

Plumbing Board
Product and Code Review Committee – Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2010 – 9:30 a.m.
Department of Labor and Industry
443 Lafayette Road No., Saint Paul, MN 55155-4344
DLI.CCLDBOARDS@State.MN.US

Committee Members Present:

John A. Parizek (Arrived 10:05 AM)
Lawrence Justin
Jim Lungstrom
Karl Abrahamson

Board Members Present:

Ron Thompson

Visitors via Teleconference:

Craig Froeter; Froet Industries
Michelle Park; EasyFlex
Hun Kim; Easy Flex
James Paschal

Committee Members Absent:

Allen Lamm

Staff Present:

Cathy Tran
Sandy Arndt (first ½ hour)

Visitors:

Carl Crimmins
Luther Westman
Ralph Jacobsen
John Gunderson
Gary Thaden
Pat Hawkins

I. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Justin at 9:30 a.m. Announcements were made and introductions were done.

II. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Revised agenda by deleting PB0047 in order to accommodate presenter who cannot attend. Karl Abrahamson made a motion, seconded by Jim Lungstrom, to accept the revised Agenda. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

III. Regular Business

A. June 15, 2010 Minutes – Karl Abrahamson made a motion, seconded by Jim Lungstrom, to accept the 6/15/10 Meeting Minutes. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Committee Approved 12/7/10

- B. Expense Reports – When John Parizek arrived, stated that he has approved the expense reports and Per Diems that he has received.

IV. Special Business

A) RFA's

1. 4715.2760 Roof Drain Strainer by Craig J Froeter, Froet Industries LLC (File PB0050 submitted 3/16/2010).

Mr. Froeter participated via tele-conference and Pat Hawkins was present.

Mr. Froeter discussed the RFA, requesting to revise plumbing code section 4715.2760 subpart 1 to eliminate need of structural design from code since building code (1305.1503.4, copy was provided for Committee review) no longer has the requirement for 2" overflow height. This requirement causes confusion on why a structural design is specifically needed for the products meeting the IGC-187 but not any other drain. The building code has listed the structural design requirement in 1305.1503.4.2.

Presenter noted that they may also request the elimination of the 4" strainer height requirement in this section since this requirement has been removed from the IPC but not as yet from the UPC (is in process and presenter anticipates it will be in the 2010 UPC). The Committee noted for the presenter to submit a separate RFA on this issue after the UPC has acknowledged the elimination of the 4" strainer requirement.

DLI requested presenter to review the updated IGC 187-09, specifically some of the differences from the 2005 document. Presenter noted that the center pipe of the roof drain may be used as a sanitary vent pipe. The IGC 187-09 does not require an engineered sump.

Presenter clarified what is meant by "Accepted by IPC/UPC". The IPC (LC1021) and UPC (187-09) each have their own criteria for the drain. Both codes have accepted the drain and listed as such in an attachment to the IPC/UPC.

Chair noted that the proposed RFA is striking out language from the plumbing code that is located in the building code, so the structural confirmation is still required.

There were no public Comments.

Motion by Karl Abrahamson, seconded by Jim Lungstrom:

Table the RFA until the UPC response to the 4" strainer height is determined. Presenter shall revise the RFA to address both the elimination of the structural design requirement and strainer height requirement from 47152760 sub-part 1.

Vote – 3 Aye, 0 Nays; unanimous approval of motion (John Parizek was not present for the vote).

John Parizek arrived to attend the meeting.

2. 4715.0420 Stainless Steel Pipe meeting ASTM A240 by EasyFlex (Tele-Conference) (File PB0041 submitted 5/26/09; reviewed at 9/22/09, 3/23/10 and 6/15/10 PCRC meetings).

Michelle Park and Hun Kim (EasyFlex) participated via teleconference (714-258-2600 x104 - Presenters). There was no local representation present.

Chair requested Committee to review the 6/15/10 meeting minutes concerning this item.

Committee Chair reviewed the Presenters response to the 7/15/10 Letter (requests and response noted below):

1. Add NSF-61 to 4715.0420 Subp. 3 item 2C(c).

Response: This was added to the revised RFA.

2. Provide a sample of the EasyFlex push-on fitting for copper. Need language to address push-on fittings concerning the Minnesota Plumbing Code restriction for use on copper only (4715.0805).

Response: Specific language was not provided in the RFA. Per Presenter, the EasyFlex push-on fittings are for copper only. Per Presenter, the EasyFlex push-on fittings are specifically for EasyFlex tubing thus they thought specific language was not needed. There were no indication observed on the sample fittings.

3. Provide supporting documentation of erosion/velocity testing.

Response: Per Presenter, EasyFlex does not have specific testing for erosion/corrosion. Presenter submitted their testing reports.

4. Submit for Committee review a sizing chart for the EasyFlex product. Since the nominal size and flow characteristics of the pipe are not the same as the other materials in the Minnesota Plumbing Code, the Committee will compare it to the Minnesota charts to determine if the EasyFlex pipe system size requirements match up with the Minnesota code or if revised sizing

charts are required. Recommend sizing chart be sent as soon as possible to allow the Committee members adequate time to review.

Response: Per Presenter, EasyFlex does not have specific sizing chart. Submitted testing reports IAPMO 885-07001-002 that indicates pressure drop per flow.

5. Concern was expressed on how an inspector can determine if the fittings and piping meet the standards allowed. Fittings and pipe need to be clearly marked on which standards they meet for ease of inspections. Please provide information on how this request can be met.

Response: Per Presenter, EasyFlex products have the proper markings.

No markings were observed on the sample push-on fittings. There were markings on the threaded and compression fittings.

6. The Committee considers your product a "system". Committee and Staff prefer to have the RFA written such that the material needs to be a "system". Presenter to review the Language in Minnesota Plumbing Code 4715.0520L as an example of language concerning PEX piping "system". Presenter to provide initial language to Ms. Tran for coordination. Recommend language be sent as soon as possible to allow Ms. Tran adequate time to review.

Response: RFA Language does not indicate as a system.

DLI and Committee Questions:

1. Is the Easy Flex tubing and fittings approved or listed by IPC and UPC?

Presenter noted that they are approved.

The Committee requested the Presenter indicate where in UPC 2009 is their product noted? Presenter referenced page 115, Table 6.4 lists stainless steel pipe material standard, not corrugated stainless steel tube. The EasyFlex product meets the stainless steel standard. Presenter noted that corrugated stainless steel tube is noted on page 256 (CSA G401), but CSA G401 is not listed in IGC 233.

It was determined that the EasyFlex product is not specifically listed in UPC 14-1.

2. What standard does the EasyFlex push fit fitting meet?

Presenter noted that the fitting meets IGC 233 and is noted to meet ASSE 1061.

DLI and Committee Comments:

- A. RFA language does not list as a system and presented product does not meet IGC-233. Cannot be enforced as a system; Presenter needs to provide language that can be enforced.
- B. Corrugated stainless steel pipe CSA G401 is listed in UPC but is not listed in IGC-233; Presenter needs to provide clarification.
- C. Product does not appear to be listed or approved by UPC/IPC. Need documentation as where EasyFlex is specifically listed in the UPC/IPC or confirmation that IAPMO acknowledged that the EasyFlex corrugated stainless steel tubing meets UPC 2009 Table 6.4 and the IGC-233 was written specifically for corrugated stainless steel tubing.
- D. Committee noted that ASTM 269 and ASTM 312 should be reviewed to confirm that product meets those standards.
- E. Next submittal by the Presenter shall include all items supporting the product.

There were no Public Comments.

Motion by John Parizek with Karl Abrahamson second:

Table RFA until the Presenter provides further supporting documentation indicating approval in UPC/IPC and provide a copy of ASTM 269 for review. If supporting documentation of UPC/IPC approval is not received for the 12/7/10 PCRC, the RFA is closed.

Vote – 4 Aye, 0 Nays; unanimous approval of motion.

Motion: The Presenter for PB0047 arrived. A motion was made by Larry Justin, seconded by John Parizek, adding PB0047 back into the agenda. Vote – 4 Aye, 0 Nays; unanimous approval of motion.

- 3. 4715 Solar thermal when used for domestic water heating should be considered a plumbing fixture by Carl Crimmins, MN Pipe Trades (File PB0047 submitted 2/10/10).**

Presenter noted that solar heating and domestic water heating systems are becoming more common. Presenter submitted the "Uniform Solar Energy Code" and UPC Chapter 1 noting protecting of potable water.

Presenter asked "Where does the connection between potable water system and solar heating appliance come under the Plumbing Code jurisdiction?"

Ralph Jacobsen described typical system.

DLI and Committee Comments:

Jurisdiction is up to and including heat exchanger/double wall. Potable water system is plumbing, solar panel side is non-potable.

Motion by John Parizek with Karl Abrahamson second:

Pass on RFA to Plumbing Board with recommendation to provide a letter of clarification concerning Plumbing Code and solar installations.

Vote – 4 Aye, 0 Nays; unanimous approval of motion.

4. 4715.1430 Subpart 4 Horizontal Piping part F: Hangers and Supports - Plastic Pipe hanger spacing by James Paschal, Paschal Engineering & Forensic Consulting, Inc. (File PB0055 submitted 5/20/2010).

Presenter's intent is for the State of Minnesota Plumbing Code to be consistent with national model codes.

DLI and Committee questions:

What does the CPVC apply to?

Presenter's response: Applies to both drainage and water piping.

Are the spacing listed consistent with manufacturers installation instruction?

Presenter's response: Not necessarily; taken from UPC/IPC.

Does the hanger distances consider cellular core vs. solid core?

Presenter's response: Not addressed by UPC/IPC.

Master Plumbers experience has been that cellular core may droop when hot water waste is used; recommend keep hangers at 32".

After further discussion and Presenter's acceptance, 4715.1430 Subpart 4 F Hangers and Supports - Plastic Pipe hanger shall remain as is with an "Exceptions" part added and also add "G" for fiberglass.

Motion by John Parizek with Karl Abrahamson second:

Add an "Exceptions" to 4715.1430 Subpart 4 F and "G" to 4715.1430 Subpart 4 as noted below and pass on to Plumbing Board with recommendation for approval:

4715.1430 Subpart 4 F:

Exceptions:

CPVC water distribution piping (1-1/4 inch or over), 4 foot intervals.

PP-R water distribution piping, non-reinforced (1-1/4 inch or over), 4 foot intervals.

4715.1430 Subpart 4 G:

Fiberglass reinforced pipe shall be installed with hangers and supports in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.

Vote – 4 Aye, 0 Nays; unanimous approval of motion

V. Open Forum

There were no requests for Open Forum.

VI. Discussion

There were no further discussions.

VII. Announcements

A. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting:

December 7, 2010, 9:30 AM – Minnesota Room, DLI

XI. Adjournment

A motion was made by John Parizek, seconded by Jim Lungstrom to adjourn the meeting. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 2:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lawrence Justin

Lawrence Justin