



BUILDING FOR SUCCESS

While preparing this issue it occurred to me that in past years our main focus has been on describing the tests we offer. We are proud of the accuracy of our test results, and want clients to understand the process of achieving them.

An important part of that process is the extensive preparation we make prior to testing, including the way we build assemblies. A successful test project requires technicians who know how to build assemblies to clients' exact specifications and dimensions, and who will ensure that each component is installed with the best craftsmanship. Quality of preparation is crucial to an accurate result.

Great preparations require great skill. The technicians at NGC Testing Services have more than 175 years of combined experience, and consistently provide superior work. In this newsletter you will meet one of these people - Lead Test Technician Steve Armenia, who among other responsibilities is instrumental in constructing test assemblies.

We will also continue our series of articles that define the technical aspects of testing. This month we explain flame spread classifications.

It is hard to believe that 2017 is our fifth year of publication, as it seems like just yesterday that we drafted our first edition. A large part of this newsletter's success is thanks to the helpful feedback offered by our readers.

Please don't hesitate to let us know if we can assist in your test projects, or answer any questions.

Have a great 2017!



Bob Menchetti

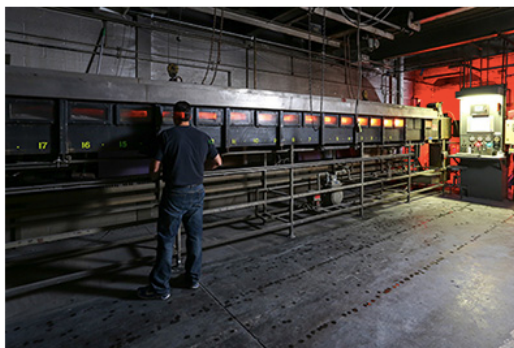
Director of Laboratory Facilities & Testing Services

HOW INTERIOR FINISHES ARE CLASSIFIED FOR FIRE RATINGS

The ASTM E84 (UL 723) Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials test is typically used to determine the relative surface burning characteristics of materials used as interior wall and ceiling finishes.

Interior wall and ceiling finish materials are classified in accordance with the flame spread index (FSI) and smoke developed index (SDI) results from the ASTM E84 (UL 723) test. These materials are grouped into the following three classes.

CLASSIFICATION	FSI	SDI
Class A	0-25	0-450
Class B	26-75	0-450
Class C	76-200	0-450



Any material with a FSI of greater than 200 or an SDI of greater than 450 is not classifiable, i.e., it does not meet Class A, B or C classifications regardless of the corresponding SDI or FSI.

MEET STEVE ARMENIA, LEAD TEST TECHNICIAN

Conducting a test is like making a cake. The right ingredients, carefully measured and combined in the right order, are just as important to the end result as oven temperature and baking time. Getting the perfect result takes experience, know-how, great communication and attention to detail.

Those attributes are what make NGC Testing Service's staff the best in the business. One of our most visible staffers is Steve Armenia, Lead Test Technician, who works mostly in the fire and structural testing laboratories and is best known for his construction expertise.

Clients quickly discover Steve's friendly and congenial manner, and many have told us how much they enjoy working with him. More importantly, they appreciate his strict attention to detail. With 16 years of experience at NGC Testing Services, Steve has earned the trust of our clients to complete the critical construction phase of their tests, and to build assemblies to their exact specifications. He is known for his attention to minute details such as ensuring that components and materials are handled carefully, screened for quality, measured and installed correctly. This dedication, along with Steve's expert instrumentation and testing skills, are appreciated by clients first hand when on site.

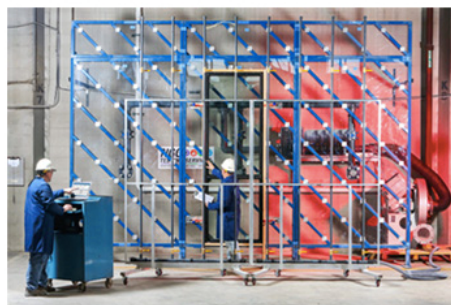
When Steve is not measuring, fine-tuning, analyzing and crafting test assemblies, he is doing the same for automobiles. In his spare time he enjoys working on cars and attending car shows. For further diversion (well, kind of) he has also been known to take on home remodeling projects.

For your next testing project, our experienced staffers like Steve will help you mix the exact right ingredients needed to cook up a successful result.



FOCUS ON: FENESTRATION TESTING

If you manufacture windows, doors or curtain walls, we now offer fenestration testing! In addition to the acoustical and fire testing we have provided for these types of products, our "new window" of testing is up and running. We can now test your products for air infiltration, water penetration and uniform wind loads for assemblies up to 18 ft. in length by 12 ft. in height. In addition to fenestrations, this new testing capability applies to evaluating a wide range of other building envelope products and systems.



Our Fenestration/Building Envelope Testing Services include (but are not limited to):

ASTM E331: Water Penetration of Exterior Windows, Skylights, Doors and Curtain Walls by Uniform Static Air Pressure Difference

ASTM E547: Water Penetration of Exterior Windows, Skylights, Doors and Curtain Walls by Cyclic Static Air Pressure Difference

ASTM E330: Structural Performance of Exterior Windows, Doors, Skylights and Curtain Walls by Uniform Static Air Pressure Difference

ASTM E1233: Standard Test Method of Exterior Windows, Doors, Skylights and Curtain Walls by Uniform Cyclic Air Pressure Differential

ASTM E119: Fire tests of building construction and

NFPA 252: Fire tests of door assemblies, including positive pressure (UL 10 A-B-C, ASTM E152, UBC 7-2, UBC 7-3)

NFPA 257: Fire tests of window assemblies (UL 9, ASTM E163, UBC 7-4)

ASTM E90: Measurement of Airborne Sound Transmission loss of building partitions (ISO 140, Part 3)

ASTM E413: Classification of Rating Sound Insulation (STC)

ASTM E1332: Standard classification for determination of Outdoor-Indoor Transmission Class (OITC)

ASTM E119: Fire tests of building construction and materials (UL 263, UBC 7-1), NFPA 251, CAN/ULC-S101)

ASTM E84: Surface-burning characteristics of building materials (NFPA 255, UL 723, UBC 8-1)

ASTM E1408: Measures the sound transmission loss of door panels and door systems

ASTM E283: Determining Rate of Air Leakage Through Exterior Windows, Curtain Walls and Doors Under Specified Pressure Differences Across the Specimen

For details, call or [e-mail](#) me today. We hope to hear from you soon.

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK!

Check out our new [brochure](#) and watch our [video](#) for the latest updates about NGC Testing Services' capabilities. We're ready to put your products to the test, and this is a great way to see all that we can do for you. Take a look and give us a call — let us know how we can help.



**DOWNLOAD
OUR BROCHURE**



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OUR VIDEO**



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Send any email changes or additions to info@ngctestingservices.com so you can continue to receive *NGC Testing Services Update*.