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Construction, PMG Manufacturers Benefit from ICC-ES, CSTB Renewed Agreement for U.S. and European Evaluations, PMG Listings

A renewed agreement between ICC Evaluation Service (<u>ICC-ES</u>) and Centre Scientifique et Technique du Batiment (<u>CSTB</u>) will benefit American and European construction, plumbing, mechanical and fuel gas (<u>PMG</u>) industries and manufacturers who produce sustainable products and are engaged in trade between the U.S. and Europe.

The agreement, which began in 2007, sets up a process for evaluating testing to reduce costs incurred by manufacturers and foster international trade by targeting new products that implement innovative technologies. Laboratories conducting the testing must be recognized by either the International Accreditation Service (IAS) or COFRAC.

ICC-ES conducted training on its product evaluation system, U.S. standards, evaluation criteria and building codes at CSTB offices. The primary purpose of "training the trainers" was to ensure that any building product, regardless of origin, if it satisfies code requirements, can gain the coveted ICC-ES evaluation report.

ICC-ES makes a concerted effort to help code officials, product manufacturers and the construction industry seeking ICC-ES recognition by entering into agreements with organizations worldwide that result in a level playing field by applying consistent requirements to manufacturers of building, PMG and sustainable products.

About ICC-ES

A nonprofit, limited liability company, ICC-ES is the United States' leading evaluation service for innovative building materials, components and systems. ICC-ES <u>Evaluation Reports</u> (ESRs), <u>Building Product Listings</u> and <u>PMG Listings</u> provide evidence that products and systems meet requirements of codes and technical standards. The ICC-ES Environmental Programs issue VAR environmental reports that verify a product meets specific sustainability targets defined by today's codes, standards, green rating systems and ICC-ES <u>environmental criteria</u>. The Environmental Programs now offer Environmental Product Declarations (<u>EPDs</u>) to meet global market demand for science-based, transparent, quality-assured information about a product's environmental performance. ICC-ES is a subsidiary of the <u>International Code Council</u>. For more information, please visit <u>www.icc-es.org</u>.

About CSTB

CSTB, Scientific and Technical Center for Building, is a public organization for innovation in building which performs four key activities, namely research, expertise, evaluation and dissemination of

knowledge, organized to satisfy sustainable development challenges in the world of construction. Its field of expertise covers construction products, buildings and their integration into districts and cities. With its 918 employees, subsidiaries and networks of national, European and international partners, CSTB offers its service to all parties involved in construction to improve the quality and safety of buildings. For more information, please visit www.cstb.fr

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