

# CHAPTER 6 WALL CONSTRUCTION

## SECTION R613.3 IRC Interpretation No. 23-03 2003 Edition Issued: 02-12-04

**R613.3 Testing and labeling.** Exterior windows and glass doors shall be tested by an approved independent laboratory, and bear a label identifying manufacturer, performance characteristics and approved inspection agency to indicate compliance with the requirements of one of the following specifications:

- AAMA/NWWDA 101/I.S.2
- AAMA/WDMA 101/I.S.2/NAFS

**Exceptions:**

1. Decorative glazed openings.
2. Exterior window and door assemblies not included within the scope of AAMA/NWWDA 101/I.S.2 or AAMA/WDMA 101/I.S.2/NAFS shall be tested in accordance with ASTM E 330. Assemblies covered by this exception containing glass shall comply with Section R308.5.
3. Structural wind load design pressures for window units smaller than the size tested in accordance with this section shall be permitted to be higher than the design value of the tested unit provided such higher pressures are determined by accepted engineering analysis. All components of the small unit shall be the same as the tested unit. Where such calculated design pressures are used they shall be validated by an additional test of the window unit having the highest allowable design pressure.

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**Q1:** Do the provisions in Section R613.3 apply to non-glass garage doors?

**A1:** Yes. Exception 2 to Section R613.3 stipulates that exterior door assemblies not included in the scoping of the referenced specifications AAMA/NWWDA 101/I.S.2 and AAMA/WDMA 101/I.S.2/NAFS shall comply with the testing protocol of ASTM E 330, which includes, among other components, hinged doors and garage doors (vehicular access doors).

The referenced specifications AAMA/NWWDA 101/I.S.2 and AAMA/WDMA 101/I.S.2/NAFS provide the testing protocol for exterior windows and glass doors. With regard to doors, the test protocol for both of the referenced specifications is limited to hinged glass doors and sliding glass doors. Neither glass garage doors nor non-glass garage doors are included in the scoping of the two referenced AAMA specifications.

**Q2:** Are non-glass garage doors required to be tested and labeled as required by the provisions of Section 613.3?

**A2:** Yes. Both non-glass garage doors and glass garage doors must be tested for compliance with ASTM E 330 as required by Exception 2 to Section 316.3; however, the ASTM E 330 test protocol does not require tested components to be labeled as defined in IRC Chapter 2, Definitions.

**Q3:** Are non-glass garage doors required to be tested for specific loads equal to 1.5 times the design pressure?

**A3:** Yes. Article 5.4 of ASTM E 330, which is the testing protocol required by Exception 2 to Section 316.3, "requires a minimum test period of 10 seconds for specific loads equal to 1.5 times the design pressure, unless requirements have been otherwise specified".

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