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June 2005

SPRI test procedure earns ANSI approval as National Standard

Waltham, MA, June 2005 — The standard, developed by SPRI, specifying a field-test procedure to determine how the mechanical uplift resistance of a specific roof insulation/adhesive combination, was approved in May as a national standard in accordance with protocol established by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). This new standard is designated **ANSI/SPRI IA-1, 2005, “Standard Field Test Procedure for Determining the Mechanical Uplift Resistance of Insulation Adhesives over Various Substrates.”**

SPRI, the association representing sheet membrane and component suppliers to the commercial roofing industry, developed this field test procedure to provide structural engineers and roofing design professionals data on uplift load capability of an insulation adhesive combination that should be used when evaluating its suitability for a roof system installation.

This standard is intended primarily for situations when an existing roofing system is being replaced or recovered and the general condition of the substrate is in doubt. This procedure, however, is also applicable to new construction.

SPRI has once again stepped in to aid consultants and roofing contractors by providing a tool to help ensure that the roof meets the needs of building owners. This new standard provides a field test to obtain reproducible and verifiable data that can be used to determine if a system will have the required wind uplift resistance. Standardized methods aid in convincing owners and installation observers that the system is being installed as specified.

According to Stan Choiniere, national technical manager of OMG Roofing Products, “After the success of FX-1, the ANSI/SPRI Standard field test procedure used with roofing fasteners, SPRI took the logical next step and developed a practical, easy to use standard to make the evaluation of insulation adhesives consistent.”

SPRI earned its certification as an official ANSI canvasser in 1994. Since then, it has seen the acceptance of several of its design documents, including this one, as ANSI standards. The others are: “ANSI/SPRI FX-1 2001, Standard Field Test Procedures for Determining the Withdrawal Resistance of Roofing Fasteners;” “ANSI/SPRI RP-4 2002, Wind Design Standard for Ballasted Single-Ply Roofing Systems;” and “ANSI/SPRI ES-1 2003, “Wind Design Guide for Edge Systems Used with Low-Slope Roofing Systems”, and ANSI/SPRI RD-1 2004, “Standard Performance for Retrofit Drains.”

All SPRI standards can be downloaded **free of charge** at the SPRI website www.spri.org.

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