a basis for comparison of the response of ridge vents when subjected to fire sources that are described herein.

1.6 Ridge vents complying with the requirements for wind-driven rain are not expected to withstand the wind forces of tornadoes, cyclones, or hurricanes.

1.7 Ridge vents are required to comply also with the requirements for construction, material specifications, and performance as applicable to specific types, designs, sizes, and arrangements. All such applicable additional requirements are not considered to be within the scope of these requirements for fire and wind-driven rain tests, but are included in the applicable standards covering the material in question.

2 Units of Measurement

2.1 Values stated without parentheses are the requirement. Values in parentheses are explanatory or approximate information.

PERFORMANCE

3 General

3.1 Representative samples of ridge vents shall be subjected to the following tests:

- a) One Spread of Flame Test,
- b) One Burning Brand Test, and
- c) One Wind Driven Rain Test.

4 Preparation of Samples

4.1 Spread of flame test samples

4.1.1 Spread of flame test deck construction and conditioning

4.1.1.1 Representative samples of ridge vents are to be applied, as described in 4.1.2, Application of shingles and ridge vents, to test decks constructed as specified in 4.1.1.2.

4.1.1.2 The spread of flame fire test deck is to consist of plywood fastened to trade size 2- by 4-inch [nominal 1-1/2 by 3-1/2 inches (38.1 by 89 mm)] battens. The battens are to be placed along each side of the test deck, with the long dimension of the battens perpendicular to the plywood, leaving a 1-3/4 inch (44.4 mm) overhang of the plywood on one end. Additional battens, perpendicular to the two battens along each side of the deck, are to be used when required for additional support. The test deck dimensions are as follows:

- a) Class A shingles and ridge vent test deck – 40 inches (1.02 m) wide by 8 feet (2.4 m) long,
- b) Class B shingles and ridge vent test deck – 40 inches (1.02 m) wide by 9 feet (2.7 m) long, and
- c) Class C shingles and ridge vent test deck – 40 inches (1.02 m) wide by 13 feet (3.9 m) long.