



RB14-005

USE OF CULTURED MARBLE HEARTH EXTENSIONS

Reference: Div A, Article 1.4.1.2., Sentence 9.22.5.1.(1) and **CANIULC-S114-05**

Div A, Article 1.4.1.2. "Noncombustible means that a material meets the acceptance criteria of CAN/ULC-S114," Test for determination of Non-combustibility in Building Materials"

Div B, 9.22.5.1.(1) "Except as required in Sentence (2), fireplaces shall have a *noncombustible* hearth extending not less than 400 mm in front of the fireplace opening and not less than 200 mm beyond each side of the fireplace opening."

CANIULC-S114-05 "Test for determination of Non-combustibility in Building Materials."

Question:

Is cultured marble an acceptable material for fireplace hearth extensions?

Commentary | Relevant Facts | Conclusion:

The above Article requires that the hearth extension should be of noncombustible material i.e. it must meet the acceptance criteria of **CANIULC-S114-05** "Test for determination of Non-combustibility in Building Materials."

As the cultured marble in the market contains up to 15 - 20 percent of combustible binding agents, they do not meet the above standards. Therefore, cultured marble or any other form of synthetic marble cannot be allowed in hearth extensions for fireplaces.

Cultured marble using a cementitious or other noncombustible binder is acceptable.

Chief Building Inspector

Regulation Bulletin General Policy Statement

Unless stated otherwise, the Code references in this Regulations Bulletin are to Division B of the Alberta Building Code 2014 (ABC 2014). Regulation Bulletins do not overrule the ABC 2014 nor constitute a relaxation of the Code. They serve to clarify the Code in areas where the latter is ambiguous or does not cover a specific topic. Regulation Bulletins are City of Calgary clarifications for staff use to enable consistency in the application of the Code. Regulation Bulletins should always be read in the context of the appropriate requirements of the Code