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SPRI announces plans to canvass two garden roof standards

Waltham, MA, August 2007 – SPRI, the association representing sheet membrane and component suppliers to the commercial roofing industry, announced its plans to canvass two standards for vegetative roof systems: one will address wind design and the other will address the prevention and control of fire. These two standards are being developed through the collective efforts of several industry organizations including SPRI, Green Roofs for Healthy Cities, Factory Mutual Advisors, and the National Roofing Contractors Association.

With the growth of the green roof industry, there are concerns about the lack of standards associated with the prevention of fire on vegetative systems. SPRI's *Fire Design Standard for Vegetative Roofing Systems* will address these concerns. The standards will describe design guidelines associated with preventing combustion and fire spread. It will include design features, such as minimum setbacks for plants from roof edge, walls to higher roofs, and penetrations with fire breaks used on large installations.

The proposed *Wind Design Standard for Vegetative Roofing Systems* will provide design guidelines associated with wind uplift and stone scour; define items such as set backs from the edges of roofs in areas with high winds, use of wind erosion mats, as well as edging details. There is a discussion of the various types of materials and their behavior under varying wind conditions.

SPRI intends to canvass these standards beginning in September 2007. Any interested party may participate in the canvass by contacting SPRI.

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