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RESEARCH REPORT: RR 24891
(CSI #03490)

Expires: October 1, 2019
Issued Date: February 1, 2018
Code: 2017 LABC

GENERAL APPROVAL – Clerical Modification and Renewal – Formglas Products, Glass Fiber Reinforced Polymerized Cement (GRPC) and Glassfiber Reinforced Gypsum (GRG).

DETAILS

Formglas decorative panels are manufactured from sand, potable water, fiberglass and gypsum for the (GRG) panels or Portland Cement and a polymer for the (GRPC) panels. The amount of glassfiber used in the fabrication of both the GRG and GRPC panels varies from 1.0 oz. to 1.5 oz. of filament glass mat per square foot. The panels have a flame spread and smoke density of 0 and 10 respectively, when tested in accordance with UBC Standard No. 8-1. Formglas is approved for use in lieu of Gypsum Wallboard as specified in Chapter 25 of the 2017 Los Angeles Building Code, subject to the following conditions:

1. The supporting members shall not be spaced more than 16 inches on center.
2. Vertical and horizontal assemblies supporting the panels shall be designed to resist the loads specified in the Code, in addition to the requirements of Section 2504 of the 2017 Los Angeles Building Code.
3. The product does not carry any fire-rating and cannot be substituted for gypsum board in fire rated assemblies.
4. The GRPC panels are combustible and may be used only in areas where combustible construction is allowed by the Building Code.
5. The GRG panels are considered noncombustible and may be used in areas where noncombustible construction is required, provided the material is not used in accordance with Condition No. 6 of this report.

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Formglas, Incorporated

RE: Glassfiber Reinforced Polymerized Cement (GRPC)
and Glassfiber Reinforced Gypsum (GRG)

6. The panels may be used to resist lateral loads, when attached as specified in Table 2306.3(3) of the 2017 Los Angeles Building Code for Gypsum Wallboard, provided a 1.5" wide by 0.5" thick CDX Plywood piece is embedded in the panel at the perimeter and every 16" o.c. Minimum fastener size shall be No. 6 x 2.0" long bugle head screws for the GRG Panels and No. 8 x 1.75" long exterior grade screws for the GRPC Panels.
7. The decorative panels are approved for interior use only.
8. GRG Panels & GRPC Panels shall be fabricated in the shop of an approved fabricator licensed by the City of Los Angeles.
9. The panels shall be identified by the manufacturer's name and product designation.

DISCUSSION

The clerical modification is to capture the change in the petitioning organization address and to recognize the 2017 Los Angeles Building Code for this general approval.

The report is in compliance with the 2017 Los Angeles Building Code.

This approval is based on tests for surface burning characteristics per ASTM E84, ASTM E136 and load tests per ASTM E72 comparing the product to the capacity of Gypsum Wallboard.

Addressee to whom this Research Report is issued is responsible for providing copies of it, complete with any attachments indicated, to architects, engineers and builders using items approved herein in design or construction which must be approved by Department of Building and Safety Engineers and Inspectors.

This general approval of an equivalent alternate to the Code is only valid where an engineer and/or inspector of this Department has determined that all conditions of this approval have been met in the project in which it is to be used.

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