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Harvard: Steady gains in remodeling expected

Stable growth in home improvement and repair spending is anticipated for the remainder of 2017 and into the first half of 2018, according to the Leading Indicator of Remodeling Activity (LIRA) released in July by the Remodeling Futures Program at the Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University. The LIRA projects that annual increases in remodeling expenditures will soften later but still remain at or above 6.0 percent through the second quarter of 2018.

The positive trend is supported by a stronger housing market and, in particular, solid gains in house prices, which are encouraging owners to make larger investments in their homes. The next LIRA will be released on Oct. 19, 2017. ■

Leading Indicator of Remodeling Activity – Second Quarter 2017



Next R+T South America: May 9-12, 2018

The 2nd R+T South America, slated for May 9-12, 2018, is expected to attract a large number of international exhibitors to the São Paulo Expo in São Paulo, Brazil. The convention center has been modernized with an up-to-date infrastructure and more exhibition space.



Photo credit: Messe Stuttgart

R+T South America is the only trade fair in South America for doors, gates, and sun protection systems. More than 25 companies from Brazil, Spain, Italy, Turkey, USA, China, Korea, and Taiwan have already confirmed participation. The first show, with 52 exhibitors and 6,705 visitors, was in May 2016. ■

Connecticut governor vetoes warranty bill

On July 7, Connecticut Governor Dannel Malloy vetoed legislation that would have required warranties to include the cost of labor as well as product on roofing, siding, and windows sold in the state. The bill further mandated that window, roofing, and siding manufacturers had to make determinations on claims within 30 days or automatically pay the claim.

According to Malloy, this bill would “harm consumers due to its detrimental impact to the marketplace” and was “simply unworkable.” The governor cited 40 businesses and associations across the state, including Window & Door Manufacturers Association (WDMA), that had expressed significant concerns about this legislation.

Jean-Francois Morin of Garaga noted that this bill would have created an environment like that in Europe. “Garage door dealers in Europe must provide a ‘wall to wall’ warranty that covers parts and labor. For example, in France, it’s 10 years, and dealers must provide an insurance bond,” said Morin. “That helps to explain why garage doors in France cost twice as much as garage doors in Canada.” ■

DASMA conducts new rolling door tests



DASMA is once again investigating the effects of rolling door loads on metal jambs, the third such testing since 2007. The new tests seek to evaluate tested versus calculated loads on jambs, with a goal of ensuring door performance.

The testing will be performed at the Intertek/ATI facility in York, Pa. A 16' x 10' rolling slat door will be tested to ANSI/DASMA 108, measuring performance criteria.

"When a door is installed, the dealer and manufacturer should have confidence that the jambs are sufficient to keep the door in place when high-wind events occur," said Milt Prosperi, DASMA Rolling Door Division chair. ■

Egress documents coming for high-speed doors

DASMA is developing documents that improve communication about the use of high-speed doors in building egress applications. The documents include a Technical Research Document, an exclusive resource for DASMA members, and a Technical Data Sheet to help dealers, code officials, and design professionals.

The documents will explain the code provisions that allow for egress using high-speed doors, cite various options available, and describe building occupancies and room uses where such doors may be used.

Jeff Wendt, DASMA High Performance Door Division chair, explained that the effort seeks to recognize high-speed doors in egress applications using the ICC International Building Code and the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code. "We are developing proposals for the next development cycles of those documents, toward having specific high-speed door provisions to use," he said. ■

New U-factor testing on rolling doors

This fall, DASMA is expanding U-factor verification testing to include insulated rolling doors. Earlier this year, DASMA tested sectional doors at three laboratories.

The testing sought to validate the provisions of DASMA 105-2015 and to develop a list of laboratories that manufacturers can confidently use to obtain U-factors for their insulated doors.

This activity goes beyond code compliance, said Joe Hetzel, DASMA technical director. "Since we anticipate the demand for U-factor values to increase, we would like for manufacturers and dealers to confidently supply these values where needed," he added.

Dealers are encouraged to contact their manufacturer suppliers to ask about U-factors for insulated products. ■

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DASMA investigating California Energy Code requirements



The DASMA Joint Technical Group, comprising members of the Garage Door, Rolling Door, and High Performance Door divisions, is investigating the content of the California Energy Code. The investigation was prompted by recent compliance inquiries involving U-factor, air infiltration values, and test requirements.

“Similar to what we do in Florida, our members doing business in California need to know the requirements for compliant products to help ease the concerns of dealers and building owners,” said Pat Hunter, Joint Technical Group chair.

DASMA will continue code-related activities involving California building and residential codes as well. ■

The most-used Technical Data Sheets

Page Views*	DASMA Technical Data Sheet
118	● Wind Load Calculator
93	● TDS 155 Residential and Commercial Wind Load Guides
82	● TDS 151 General Code Inspection Guidelines for Garage Doors
57	● TDS 190 Factors Affecting Spring Cycle Life
48	● TDS 154 DASMA Metal Gauge Chart

*Unique page views from Feb. 15 - May 15, 2017

More than 120 Technical Data Sheets are freely available at www.dasma.com under Publications. These documents have been prepared by and are continually reviewed and updated by the DASMA Technical Committees and staff. ■

DASMA submits changes to ASTM F2200

This summer, DASMA submitted clarification-oriented changes to ASTM F2200. The changes were reviewed by the Automated Vehicular Gate Coalition, comprising representatives of AFA, DASMA, IDA, and NOMMA.

The changes clarify compliance to both UL 325 and ASTM F2200 for replacing a gate operator, and they add that a replacement gate is to

conform to ASTM F2200.

“Not only should new construction be safe, as required by the model codes, but replacing either the gate or the operator should maintain safety of the automated gate system,” said Tom DeSilvia, coalition chair.

The ASTM F14 Committee will be processing the proposed changes. ■



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