



On March 15, 2012, the new FBC goes into effect and the NFRC is going to be part of it. It is going to be particularly important on replacement/retrofit jobs. According to the new Florida Building Codes, all non impact windows need to meet a .65 or less U-Factor and a .30 or less SHGC. Impact windows need to meet a .75 or less U-Factor and a .30 or less SHGC. All windows must be compliant with NFRC and show a NFRC label with this information on it, in order to meet the FBC. In order to meet this criteria, all aluminum/vinyl windows will have to be IG glass with low-e, non-impact windows will also need to be argon gas filled.

As for new construction, this code can be replaced by upgrading the AC units, adding additional insulation, etc. So there are ways around it for new construction.

If you would like more information on how the energy codes are going to effect the FBC, let me know and I will be happy to go over this with you.

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Understanding the NFRC Label

		World's Best Window Co. Casement ABC-X-1-00001-00001	
ENERGY PERFORMANCE RATINGS			
U-Factor (U.S. / I-P)		Solar Heat Gain Coefficient	
0.30		0.30	
ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE RATINGS			
Visible Transmittance		Air Leakage (U.S. / I-P)	
0.51		0.2	
Condensation Resistance		—	
<small>Manufacturer stipulates that these ratings conform to applicable NFRC procedures for determining whole product performance. NFRC ratings are determined for a fixed set of environmental conditions and a specific product size. NFRC does not recommend any product and does not warrant the suitability of any product for any specific use. Consult manufacturer's literature for other product performance information. www.nfrc.org</small>			

U-factor measures how well a product prevents heat from escaping a home or building. U-factor ratings generally fall between 0.20 and 1.20. The lower the U-factor, the better a product is at keeping heat in. U-factor is particularly important during the winter heating season. This label displays U-factor in U.S. units. Labels on products sold in markets outside the United States may display U-factor in metric units.

Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC) measures how well a product blocks heat from the sun. SHGC is expressed as a number between 0 and 1. The lower the SHGC, the better a product is at blocking unwanted heat gain. Blocking solar heat gain is particularly important during the summer cooling season.

Visible Transmittance (VT) measures how much light comes through a product. VT is expressed as a number between 0 and 1. The higher the VT, the higher the potential for daylighting.

Air Leakage (AL) measures how much outside air comes into a home or building through a product. AL rates typically fall in a range between 0.1 and 0.3. The lower the AL, the better a product is at keeping air out. AL is an optional rating, and manufacturers can choose not to include it on their labels. This label displays AL in U.S. units. Labels on products sold in markets outside the United States may display AL in metric units

Condensation Resistance measures how well a product resists the formation of condensation. Condensation Resistance is expressed as a number between 1 and 100. The higher the number, the better a product is able to resist condensation. Condensation Resistance is an optional rating, and manufacturers can choose not to include it on their NFRC labels.