

Products Accepted for Use / Vulcan Technologies Eave Vents **09-03**

Vulcan Technologies Eave Vent Product Acceptance Effective 03-20-09
This OSFM Product Acceptance **Expires 12-31-09**

This policy is only applicable to OSFM plan and construction review projects under OSFM jurisdiction. Local jurisdictions and other enforcing agencies may or may not adopt similar methods of: administering current code requirements; determining equivalent alternates for materials, design, tests, and methods of construction; or of approving specific product use; as necessary in enforcing the existing California Building Code Ch7A "Materials and Construction Methods for Exterior Wildfire Exposure" and related sections. OSFM Ch7A Compliance Policies address those aspects of OSFM plan and construction review that are not clearly addressed by existing regulation and typically indicate acceptable methods of achieving compliance with applicable codes and regulations. OSFM Ch7A Compliance Policies are intended for use by OSFM staff and as a resource for design professionals to promote more uniform statewide guidelines for plan review and construction inspection of projects within the jurisdiction of OSFM, although other methods proposed by design professionals may be considered. References to CBC are to the California Building Code in effect at the time of policy issuance or revision date, Ch7A refers to CBC Chapter 7A "Materials and Construction Methods for Exterior Wildfire Exposure," "code" refers to the California Building Code and all related provisions of CCR Title 24. This and other CBC Ch7A Compliance Policies will be posted at or linked to the main OSFM webpage at <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov>. The terms "listed" and "approved" have specific legal definitions and **SHALL NOT** be used in describing products accepted for use by this policy.

Issue: Ch7A provides the option to use special eave vents which "resist the intrusion of flame and burning embers" as an exception to Section 704A.2.2 but no method of acceptance for special eave vent is specified.

Code Section(s) at Issue: 2007 CBC Section 704A.2 Attic Ventilation:

704A.2.1 General. When required by Chapter 15, roof and attic vents shall resist the intrusion of flame and embers into the attic area of the structure, or shall be protected by corrosion-resistant, noncombustible wire mesh with 1/4-inch (6mm) openings or its equivalent.

704A.2.2 Eave or cornice vents. Vents shall not be installed in eaves and cornices.

Exception: Eave and cornice vents may be used provided they resist the intrusion of flame and burning embers into the attic area of the structure.

Resolution: Based upon review of the OSFM "Application for Listing Service" from Vulcan Technologies dated November 17, 2008 The Vulcan Technologies eave vents listed below are accepted for use for use in projects where OSFM has plan review jurisdiction with the following limitations:

1. Installation shall be limited to under eave applications only,
2. Documentation shall be provided at the time of plan review application detailing that all ventilation requirements of California Code of Regulations Title 24 (including the California Building Code) can be met with the proposed installation including, but not limited to:
 - a. Net free ventilating area requirements (CBC section 1203.2), and
 - b. Opening size for attic vents (CBC sections 1203.2.1)

Manufacturer: Gunter Mfg. Inc
Address: P.O. Box 1126, Loomis, CA 95650
3495 Swetzer Road, Loomis, CA 95650
Contact: Larry Dumm
larry@guntermfg.com
Phone: (916) 652-7424
Fax: (916) 647-0477

<u>Model No. (GMFG #)</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Type</u>
VE3522(S)	3.5" X 22"	Eave
VE5522(S)	5.5" X 22"	Eave
VE3514(S)	3.5" X 14"	Eave
VE5514(S)	5.5" X 14"	Eave
VER2	2" RND	Eave
VER3	3" RND	Eave
VFS414(S,FF,FB)	4" X 14"	Soffit
VFS614(S,FF,FB)	6" X 14"	Soffit
VFS814(S,FF,FB)	8" X 14"	Soffit
VSC2120	2" X 120"	Soffit

Review of the application material included:

- A testing lab report by Western Fire Center Inc. (WFCi) reissued on November 11, 2008 (based on testing conducted September 20, 2007 & August 4, 2008) and revised on January 16, 2009, and
- Supporting documentation submitted on February 23, 2009 quantifying wildfire ember exposure, and
- Acceptance criteria for attic vents, the products listed below have been accepted as complying with the intent of Section 704A.2.2 for use in projects where OSFM has plan and construction review jurisdiction.

California Building Code Section 111.2.4 allow local officials and other enforcing agencies to "approve" alternative materials, designs or methods of construction provided the proposed design complies with the intent of the provisions of this code, and provides equivalent effectiveness as prescribed by code. CBC Section 704A.3.1 specifies additional provisions for alternate methods.

This acceptance policy does not prevent additional venting products from being reviewed. Any other alternate products requested for use on individual projects may still be reviewed for compliance on a case by case basis.

This acceptance does not set aside any requirements for minimum vent area which shall be calculated by the net area of the ventilation provided by this product and shall be declared on the construction plans for all new permit applications where this product is utilized.

For questions and/or further information regarding this acceptance policy, please contact:

Ethan Foote, Assistant Chief
Wildfire Protection Building Standards
Fire Engineering Division
ethan.foote@fire.ca.gov
Phone: (707) 576-2996

Approving Authority:

BEN HO
Chief of Fire Engineering
Office of the State Fire Marshal

This acceptance policy is based upon technical data submitted by the applicant. OSFM Fire Engineering staff has reviewed the test results and/or other data but does not make an independent verification of any claims. This acceptance policy is not an endorsement or recommendation of the item listed. This acceptance policy should not be used to verify correct operational requirements or installation criteria. Refer to manufacturer's data sheet, installation instructions and/or other suitable information sources.