INTERPRETATION IC 90.1-2007-7 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA STANDARD 90.1-2007
Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings

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Request from: Brian Turner (bturner@clarknexsen.com), Clark Nexsen, 6160 Kempsville Circle, Suite 200A, Norfolk, VA 23502.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1-2007, Sections 5.8.2.4, 5.8.2.5 and A8, regarding U-factor and Solar Heat Gain Coefficient for fenestration.

Background: Section 5.8.2.4 states, "U-factors shall be determined in accordance with NFRC 100." Section 5.8.2.5 states, "SHGC for the overall fenestration area shall be determined in accordance with NFRC 200." Normative Appendix A, Section A8 states, "All fenestration with U-factors, SHGC, or visible light transmittance determined, certified, and labeled in accordance with NFRC 100, 200, and 300, respectively, shall be assigned those values." It then proceeds to refer to default tables for "unlabeled" products. The User's Manual for Standard 90.1-2007 states on page 5-48, "To comply with the Standard, fenestration products must have an NFRC label (or label certificate)."

Interpretation: NFRC labeling or certification of fenestration is not required as long as the U-factors and SHGCs are determined in accordance with the referenced NFRC standards. The certification and labeling referenced in Section A8 refers to any type of certification or labeling that is done in accordance with the referenced NFRC standards by a laboratory that is accredited by NFRC or a similar organization. User's Manual page 5-48 overstates the requirement of Section 5.8.2.4 of the Standard in stating that the product "must have an NFRC label."

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: Yes, in accordance with the exception to Section 5.8.2.2, in lieu of the manufacturer providing labels, an installer or supplier can provide a signed and dated certification of the U-factor, SHGC, and air leakage rate. Furthermore, in accordance with 5.8.2.1, the ratings on the certification or the label shall be provided by any laboratory accredited by nationally recognized accreditation organization, not specifically accredited by the NFRC.