DensElement® Barrier System and NFPA 285 Acceptance Criteria

Current and past building codes have generally required combustible water resistive barriers (WRBs) to be tested for compliance with NFPA 285 acceptance criteria. In 2018, IBC section 1402.5 was modified to clarify that “water-resistive barrier flashings and accessories at other locations, including through wall flashings shall not be considered part of the water resistive barrier” for purposes of the NFPA 285 testing requirement. Within the DensElement® Barrier System, the DensElement® Sheathing is noncombustible (per ASTM E136), and the DensDefy™ Liquid Flashing is the water-resistive barrier flashing that is no longer considered a part of the water-resistive barrier for purposes of the NFPA testing requirement under IBC section 1402.5.

Thus, with this change, DensElement® Barrier System should be considered a non-combustible WRB, and the NFPA testing requirements in IBC Section 1402.5 for combustible water-resistive barriers should not be applicable, as DensElement® Sheathing is exempt from NFPA assembly testing under the 2018 IBC.

However, not all jurisdictions have adopted the 2018 IBC. In those cases, the following tables list wall assemblies featuring DensElement® Barrier System that are included in NFPA 285 engineering evaluations.

Brick, Natural Stone, Artificial Stone			
Manufacturer	**Cladding**	**Notes**	**Priest & Associates** Project # reference
	Brick		10261K, Revision 4
	Stucco		10261K, Revision 4
	Limestone		10261K, Revision 4
	Terracotta		10261K, Revision 4
	Natural Stone Veneer		10261K, Revision 4
	Cast Artificial stone		10261K, Revision 4
	Pre-cast Artificial Stone	minimum 1 ½” thick complying with ICC-ES AC 51	10261K, Revision 4
Thin Brick			
Manufacturer	**Cladding**	**Notes**	**Priest & Associates** Project # reference
Glen Gery	Thin Brick	Thin Tech Elite	10261K, Revision 4

	Thin Brick / Cultured Stone	Set in thin set adhesive and metal lath that has passed NFPA 285	10261K, Revision 4

Siding and Wall Panels			
Manufacturer	**Cladding**	**Notes**	**Priest & Associates** Project # reference
Parklex	HPL Façade Panel		10915
TABS Wall Systems	TABS II Panel System	½" bricks using TABS Wall Adhesive	10261K, Revision 4
Stone Panels	Stone Lite Wall Panels	ESR 1500	10261K, Revision 4
	Cement Board Siding		10261K, Revision 4
	Fiber-Cement Siding	Uninsulated	10261K, Revision 4
	MCM	That have passed NFPA 285	10261K, Revision 4
	Aluminum Panel	Uninsulated sheet metal	10261K, Revision 4
	Steel Panel	Uninsulated sheet metal	10261K, Revision 4
	Copper Panel	Uninsulated sheet metal	10261K, Revision 4
	Stone/Aluminum Honeycomb Composite Building Panel	That have passed NFPA 285	10261K, Revision 4
	Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (AAC) panels	That have passed NFPA 285	10261K, Revision 4

EIFS Exterior Insulation and Finish Systems			
Manufacturer	**Cladding**	**Notes**	**Priest & Associates** Project # reference
Sto Corp.	EIFS	ESR 1030, ESR 1720, ESR 1748,	10844, Revision 3
Parex USA, Inc.	EIFS	ESR 1689, ESR 1935	10844, Revision 3
Dryvit Systems, Inc.	EIFS	ESR 1232, ESR 1534, ESR 1547, ESR 1693, ESR 1821	10844, Revision 3
BASF Corporation	EIFS	ESR 1794, ESR 1878, ESR 2022, ESR 2164, ESR 2165, ESR 2186	10844, Revision 3
Omega Products International, Inc.	EIFS	ESR 2064	10844, Revision 3
Masterwall	EIFS	ESR 1181	10844, Revision 3

Priest & Associates has issued engineering evaluations extending NFPA 285 results to DensElement®

Sheathing and DensDefy™ Liquid Flashing, permitting the replacement of the sheathing and WRB cited in the report(s).

Refer to individual Priest & Associates engineering evaluations for additional assembly specifications.

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