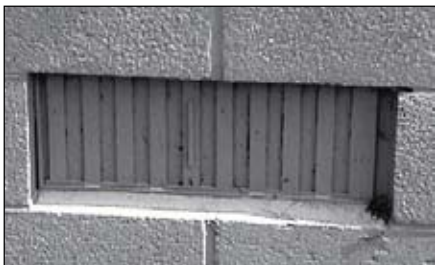




Openings in Foundation Walls and Walls of Enclosures. TECHNICAL BULLETIN 1 / AUGUST 2008 IMPORTANT UPDATES

Unacceptable Measures Page 19 of TB-1

- Standard foundation air ventilation devices (*illustration 1*) that can be closed manually, because they do not allow for the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters unless they are permanently disabled in the open position.
- Standard foundation air ventilation devices that have detachable solid covers that are intended to be manually installed over the opening in cold weather, because they do not allow for the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters when the cover is in place.
- Standard foundation air ventilation devices that are designed to open and close based on temperature (unless they also are designed to allow for the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters). (*Illustration 4*)
- Windows below the BFE, because the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters cannot be satisfied by the expectation that windows will break under rising floodwaters.
- Garage doors without openings installed in them, because human intervention is required to open the doors when flooding is expected. Gaps between the garage door and the door jamb or walls do not count towards the net open area requirement.
- Standard exterior doors without openings installed in them.



1. MANUALLY OPERATED VENT



2. GARAGE DOOR FAILURE DUE TO HYDROSTATIC PRESSURE



3. NON COMPLIANT FLOOD VENTS PROVIDE INADEQUATE PROTECTION, LEADING TO STRUCTURAL DAMAGE



4. NON COMPLIANT VENT



5. TYPICAL AIR VENTS CLOG WITH DEBRIS



6. HYDROSTATIC PRESSURE COLLAPSES FOUNDATION WALL



Engineered openings with ICC-ES Evaluation Reports

FEMA recognizes the value of ICC-ES Evaluation Reports for Engineered Openings as referenced in the new TB-1. Documentation for insurance processing through the NFIP for ICC-ES products has been simplified and must include a copy of the certification and a reference to the model number of the vent installed.

Documentation of engineered openings for flood insurance

Insurance agents will request that property owners provide documentation as part of applications for NFIP flood insurance. The documentation should be attached to the Elevation Certificate. The following are acceptable forms of documentation.

- For engineered openings **without** an ICC-ES evaluation an individual certification is required for each home that the vents are installed in. The certification needs to be an **original** certification with the **signature** and **raised** or **electronic seal** of the designer who is licensed in the state where the building is located.
- For ICC-ES evaluated flood vents, simply attach a copy of the evaluation report to the Elevation Certificate and highlight the model or models used in the home.

Our Pledge of Support to Quality and Service

- Our ICC-ES seal ensures superior design and performance.
- Our manufacturing plant in South Carolina is ISO 9001 certified.
- Our Engineering Staff are Certified Floodplain Managers. They are available and eager to answer any technical questions you may have related to floodplain construction.



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To download a copy of the new TB-1 visit www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=1579
Contact SMARTVENT to receive a copy of the new TB-1 "Openings in Foundation Walls and Walls of Enclosures."