

***ALL O'HAGIN'S ATTIC VENTILATION PRODUCTS ARE IN FULL COMPLIANCE  
WITH THE 2019 CBC WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE (WUI) CHAPTER 7A***

This Technical Bulletin is set forth to advise Architects, Builders, Contractors, and all state/local officials that all O'Hagin's Attic Ventilation Products comply with the 2019 California Building Code, Chapter 7A Materials and Construction Methods for Exterior Wildfire Exposure, Section – 706A Vents when fitted with 1/8-inch wire mesh.

**BACKGROUND:**

Effective January 1, 2017, all new buildings located in any Fire Hazard Severity (State), Very-High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (Local), or Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Area shall comply with all sections of 2019 CBC, Chapter 7A, which states, in pertinent part, as follows:

**“706A2. Requirements.** Ventilation openings for enclosed attics, enclosed eave soffit spaces, enclosed rafter spaces formed where ceilings are applied directly to the underside of the roof rafters, and underfloor ventilation openings shall be fully covered with metal wire mesh, vents, other materials or other devices that meet the following requirements:

1. Vents shall be listed to ASTM E2886 and comply with all of the following:
  - 1.1. There shall be no flaming ignition of the cotton material during the Ember Intrusion Test.
  - 1.2. There shall be no flaming ignition during the Integrity Test portion of the Flame Intrusion Test.
  - 1.3. The maximum temperature of the unexposed side of the vent shall not exceed 662°F (350°C).
2. Vents Shall comply with all of the following:
  - 2.1. The dimensions of the openings therein shall be a minimum of 1/16-inch (1.6 mm) and shall not exceed 1/8-inch (3.2 mm).
  - 2.2. The materials used shall be noncombustible.

**Exception:** Vents located under the roof covering, along the ridge of roofs, with the exposed surface of the vent covered by noncombustible wire mesh, may be of combustible materials.

(2019 California Building Code, California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 2, Volume 1 of 2, Section 706A.2, p.299)

With regard to attic ventilation products that utilize wire mesh in either 1/8-inch or 1/16-inch dimensions, the ICC-ES, Acceptance Criteria for Attic Vents, AC132, effective March 1, 2010, states, in pertinent part, as follows:

### **“3.0 TEST AND PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS**

**3.1** Ventilation openings in the attic shall be protected by mesh, by a vent incorporating an opening cover other than mesh, or by a fibrous-mesh-type vent as defined in Section 1.4.1, 1.4.2 or 1.4.3. The attic vent shall be corrosion-resistant and shall prevent the entry of vermin into the attic.

**3.2 Net Free Ventilation Area (NFVA):** NFVA shall be determined in accordance with Section 4.1. Openings shall be covered with mesh, except as noted in Sections 3.2.1 and 3.2.2.

**3.2.1 2009 IBC and 2009 IRC:** For vents incorporating a corrosion-resistant metal mesh with mesh openings having a least dimension of 1/16 inch (1.6 mm) minimum and 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) maximum in one dimension, the ventilation area reported in the evaluation report shall be the NFVA determined in accordance with Section 4.1, reduced by 10 percent to address the effects of clogging.

**3.2.2 2006 IBC and 2006 IRC:** For vents incorporating a corrosion-resistant metal mesh with mesh openings less than 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) but no less than 1/8 inch (3.2 mm) in one dimension, the ventilation area reported in the evaluation report shall be the NFVA determined in accordance with Section 4.1, reduced by 10 percent to address the effects of clogging.”

(Acceptance Criteria For Attic Vents, AC132, effective March 1, 2010, ICC-ES)

### **COMPLIANCE ISSUES:**

Generally, the California Building Code serves as a minimum requirement for best building practices. As such, please contact your local building authority to see what requirements there are for that specific jurisdiction. For example, some may allow O’Hagin’s attic vents with 1/8-inch wire mesh. For attic vents using 1/8-inch wire mesh, the NFVA rating of that vent, per AC132, above, is reduced by 10 percent. However, some jurisdictions may have other requirements including the use of O’Hagin’s *FIRE & ICE*<sup>®</sup> attic ventilation products. In any event, as explained more fully below, O’Hagin’s attic ventilation products can help meet the requirements of most jurisdictions.

### **O’HAGIN’S VENTILATION PRODUCTS ARE IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH THE 2019 CBC, CHAPTER 7A:**

- All O’Hagin’s *FIRE & ICE*<sup>®</sup> attic ventilation products were accepted for use by the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) for plan and construction review projects under OSFM jurisdiction under the OSFM’s prior program. (*CBC Ch7A Compliance Policy #09-06, Effective 07-05-09*).
- Many local jurisdictions have approved for use all O’Hagin’s *FIRE & ICE*<sup>®</sup> attic ventilation products.
- All O’Hagin’s *FIRE & ICE*<sup>®</sup> attic ventilation products may be protected by corrosion-resistant 23-27 gauge galvanized or stainless steel non-combustible wire mesh with 1/4-inch (6 mm) openings.
- For O’Hagin’s *FIRE & ICE*<sup>®</sup> attic ventilation products with ¼-inch wire mesh, the Net Free Ventilation Area (NFVA) of those products, as calculated by an independent third-party, are, as follows:

O’Hagin’s *FIRE & ICE*<sup>®</sup> Attic Vents for Clay and Concrete Tile:

**All Model Flat (Low-Profile) NFVA: 98.75 sq. in. per vent**

**All Model “M” (Medium-Profile) NFVA: 86.25 sq. in. per vent**

**All Model “S” (High-Profile) NFVA: 97.50 sq. in. per vent**

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O'Hagin's FIRE & ICE<sup>®</sup> Tapered Low-Profile Vents for Slate, Shake and Composition Roofs:

**Tapered Low-Profile 72" NFVA: 72 sq. in. per vent**

- All O'Hagin's FIRE & ICE<sup>®</sup> attic ventilation products are available with corrosion-resistant, non-combustible 1/8-inch (3.2 mm) mesh upon request.
- For those O'Hagin's attic ventilation products that use 1/8-inch wire mesh, the Net Free Ventilation Area (NFVA) of those products, as calculated by an independent third-party, is reduced by 10 percent. As such, the NFVA of those products is, as follows:

O'Hagin's Attic Vents for Clay and Concrete Tile:

**All Model Flat (Low-Profile) with 1/8-inch mesh NFVA: 88.875 sq. in. per vent**

**All Model "M" (Medium-Profile) with 1/8-inch mesh NFVA: 77.625 sq. in. per vent**

**All Model "S" (High-Profile) with 1/8-inch mesh NFVA: 87.75 sq. in. per vent**

O'Hagin Mfg.'s Tapered Low-Profile Vents for Slate Shake and Composition Roofs:

**Tapered Low-Profile 72" with 1/8-inch mesh NFVA: 64.80 sq. in. per vent**

- All O'Hagin's FIRE & ICE<sup>®</sup> **and** O'Hagin's standard attic ventilation products carry a Class 'A' fire rating in accordance with the test standard ANSI/UL 790, "Tests for Fire Resistance of Roof covering Materials," (ASTM E-108 and NFPA 256).
- All O'Hagin's FIRE & ICE<sup>®</sup> **and** O'Hagin's standard attic vents for clay and concrete tile feature our patented two-piece design that utilizes two or more separate sections of the non-combustible wire mesh (or, flame and ember-resistant material in O'Hagin's FIRE & ICE<sup>®</sup> attic ventilation products), which provides additional resistance regarding the intrusion of flame and embers into the attic area of the structure.

**TESTING STANDARDS INFORMATION:**

Currently, there is no test for resistance of ember and flame intrusion for ridge, or off-ridge, attic vents that is recognized by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) or the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire). However, there is a proposed test standard for such vents currently under consideration, at the sub-committee level, with ASTM.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

Check: [http://www.fire.ca.gov/fire\\_prevention/fire\\_prevention\\_wildland\\_zones.php](http://www.fire.ca.gov/fire_prevention/fire_prevention_wildland_zones.php) or, call O'Hagin's Architectural Services Team at (877) 324-0444 to determine whether, or not, your specific project is within an effected zone or region.

**OTHER FACTORS:**

There remain many factors in addition to the specification of O'Hagin's attic ventilation products that should be considered when designing to minimize risk due to wildfire danger, including, but not limited to, the following: the use of appropriate construction materials for exterior walls, non-combustible valley flashings/gutters/downspouts, tempered windows (window walls and skylights), debris-resistant gutters, Class A roof coverings, non-combustible exterior doors, no under-eave or soffit venting, fire-resistant landscaping and appropriate vegetation setbacks. Always check local ordinance and building practice.

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