

The DASMA Thermal Performance Verification program

By Chris Johnson, DASMA Executive Director



All program documents have been developed under the authority of DASMA. The subject matter experts of the participating companies have worked in DASMA committees to arrive at consensus on all matters related to the program.



Editor's note:

Thermal performance is a key selling point for sectional door manufacturers. With the development of the DASMA Thermal Performance Verification (TPV) program, the industry is attempting to even the playing field. The voluntary program offers established, standard test procedures and third-party administration of the tests, making the rating verification process fairer. Continue reading to learn why the program could be right for your company.

DASMA has long been a proponent of educated and certified industry professionals. Now, the association is preparing to launch a new certification program for products. Product certification programs are different from personnel certification programs. That seems obvious; after all, products are not people. The two types of certification programs do share a common purpose — verification of an advertised ability to perform at a certain level.

DASMA-owned program

DASMA is the owner of this certification program. All program documents have been developed under the authority of DASMA. The subject matter experts of the participating companies have worked in DASMA committees to arrive at consensus on all matters related to the program.

Certification Committee

A Certification Committee oversees and approves all modifications to the program and the Procedural Guide. The committee meets regularly to review progress and to guide the development of the program. Various subcommittees may be formed to address specific issues that may arise. The subcommittees report back to the Certification Committee, which will act based on subcommittee recommendations.

Self-certification with third-party verification

While DASMA is the owner of the program, the individual company participants are responsible for their own ratings. The program is a self-certification program with third-party verification. That means that ratings of all products in the program are based on tests that have been conducted by a third-party test lab. The test labs have all been vetted in a round-robin test program, and only test labs approved by DASMA may conduct tests for program participants.

All participating companies sign agreements that bind them to operate according to program requirements when establishing and promoting thermal performance ratings. After signing these agreements, participants submit materials that support the ratings to a program administrator. The administrator collects the materials and provides a database or directory of participants showing the models that are listed in the program. Periodic audits are conducted to verify continuing compliance with program requirements. ■

Key manufacturer support

11 companies, representing the overwhelming bulk of shipments of insulated sectional garage doors, have been developing the DASMA Thermal Performance Verification Program for many years. These companies have agreed to take part in the program and are preparing their individual technical and marketing documents toward that end.

The Procedural Guide

Materials are being prepared in accordance with the rules and procedures that have been developed to guide the program. The rules and procedures are contained in a Procedural Guide that governs all aspects of the program, from eligibility to rating standards, to icons and logos that may be used by participants.

The Procedural Guide is a living document that evolves as the program evolves. Certification programs, especially new programs, are modified frequently to reflect changes in products or standards and to incorporate lessons learned from the programs' operations. These modifications allow the programs to meet industry needs and improve efficiency of program operations.