

AAMA Updates Document Addressing Sealants

SCHAUMBURG, Ill. -- AAMA 800-07, a voluntary specification covering test methods for sealants, has been released by the American Architectural Manufacturers Association (AAMA). According to Ken Brenden, AAMA technical standards manager, the revamped 30-page document, first published in 1992 and titled *Voluntary Specifications and Test Methods for Sealants*, includes several updates.

This specification is a compilation of standards and test methods for determining the performance of both compounds and tapes used in the manufacture and/or installation of windows, sliding glass doors and curtain walls. Sealant specifications in this publication include back bedding compounds, back bedding mastic tapes, glazing tapes, narrow joint seam sealers, exterior perimeter sealing compounds, non-drying sealants, expanded cellular glazing tapes, per Brenden.

"In addition to various editorial changes, the most significant change was the addition of sections for performance requirements covering slump and extension/compression and a section on the test method for hardness evaluation," according to Brenden.

A note was added regarding testing of Group A and C compounds and offered a choice of test methods. Part of this testing may provide insight on sealant durability and performance. A second note explains how the specimen requirements were derived for lap shear strength with exposure. This value was increased to be consistent with uniform structural load test requirements of AAMA/WDMA/CSA 101/I.S. 2/A440.

A third note was also added to caution the user that it is required to determine chemical compatibility to the substrates in the application, as sealants used in the installation of fenestration products can adversely affect the substrates and other compounds used. New figures were also added to demonstrate lap shear preparation and testing.

The *Voluntary Specifications and Test Methods for Sealants* is available through download, CD or paper copy at a cost of \$18.00 for non-members and \$9.00 for members. For copies of AAMA 800-07, visit the AAMA Online Publication Store at www.aamanet.org <http://www.aamanet.org>; call 847-303-5664; or write the American Architectural Manufacturers Association, 1827 Walden Office Square, Suite 550, Schaumburg, IL 60173.

AAMA is the source of performance standards, product certification, and educational programs for the fenestration industry. (SM)

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