



BULLETIN RB06-029

(Updated 2015 Dec 10)

WOOD TRELLISES, DECKING, PLANTERS, BENCHES, RAILINGS, ETC., ON ROOFS OF NONCOMBUSTIBLE BUILDINGS

Reference: Sentence 3.1.5.21.(1), Table 3.1.4.6., ASTM D 2898 and CAN/ULC-S102

Sentence 3.1.5.21.(1) "On buildings required to be of noncombustible construction, decorative wood cladding is permitted to be used on the exterior marquee fascias of a storey having direct access to a street or access route, provided the cladding is fire-retardant-treated-wood that has been conditioned in conformance with **ASTM D 2898**, "Accelerated Weathering of Fire-Retardant-Treated Wood for Fire Testing", before being tested in accordance with **CAN/ULC-S102**, "Test for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials and Assemblies."

Table 3.1.4.6. "Heavy Timber Dimensions"

Question:

It has been queried whether wood trellises, decking, planters, benches, railings, etc., be allowed to be constructed on roofs of buildings controlled by **Subsection 3.1.5.**

Commentary / Relevant Facts:

Combustible furniture, planters, interior cladding and other millwork are permitted in noncombustible buildings under **Subsection 3.1.5**. Similar fixtures on top of roofs will not constitute a greater hazard especially if constructed of fire retardant-treated wood. However, wood trellises, railings and other similar attachments which have high surface area to volume ratios and extend significantly above roof levels may be considered more hazardous.

Conclusion:

Wood benches, planters, floor decking and other similar components which are normally allowed inside noncombustible buildings are permitted on rooftops provided they are constructed of fire retardant-treated wood conforming to **ASTM D 2898** and **CAN/ULC-S102**. Such treatment will minimize the risk of fire spread from adjoining buildings to these roof fixtures. Wood trellises, railings and other components having a high surface area to volume ratio and which extend significantly above roof level are not permitted.

Designers are directed to **Table 3.1.4.6.** for dimensions of heavy timber construction alternatives.

Chief Building Inspector

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