
Building Codes Division



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to ensure safe building
construction while
supporting a positive
business climate.*

Statewide Code Interpretation

March 7, 2007

No: 2004 OSSC 104.10 2004 Oregon Structural Specialty Code

Code Section: OSSC 104.10

Code Edition: 2004 Oregon Structural Specialty Code (OSSC)

Date: Original: 6/03/94 Updated: 3/07/07

Subject: Product approvals and listing agencies.

Question: How are products and testing labs approved in Oregon under the Structural, Mechanical and Residential Specialty codes?

Answer: The building official with jurisdiction has the responsibility to approve or disapprove products and approval agencies when an alternative to what is prescribed by the code is proposed.

Analysis: ORS 455.060 provides in part: (1) *Any person who desires to use or furnish any material, design or method of construction or installation in the state, or any building official, may request the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services to issue a ruling with respect to the acceptability of any material, design or method of construction about which there is a question under any provision of the state building code.*

OSSC Section 104.10 states in part: *The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the installation of any material or to prohibit any design or method of construction not specifically prescribed by this code, provided that any such alternative has been approved. An alternative material, design or method of construction shall be approved where the building official finds that the proposed design is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this code, and that the material, method or work offered is, for the purposes intended, at least the equivalent of that prescribed in this code in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability and safety.*

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