

TESTING APPLICATION STANDARD (TAS) 203-94

CRITERIA FOR TESTING PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO CYCLIC WIND PRESSURE LOADING

1. Scope

- 1.1 This protocol covers procedures for conducting the cyclic wind pressure loading test required by the *Florida Building Code, Building* and TAS 201-94.

2. Referenced Documents

- 2.1 The *Florida Building Code, Building*.

3. Terminology

- 3.1 Definitions - For definitions of terms used in this protocol, refer to the *Florida Building Code, Building*.

- 3.2 Description of Terms Specific to This Protocol

- 3.3 Specimen - The entire assembled, unit submitted for test, including anchorage devices and structure to which product is to be mounted.

- 3.4 Positive (Negative) Cyclic Load - the specified differential in static air pressure, creating an inward (outward) loading, for which the specimen is to be tested under repeated conditions, expressed in pounds per square foot.

- 3.5 One Cycle - Beginning at the specified static air pressure, the application of positive cyclic test load, and returning to the specified static air pressure, followed by the application of negative cyclic test load.

- 3.6 Design Wind Load - The uniform static air pressure difference, inward or outward, for which the specimen would be designed under service load conditions using the *Florida Building Code, Building* Section 1606.

- 3.7 Test Chamber - An airtight enclosure of sufficient depth to allow unobstructed deflection of the specimen during pressure cycling, including ports for air supply and removal, and equipped with a device to measure test pressure differentials.

- 3.8 Maximum Deflection - The maximum displacement measured to the nearest $\frac{1}{8}$ inch attained from an original position while the maximum load is being applied.

- 3.9 Permanent Deformation - The permanent displacement measured to the nearest $\frac{1}{8}$ inch from an original position that remains after the applied test load has been removed.

- 3.10 Specimen Failure - A change in condition of the specimen indicative of deterioration under repeated load or incipient failure, such as cracking, fastener loosening, local yielding, or loss of adhesive bond.

4. Significance and Use

- 4.1 This test method is a standard procedure for determining compliance with Sections 1625 Table 1625.4 and Table 1626 of the *Florida Building Code, Building*. This test method is intended to be used for installations of exterior windows, glazing, wall cladding, exterior doors, skylights, glass block, storm shutters, and other similar device used as external protection of the building envelope. This test method consists of supplying air to and exhausting air from the chamber in accordance with a specific test loading program at the rate required to maintain the test pressure differential across the specimen, and observing, measuring, and recording the deflection, deformations, and nature of any distress or failures of the specimen.

5. Test Specimen

- 5.1 Test specimen - All parts of the test specimen shall be full size, using the same materials, details, methods of construction and methods of attachment as proposed for actual use. The specimen shall consist of the entire assembled unit attached to a given type of structural framing of the building, and shall contain all devices used to resist wind forces and wind-borne debris. When testing glazed products, the material used to make such glazed product

windborne debris resistant (i.e. fillers, film and similar), shall be an integral part, factory applied, of such glazed product.

In the case of windows, doors, and sliding glass doors, a pressure treated nominal 2 x 4 wood buck #3 Southern Pine shall be used for attachment of the specimen to the test frame/stand/chamber. Such wood buck will become part of the approval.

In the case of storm panels, they must be tested in worst case scenarios where attachments are directly to CBS block. Figure 1 shows the basic three (3) configurations that shall be required; one per each of the three (3) required specimens. Each storm panel specimen shall consist of minimum three (3) panels.



**FIGURE 1
THREE (3) BASIC STORM PANEL ATTACHMENTS
FOR TESTING.**

- 5.1.1 Locking mechanisms shall be permanently mounted on the specimen. Such locking mechanism shall require no tools to be latched in the locked position. Devices such as pins shall be permanently secured to the specimen through the use of chains or wires which must be of corrosion resistant material. This section does not apply to specimens referenced in Section 2422 of the *Florida Building Code, Building*.
- 5.1.2 Products that are not categorized as means of egress/escape and are provided with more than one single action locking mechanism, shall be provided with permanently posted instructions on latching for high wind pressures.

5.1.3 Specimen and fasteners, when used, shall not become disengaged during test procedure.

- 5.2 If the impact test is to be performed on the test specimen, such test shall be conducted prior to performing the test described in this protocol.
- 5.3 All locking mechanisms should be in place when performing this test.
- 5.4 Doors and windows must be operable after this test.
- 5.5 Manufacturers of any specimen with width of more than 20 ft and/or a height of more than 8 ft, must submit for approval a proposed comparative test criteria to the Authority Having Jurisdiction prior to testing.

6. Procedure

- 6.1 Preparation - Remove from the test specimen any sealing or construction material that is not normally used when installed in or on a building. Fit the specimen with its structural framing into or against the chamber opening. The outdoor side of the specimen shall face the higher pressure side for positive loads; the indoor side shall face the higher pressure side for negative loads. Support and secure the specimen by the same number and type of anchors to be approved for normal installation of the specimen in the building.
- 6.2 Support and secure the test specimen by the same number and type of anchors normally used in installing the unit in the building.
- 6.3 Load the specimen using the cycles specified in section Table 1625.4 and/or Table 1626 of the *Florida Building Code, Building* whichever of these apply.
- 6.4 In the case of Table 1625.4 of the *Florida Building Code, Building* Section 6.3 of this protocol must be repeated for negative pressures.
- 6.5 Assemblies shall be tested with no resultant failure or distress and shall have a recovery of at least 90% over maximum deflection.

7. Apparatus

- 7.1 The description of the apparatus is general in nature. Any equipment, properly certified, calibrated, and approved by Authority Having Jurisdiction capable of performing this test within the allowable tolerance is permitted.
- 7.2 Major Components
- 7.2.1 Test Chamber - The test chamber, to which the specimen is mounted, shall be provided with pressure tabs to measure the pressure difference across the test specimen and shall be so located that the reading is unaffected by the velocity of air supplied to or from the chamber. The specimen mounting frame must not deflect under test load in such manner that the performance of the specimen will be affected.
- 7.2.2 Pressure-Measuring Apparatus - The pressure-measuring apparatus shall measure the test pressure difference within a tolerance of $\pm 2\%$
- 7.2.3 Deflection-Measuring System - The deflection-measuring system shall measure the deflection within a tolerance of 0.01 inch.
- 7.2.4 Air System - A controllable blower, a compressed-air supply, an exhaust system, or reversible controllable blower designed to provide the required maximum air pressure difference across the specimen. The system shall provide an essentially cyclic static air-pressure difference for the required test period.
- 7.3 Calibration of Equipment - The pressure-measuring apparatus and the deflection-measuring system shall be calibrated and certified by an independent qualified agency approved by the Authority Having Jurisdiction, at two-year intervals.
- 7.3.1 The calibration report shall include: the date of the calibration, the name of the agency conducting the calibration, methods and equipment used in the calibration process, the equipment being calibrated and any pertinent comments.

8. Hazards

- 8.1 Testing facilities must take all necessary precautions to protect the observers during the entire test procedure. All observers shall always be at a safe distance away from specimen and apparatus. Safety regulations must be followed in order to avoid any injuries to any and all observers.

9. Testing Facilities (For a more detailed description see TAS 301-94)

- 9.1 Any testing facility wishing to perform this test must first obtain the approval of the Authority Having Jurisdiction. Such approval shall only be given to those facilities which show that they are properly equipped to perform the complete test. Testing facilities shall request, in writing, approval of their facilities. Such request shall contain the ability of the facility to perform all aspects of the test, all equipment used in the performance of the test, name of independent agency calibrating their equipment, location of facilities, personnel involved in the testing, a quality control program, a safety program and any other pertinent information which will clearly indicate that such facility is in the business of performing independent testing. The Authority Having Jurisdiction will visit the site and reserve the right to order any changes necessary to accept the facility for testing.
- 9.2 Approval of facilities to perform the test described in this protocol, does not constitute an approval of such facilities to perform other tests not specifically mentioned in this protocol.
- 9.3 Fee for testing facilities shall be determined per TAS 301-94.

10. Format of Test

The manufacturer shall notify the Authority Having Jurisdiction seven (7) working days prior to the performing of the test. The Authority Having Jurisdiction reserves the right to observe the test. The Authority Having Jurisdiction must be notified of the place and time the test will take place. The test must be recorded on video (VHS) and submitted along with test report.

11. Test Reports

The following minimum information shall be included in the submitted report:

- 11.1 Date of the test and the report, and report number.
- 11.2 Name and location of facilities performing the test.
- 11.3 Name and address of requester of the test.
- 11.4 Identification of the specimen (manufacturer, source of supply, dimension, model types, material, procedure of selection and any other pertinent information).
- 11.5 Detailed drawings of the specimen showing dimensioned section profiles, type of framing specimen was attached to, panel arrangement, installation and spacing of anchorage, locking arrangement, sealant, hardware, product markings and their location, and any other pertinent construction details. Any deviation from the drawings or any modifications made to the specimen to obtain the reported values shall be noted on the drawings and in the report.
- 11.6 Maximum deflection recorded and mechanism used to make such determination.
- 11.7 Permanent deformation (provide cross section diagram to show where it occurred).
- 11.8 Name, address, signature and seal of Florida professional engineer, witnessing the test and preparing the report. Engineer shall be part of the laboratory's permanent staff or under laboratory's contract. (See TAS 301-94.)
- 11.9 A tabulation of pressure differences exerted across the specimen during the test and their duration.
- 11.10 Maximum positive and negative pressures used in the test.
- 11.11 A description of the condition of the test specimens after testing, including details of any damage and any other pertinent observations.
- 11.12 When the tests are made to check conformity of the specimen to a particular specification, an identification or description of that specification.

- 11.13 A statement that the tests were conducted in accordance with this test method.
- 11.14 A statement of whether or not, upon completion of all testing, the specimens meet the requirements of Section 1606 of the *Florida Building Code, Building* and this protocol.
- 11.15 A statement as to whether or not tape or film, or both were used to seal against air leakage, and whether in the judgment of the test engineer, the tape or film influenced the results of the test.
- 11.16 Signatures of persons responsible for supervision of the tests and a list of official observers.
- 11.17 All data not required herein, but useful to a better understanding of the test results, conclusions or recommendations, should be appended to the report.

12. Recording Deflections

Maximum Deflection

Permanent Deformation

13. Additional Testing

- 13.1 Prior to conducting the test described in this protocol, all specimen must have successfully completed the test specified in protocol TAS 201-94.
- 13.2 Any product when installed that is subjected to weathering, where such weathering can affect the integrity of the product, the manufacturer shall contact the Authority Having Jurisdiction for additional testing requirements such as but not limited to moisture, U.V., accelerated aging, and other similar tests.
- 13.3 The Authority Having Jurisdiction reserves the right to require any additional testing necessary to assure full compliance with the intent of the *Florida Building Code, Building*.
- 13.4 Some products, such as exterior doors, exterior windows, skylights, and wall cladding shall be required to be successfully tested under TAS 202-94 prior to conducting tests under this protocol.

14. Product Marking

- 14.1 Any and all approved products shall be permanently labeled with the manufacturer's name, city, state, and the following statement: "Product Control Approved."
- 14.2 Permanently labeled shall be a metallic label fixed permanently to the frame of the specimen by rivets or permanent adhesive. See Section 14.2.1 of this protocol for storm panels.
 - 14.2.1 Permanent label on storm panels could be printed directly on each panel at intervals not to exceed 24 inches with non removable paint or ink.
- 14.3 Any instructions for operations shall be permanently mounted on the specimen in an area not subject to be painted or concealed. Storm panels may be excluded from this section.

