

# ICC-ES Evaluation Report

**ESR-2074**

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This report is subject to re-examination in two years.

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**DIVISION: 10—SPECIALTIES**  
**Section: 10230—Vents**
**REPORT HOLDER:**
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**EVALUATION SUBJECT:**
**SMART VENT® AUTOMATIC FOUNDATION FLOOD VENTS:  
 FLOODVENT™ MODEL #1540-520; FLOODVENT™  
 STACKING MODEL #1540-521; SMARTVENT™ MODEL  
 #1540-510; SMARTVENT™ STACKING MODEL #1540-511;  
 WOOD WALL FLOOD MODEL #1540-570; WOOD WALL  
 FLOOD OVERHEAD DOOR MODEL #1540-574;  
 FLOODVENT™ OVERHEAD DOOR MODEL #1540-524;  
 SMARTVENT™ OVERHEAD DOOR MODEL #1540-514**
**1.0 EVALUATION SCOPE**
**Compliance with the following codes:**

- 2006 *International Building Code*® (IBC)
- 2006 *International Residential Code*® (IRC)

**Properties evaluated:**

- Physical operation
- Water flow

**2.0 USES**

The Smart Vent® units are automatic foundation flood vents (AFFVs) employed to equalize hydrostatic pressure on nonfire-resistance-rated foundation walls, rolling-type overhead doors and building walls subject to rising or falling flood waters. Certain models also allow natural ventilation in accordance with Section 1203 of the IBC or Section 408.1 of the IRC.

**3.0 DESCRIPTION**
**3.1 General:**

When subjected to pressure from rising water, the Smart Vent® AFFVs disengage, then pivot open to allow flow in either direction to equalize water level and hydrostatic pressure from one side of the foundation to the other. The AFFV pivoting door is normally held in the closed position by a buoyant release device. When subjected to rising water, the buoyant release device causes the unit to

unlatch, allowing the plate to rotate out of the way and allow flow. The water level stabilizes, equalizing the lateral forces. Each unit is fabricated from stainless steel, and each opening provides 76 square inches (49 032 mm<sup>2</sup>) of net free area for flood mitigation in the open position. The SmartVENT™ Stacking Model #1540-511 and FloodVENT™ Stacking Model #1540-521 units each contain two vertically arranged openings per unit, providing 152 square inches (98 064 mm<sup>2</sup>) of net free area for flood mitigation in the open position.

**3.2 Engineered Opening:**

The AFFVs comply with the design principle noted in Section 2.6.2.2 of ASCE/SEI 24 for a maximum rate of rise and fall of 5.0 feet per hour (0.423 mm/s). In order to comply with the engineered opening requirement of ASCE/SEI 24, Smart Vent AFFVs must be installed in accordance with Section 4.0.

**3.3 Model Sizes:**

The FloodVENT™ Model #1540-520, SmartVENT™ Model #1540-510, FloodVENT™ Overhead Door Model #1540-524, and SmartVENT™ Overhead Door Model #1540-514 units measure 15<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches wide by 7<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches high (400 by 196.9 mm). The Wood Wall Flood Model #1540-570 and Wood Wall Flood Overhead Door Model #1540-574 units measure 14 inches wide by 8<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches high (355.6 by 222.25 mm). The SmartVENT™ Stacking Model #1540-511 and FloodVENT™ Stacking Model #1540-521 units measure 16 inches wide by 16 inches high (406.4 by 406.4 mm).

**3.4 Ventilation:**

The SmartVENT® Model #1540-510 and SmartVENT® Overhead Door Model #1540-514 both have screen covers with 1/4-inch-by-1/4-inch (6.35 by 6.35 mm) openings, yielding 51 square inches (32 903 mm<sup>2</sup>) of net free area to supply natural ventilation. The SmartVENT™ Stacking Model #1540-511 consists of two Model #1540-510 units in one assembly, and provides 102 square inches (65 806 mm<sup>2</sup>) of net free area to supply natural ventilation. Other AFFVs recognized in this report do not offer natural ventilation.

**4.0 INSTALLATION**

SmartVENT® and FloodVENT™ are designed to be installed into walls or overhead doors of existing or new construction from the exterior side. Installation of the vents must be in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, the applicable code and this report. The mounting straps allow mounting in wood, masonry and concrete walls up to 12 inches (305 mm) thick. In order to

comply with the engineered opening design principle noted in Section 2.6.2.2 of ASCE/SEI 24, the Smart Vent<sup>®</sup> AFFVs must be installed as follows:

- With a minimum of two openings on different sides of each enclosed area
- With a minimum of one AFFV for every 200 square feet (18.6 m<sup>2</sup>) of enclosed area, except that the SmartVENT<sup>™</sup> Stacking Model #1540-511 and FloodVENT<sup>™</sup> Stacking Model #1540-521 must be installed with a minimum of one AFFV for every 400 square feet (37.2 m<sup>2</sup>) of enclosed area.
- Below the base flood elevation
- With the bottom of the AFFV located a maximum of 12 inches (305.4 mm) above grade.

#### 5.0 CONDITIONS OF USE

The Smart Vent<sup>®</sup> AFFVs described in this report comply with, or are suitable alternatives to what is specified in, those codes listed in Section 1.0 of this report, subject to the following conditions:

- 5.1 The Smart Vent<sup>®</sup> AFFVs must be installed in accordance with this report, the applicable code and the manufacturer's installation instructions. In the event of a conflict, the instructions in this report govern.
- 5.2 The Smart Vent<sup>®</sup> AFFVs must not be used in the place of "breakaway walls" in coastal high hazard areas, but are permitted for use in conjunction with breakaway walls in other areas.

#### 6.0 EVIDENCE SUBMITTED

Data in accordance with the ICC-ES Acceptance Criteria for Automatic Foundation Flood Vents (AC364), dated October 2007.

#### 7.0 IDENTIFICATION

The Smart VENT<sup>®</sup>, models recognized in this report must be identified by a label bearing the manufacturer's name (Smart Vent, Inc.), the model number, and the evaluation report number (ESR-2074).