

Plumbing Board
Product and Code Review Committee
May 28, 2008 – 12:30 p.m.
Department of Labor and Industry
443 Lafayette Road No., Saint Paul, MN 55155-4344
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Committee Members Present:

John A. Parizek
Lawrence Justin
Karl Abrahamson
Randy Ellingboe

Staff Present:

Cathy Tran
Annette Trnka
Jim Peterson

Board Members Present:

None

Committee Members Absent:

Allen Lamm

Visitors:

Alan Thomas
Jim Paschal
Tim Manz
David Shusterich
C. J. Scheff
Roger Baldwin
John Watson

I. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order by Lawrence Justin at 12:40 p.m. and introductions were made.

II. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Chair stated that changes to the Agenda would be to move items IV(B)(1) and IV(B)(2) up to section IV(A)(1) and (2) and renumber the subsequent items. Parizek made a motion to accept, seconded by Abrahamson. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

III. Approve Previous Minutes

Parizek made a motion, seconded by Ellingboe to accept the previous Minutes. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

IV. Special Business

- A. Preliminary review of outstanding Request For Action (RFA) items. The Committee will review the RFA and determine where the RFA will be directed to for further evaluation.

1. (From 4/23/08 Meeting) Amend MN 4715.0420 to include SF14, NSF61, ASTM F2389 and CSA B 137.11 – polypropylene systems. Submitted 1/4/08 by Paschal Engineering. (File PB0026.)
 - i. Water Distribution
 - ii. Water Service

Language reviewed and revised from MN Plumbing Code Change Proposal – Polypropylene. It is noted that the presented RFA (PB0026) has been revised by the requester to include water distribution only. Water service has been deleted from this request and will submit a new RFA for water service at a later date. Mr. Paschal was requested to give a summarization rationale behind the four foot and six foot lengths for support spacing distances, with the reference of the materials he used regarding 4715.1430(F). Cathy Tran is requesting that 4715.1430(F) be submitted as a separate RFA, as there were other requestors on this issue. Justin concurred, however, he was afraid it would be limiting and doesn't leave it open for other products. Ellingboe said that there are a couple possible outcomes. The first is that the first proposal is acceptable with the exception of the spacing issue. The 2nd is separating the two RFAs out, and Ellingboe asked Mr. Paschal if it was critical that both issues go forward together. Paschal stated it is not critical they go forward together. Paschal will follow up with another RFA concerning 4715.1430 Hangers and Supports for the spacing requirements for Polypropylene. Ellingboe thought that it would be best to bring before the Committee. Abrahamson also thinks it should be a separate issue.

The proposed language would be:

4715.0420 STANDARDS FOR PLUMBING MATERIALS
Subp. 3. Standards for plumbing materials.

WATER DISTRIBUTION - Polybutylene (PB) systems (PB tubing together with recommended fittings) and chlorinated polyvinyl chloride (CPVC) pipe together with fittings must be tested by the manufacturer at 150 psi and 210 degrees Fahrenheit for a period of not less than 48 hours by a qualified independent testing laboratory acceptable to the administrative authority. Cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) tubing systems together with approved fittings must be tested at 150 psi and 210 degrees Fahrenheit for a period of not less than 30 days by a qualified independent testing laboratory acceptable to the administrative authority. Polypropylene(PP-R) pipe together with fittings must be tested by the manufacturer at 510 psi hoop stress and 203 degrees Fahrenheit for a period of not less

than 40 days by a qualified independent testing laboratory acceptable to the administrative authority.

DESCRIPTION	ANSI	ASTM	FS	OTHER
6P Polypropylene (PP-R)		F2389		NSF 14
				NSF 61
				CSA B137.11

4715.0520 Water Distribution Pipe.

The following materials may be used for water distribution pipe:

N. Polypropylene (PP-R) pipe 6P shall be certified by an independent third-party certifier. The water distribution system shall be installed by a factory-trained installer in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.

4715.0810 Plastic Joints

Subpart 1

Subp. 2

Subp. 3. Fusion-weld connections shall include socket-fusion, butt-fusion, electro-fusion, and fusion outlet branch fittings. Fusion welding shall be in accordance with ASTM F2389.

A motion was made by Ellingboe, seconded by Parizek to forward the proposed revision as modified to the Plumbing Board for review with no recommendation. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

2. 4715.0805 push-on joints. John Watson, Elkhart Products Corporation. (File PB0019.) This RFA proposes that the MN Rule could be updated, Subp. 2 to be used with other tube types. Mr. Watson gave a presentation.

New Rule Language will be amended to read: Subpart 2. Water Distribution Joints. Removable and non-removable push-fit fittings that comply with ANSI/ASSE 1061-2006 may be used in copper pipe water distribution, or CPVC water tube distribution, or PEX water tube distribution, for above ground installation. The installer must be certified by the manufacturer to install that manufacturer's fitting.

Elkhart is asking that 4715.0805, subpart 2, be reconsidered that PEX tube and/or push connect fittings that have been tested to ASSE 1061 and complies with that Standard be accepted or the Rule be re-worded to include those tube types in the Minnesota Code. This fitting passes the ASSE 1061 mechanical separation test, which is tested with copper, CPVC and PEX with a liner using a load of 1,675 pounds for one hour,

which is then hooked up with compressed air and placed in a tank of water to make sure there are no leaks. Parizek stated that PEX states in their installation instructions that PEX tubing, using a PEX fitting matching the system. Mr. Watson stated that Elkhart Products has no immediate plans to manufacture PEX tubing, however, fittings that have passed the ASSE 1061 testing are approved for PEX tubing. The ICC (International Code Council) is amending their AC311 spec. One of the documents in the packet is a test report for AC311. AC311 is a test that's very parallel to ASSE 1061. Currently PEX tube is not marked ASSE 1061. PEX tube requires that you have F877 and F876 and marked on the tube at interim levels. Cathy Tran stated her concern is that PEX has not recognized ASSE 1061 on their fittings, so even if this were amended, it would be misleading that it could be used, that the PEX manufacture is not part of Elkhart's system yet. Ellingboe stated that the intermixing of brands for PEX, is recognized with ASTM F1807 and F1960 with Standards 6N & 6O in 4715.0420(2). The PEX tubing has to be marked to recognize those Standards, if those types of fittings are to be used with it. Also, 6L for CPVC would have to be modified to recognize the other Standard for joining. Ellingboe then asked if there was the same issue for CPVC regarding markings for joining as there is for PEX? Jim Peterson asked about conflicting standards, as 4715.0520 under 6L for PEX states that "tubing and fittings must be marked with the appropriate ASTM designation by the manufacturer." Of the PEX materials he has seen, they are marked several things, but none are marked 2060. Mr. Watson responded that any product that conforms with ASSE 1061 is marked around the fitting, stating the fitting can be used on copper, CPVC, PEX, etc. Marked on the Elkhart fitting is NSF61, UPC & ASSE 1061. Jim Peterson stated that once PEX tubing and CPVC started being marked ASSE 1061, it would be acceptable. Justin stated he doesn't want the Committee to be the stop gap, if the requestor has all the supporting documentation, then it should be passed on to the Plumbing Board. In addition, any other interested parties regarding this issue would be able to be heard as well. Ellingboe asked if we need to add language, in addition to the language that we see in 4715.0805, we also added a .3R under 4715.0420 for removable and non-removable push fit fittings for copper pipe, so for cross-reference, do we need to do something analogous to that, for example, add a 6P or some other reference in water distribution. That language would need to be added for PEX, if the request is going to move forward.

Parizek made a motion, seconded by Abrahamson to forward this RFA to the Plumbing Board with a recommendation to deny the CPVC and PEX applications. If the Plumbing Board decides to accept the RFA, the Committee recommends the Plumbing Board create the appropriate references in 4715.0420. The Chair Abstained, Parizek, Abrahamson and Ellingboe voted Aye. The majority ruled and the motion passed.

The meeting took a break at 2:17 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 2:34.

3. (From 4/23/08 Meeting) Amend MN Plumbing Code to reference ASME standard A112.19.12-2006 (Adjust-a-sink.) Submitted 12/3/07 by Accessible Systems. (File PB0021.)

Dave Schusterich and C.J. Sheff presented. Mr. Schusterich referenced his submission letter dated May 14, 2008, in which they addressed the questions that the Committee posed at the 4/23/08 meeting. Parizek made the motion to have DLI staff work with Accessible Systems to develop language on Rule amendment and then return this item back to the Committee for review, seconded by Ellingboe. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

A motion was made by Parizek, seconded by Abrahamson to move up item IV(5) on the Agenda to make it item IV(4). The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

4. 4715.0420, Subpart 3, VI, 6C(4): Submitted 10/11/07 by Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc. Expand allowable diameter range for corrugated Polyethylene pipe. (File PB0020.) Roger Baldwin gave a presentation on PowerPoint. He is requesting changing the current code, which references both AASHTO M-294 and AASHTO MP-7 and change to ASTM F 2306 OR just AASHTO M-294. Cathy Tran asked for some certification on the testing that they have done which would support the watertight assertion. She also asked for the Standard that would reference manhole structures.

A motion was made by Justin, seconded by Parizek to pass the RFA on to the Plumbing Board as written for recommendation to approve. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Mr. Baldwin was asked to provide to DLI staff information on connections to structures. DLI staff will then review and present back to the Committee.

Parizek made a motion, seconded by Abrahamson to table the remaining items on the Agenda. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

V. Open Forum

There were no requests for Open Forum.

VI. Discussion

There was no further discussion.

VII. Announcements

A. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting

- i. Wednesday, June 25, 2008, 9:30 a.m. – Washington Room, DLI

XI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Parizek, seconded by Abrahamson to adjourn the meeting. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lawrence Justin

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