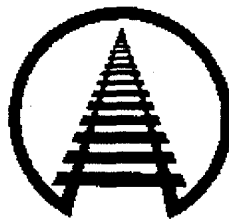


P. T. Ameen
Assistant Vice President
Technical Services

Thomas J. Stahura
Executive Director
Rules and Standards



ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

C. R. Ice
Chairman, Technical Services
Working Committee

B. J. Pague
Secretary

July 8, 2003

Subject: Approval of Fibergrate Composite Structures, Inc., Molded and Pultruded Fiberglass Grating for use under Rule 53 as Running Boards, Brake Steps and End platforms.

CC-265.6.23

Mr. Ethan A. Love
Engineering Manager
Fibergrate Composite Structures, Inc.
900 FM 205
Stephenville, TX 76401

Dear Mr. Love:

The Equipment Engineering Committee has reviewed the report from the AAR observer of the testing of your products at your Stephenville facility. I am pleased to advise that test results demonstrated that your products meet the test requirements of S-226 and therefore are approved for use where applicable, in accordance with Field Manual Rule 53.

Your products will be listed as follows:

Rule 53.B.1.c Group No 1- Fiberglass - unsupported span not to exceed 4 feet

Fibergrate – Molded Grating, Isophthalic and Vinyl Ester – 1.5” Deep, 1.5” Square Mesh and 2.0” Deep, 2.0” Square Mesh (1.75” nominal inside opening)

Fibergrate – I-6015 pultruded grating – 1.5” Deep, 60% Open Area

Fibergrate – T5020 pultruded grating – 2.0” Deep, 50% Open Area

This information will be included in the 2004 edition of the Field Manual. In the interim you may use this letter as proof of AAR approval. If you have any questions or need additional information please contact Mr. Charles Powell of our Transportation Technology Center, Inc., subsidiary at (719) 585-1883.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Stahura

TJS/csp

cc: David Cackovic
Keith Hawthorne
Equipment Engineering Committee

50 F Street N.W., Washington D. C. 20001-1564 (202) 639-2141 FAX No. (202) 639-2179

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