

Tuesday, September 25, 2012

**ABAA Technical Bulletin – 2012-02**

**ATTN: All ABAA certified SPF installers and ABAA auditors**

**RE: Pull-tester to be used only for checking adhesion and cohesion of SPF**

Since 2010, ABAA has been training field staff to conduct pull-adhesion tests of spray polyurethane foam (SPF) using pull testers and no longer with the “tripod method”. It has come to light that these “tripod method” testers are still being used to conduct adhesion and cohesion testing.

Conducting adhesion testing of SPF using the “tripod method” is not accurate and a accurate value cannot be quantified. No other tools or devices shall be used to conduct pull-adhesion tests such as fish scales or pulling the SPF by hand to determine a qualitative pass/fail criteria.

Effective November 1, 2012, all ABAA certified spray polyurethane foam (SPF) installers and ABAA auditors shall only use pull testers from Com-Ten Industries (model - Adhor analog or digital) or ABAA-approved equivalent for conducting pull adhesion tests on spray polyurethane foam (SPF).

Daily work records and audit reports shall not indicate “pass” when conducting these tests but a value in lbs shall be documented from the gauge and the diameter of the disc shall also be noted on the report to achieve a final pull-off strength in psi.

**In no cases shall a square disc be used to conduct pull-adhesion tests on SPF or any other air barrier materials.**

For more information on conducting pull-adhesion tests with a pull-tester, please see a technical bulletin located [here](#).

For any further questions, please contact Peter Spafford, ABAA Quality Assurance Manager at [pspafford@airbarrier.org](mailto:pspafford@airbarrier.org) or 1-866-956-5888.

