



# Technical Bulletin #1

## CODE APPROVALS

January, 2000

Recently, the new ICBO ER 2093 product approval was distributed and we have received inquiries as to why the document dated January 1, 1999 was not released until March. Unfortunately, this is not an uncommon time lag for this type of approval. Typically, the ICBO Evaluation Service reviews applications at the end of each month and if the application is approved, notification and a copy of the final draft is sent to the applicant the following week. From that point, it takes approximately six weeks for the approval to be produced and released to the industry.

So it is that the approval is dated for the month that it is approved by the ES Committee, ostensibly to the advantage of the applicant who may have product and marketing plans awaiting approval. In our case, we opted to have our approvals reproduced independently to avoid further delays since ICBO reproduction typically takes another two weeks. Fortunately, all of the provisions of our new approval were well chronicled in advance and we do not expect that any of our customers should have been caught unawares.

Similarly, there may be slight time lags between when Installation Guides are produced and distributed. While we try to get the information out as quickly as possible, our data base for our initial mailing may not include all of our customers, so the books are typically distributed per request or via our sales reps.

Timing for reproduction of Installation Guides has been driven by supply and demand; as supply runs out we reproduce new editions. When the time comes to print new books, we invariably try to use that opportunity to edit and improve the previous edition. These changes are usually editorial in nature and rarely do they contain wholesale modifications to tile installation methods. While we try to remain sensitive to local practices, the recommendations are geared towards achieving industry standardization.