
From: McCarty, Thomas (Approvals) [mailto:thomas.mccarty@fmapprovals.com]
Sent: Friday, September 19, 2008 5:39 AM
To: cab@firemarshals.org
Cc: jnarva@narvaassociates.com; EFriel@firemarshals.org; Smith, George; Moore, Harold; Lovell, Robert
Subject: Code Application Bulletin 2008-01
Importance: High

We are writing to address inaccuracies in the subject and attached Code Application Bulletin.

Dear authors,

FM Approvals is in receipt of Code Application Bulletin (CAB) 2008-01, September 2008. There are inaccurate statements contained in that bulletin and clarification is necessary in order to properly address the Code requirements referenced in the CAB. Specifically, the following response is incorrect:

EFriel@firemarshals.org

1. NFPA 13-2007, Section 12.12.2 provides for an exception to the protection of idle plastic pallets by stating "Where specific test data is available, the data shall take precedence in determining the required protection of idle plastic pallets". Can the FM 4996, Classification of Idle Plastic Pallets as Equivalent to Wood Pallets be used to satisfy this requirement? If so, does FM 4996 supersede FM 4995, Classification of Idle Plastic Pallets?

No. The FM 4996 test protocol evaluates pallets in racks as though it were the commodity itself, it does not evaluate stacks of idle pallets on the floor, which is addressed in NFPA 13 for idle stacked pallets, or the impact pallets have on commodity classifications, which is required by NFPA 13. FM 4995 evaluates commodities but is not a part of FM approval for plastic pallets.

FM Approval Standard 4996 provides specific testing criteria and evaluation methods in order to evaluate plastic pallets as equivalent to wood. In fact, FM Approval Standard 4996 is designated as ANSI/FM 4996 indicating National consensus status for that purpose.

Further, the CAB contains reference to a "pending" FM Approval status. FM Approvals does not provide a "pending" status for FM Approved products and the reference to the Schoellar Arca Systems, Inc. plastic pallets should be corrected to state simply that they are FM Approved.

If you need further clarification or discussion on this issue, please address those concerns to Mr. George Smith, Assistant Vice President and Director, FM Approvals Materials Group. Mr. Smith's email is attached.

Sincerely,

Tom McCarty
Loss Prevention /Standards Coordinator
Auditing and QA - FM Approvals
781-255-4802

This electronic transmission, including any attachments, is the property of FM Approvals. It may contain information confidential in nature or subject to legal privilege. It may also include information regarding the testing and certification of property loss prevention products and services. FM Approvals undertakes no duty to any party by providing such information. Disclosure, copying, distribution, or use of the contents of this transmission by anyone other than the intended recipient(s) is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify me by reply e-mail and delete the original transmission.