

CMA PILOT PROJECT AND RELEASE OF CMAST 1.1

Revised February 2009

Overview

The CMA pilot project is scheduled to begin in March 2009 with training sessions and will cover a 6-month period. The pilot project will include releasing Version 1.0 of the Component Modeling Approach Software Tool (CMAST). During this time period, NFRC will have the opportunity to fully test the functionality of the software program and identify problem areas and software bugs. In addition, users that will be involved in the CMA product certification program will have the opportunity to learn the software and certification program requirements, and ultimately submit component simulations, approve components, grandfather existing certified products, and generate label certificates.

Lessons learned during the pilot will allow for the improvement and fine-tuning of NFRC CMA program and technical documents, as well as the overall flow of the program and certification process.

During this period, software training and educational materials will be developed, and training of NFRC staff and participating IAs, simulation laboratories, testing laboratories, ACEs, and other stakeholders will be undertaken. A support desk will be established to answer questions and to help with problems experienced by CMAST users. In addition, maintenance fixes will be provided using sub-minor version control as fixes are made (i.e., 1.0.001, 1.0.002, etc.).

As a result of the pilot project and user input, it is anticipated that cumulative maintenance fixes and improvements addressed will establish the release of Version 1.1. It is expected that after the pilot period, scheduled to conclude the end of August 2009, the CMA program will be ready for full implementation.

Users of the Software Tool

The following participants will require training and education for utilizing the CMA software tool:

1. NFRC Staff
2. NFRC-licensed Certification and Inspection Agencies (IAs)
3. NFRC-accredited Simulation Laboratories
4. NFRC-accredited Testing Laboratories
5. NFRC-Approved Calculation Entities (ACEs)
6. Component manufacturers, i.e.,
 - a. Spacer manufacturers
 - b. Glazing manufacturers
 - c. Frame manufacturers
7. Specifying Authorities, i.e.,
 - a. Glazing contractors
 - b. Framing suppliers
 - c. Fenestration manufacturers
 - d. Architects

8. Other Stakeholders or Registered Users
 - a. Designers
 - b. Professional Engineers

Pilot Program Activities and Timelines

The pilot program will involve the following activities in relation to the following timelines:

1. Pilot Program – March 1, 2009-August 31, 2009: involves,
 - a. NFRC Staff training begins – January 2009
 - b. IA, Lab, and ACE training – Feb/March 2009
 - c. Manufacturer training – March 2009
 - d. Training/user manual development – March 2009
 - e. Grandfathering existing certified non-residential products – April 2009
 - f. Identification of bugs/User input – April 2009
 - g. Run through of full CMA rating and certification process – May-August, 2009
 - i. identifying areas where process improvement is necessary
 - ii. Revising operational documents for CMA as necessary
 - h. Maintenance/fixes – sub-minor version control used - May-August 2009
 - i. Support desk assistance from software contractor – May-August 2009
2. Final report on CMAST pilot program deployment, experience, and recommendations prepared and finalized – September 15, 2009
3. Release of Version 1.1 – October 1, 2009