



Technical Bulletin

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Applicable Standards:

FORTIFIED Commercial™–Wind
FORTIFIED Multifamily™–Wind

Applicable FORTIFIED Levels:



Product Substitution due to Supply Chain Issues and Product Availability

Scope

This technical bulletin provides guidance on product/material substitutions due to supply chain and product availability issues for components used on projects seeking FORTIFIED designation.

Applicable FORTIFIED Levels

This bulletin applies to both new and existing construction for FORTIFIED Commercial™–Wind and FORTIFIED Multifamily™–Wind for all designation levels (Roof, Silver and Gold) in both hurricane and high-wind-prone regions.

Requirements

Due to supply chain issues that are impacting product availability in the United States, it may be more difficult to obtain certain products/materials after construction begins.

If a product/material substitution is necessary after project plans have been reviewed, the design team is required to communicate the substitution to the FORTIFIED Evaluator to confirm the new product meets the necessary criteria. It is critical that this be done as soon as it is determined that a potential substitution may be needed and well in advance of procurement of materials. Substitutions must be installed in a manner that meets the minimum requirements outlined in the FORTIFIED standard and must follow the manufacturer’s installation instructions. When new materials/products are selected, it is the responsibility of the design team to provide the FORTIFIED Evaluator with proper documentation (See Section 4 Supporting Documentation).

For substitute products or systems that do not have required testing referenced in the FORTIFIED Standard (e.g., impact resistance testing), the FORTIFIED Evaluator will determine, at their discretion, alternate acceptance criteria which may include testing at a certified laboratory or in-situ testing.

Failure to obtain written approval for material/product substitutions from the FORTIFIED Evaluator may result in costly and avoidable expenses and may also result in a project not achieving the FORTIFIED designation level being sought.