

# Product Validation Program Fact Sheet

The Sealant, Waterproofing & Restoration Institute (SWR Institute) Validation Programs were established to validate the published test results of the various sealant, pre-cured sealant and wall coating products on the market. The intent of the programs is to provide specifiers and end-users an unbiased method to judge whether the products will perform at the levels of the manufacturers' published data sheets. It is felt that specifiers, contractors and other end-users will feel more comfortable purchasing materials that have passed the third party independent tests outlined in the SWR Institute's Validation Programs.

This is a voluntary industry program. It is suggested that manufacturers submit their products for validation at the same time they do their routine testing on new or reformulated products. Once a product is validated, SWR Institute headquarters will keep records of products validated, issue validation numbers and remind manufacturers when a product's validation period is expiring.

## I. Getting Involved in the Program

- The manufacturer contacts SWR Institute.
- SWR Institute forwards information on the program and a Validation Program Agreement.

**Note:** *SWR Institute will provide a list of independent testing laboratories and the manufacturer has the option of choosing any on the list. If the manufacturer wants to use a laboratory that is not on the list, it must be approved by SWR Institute. The manufacturer must submit the name, address and contact person of the non-listed laboratory to SWR Institute for approval prior to the testing of the product. At a minimum, the laboratory must be a certified laboratory capable of conducting the ASTM 920 testing. No manufacturer in-house laboratory will be accepted for the validation program.*

## II. Getting the Products Tested

- After choosing the laboratory, the manufacturer will contract with the laboratory to perform the prescribed tests for the SWR Institute Validation Program.
- Manufacturer will provide the laboratory the name of the product(s) to be tested along with a current manufacturer data sheet with the product's stated performance characteristics, test results and all collateral materials.

## III. Testing Procedures

- The chosen laboratory will take the provided information and randomly purchase, off the shelf, a quantity of the product. The laboratory will not accept materials submitted by the manufacturer. Once the lab has verified the material(s) is within its shelf-life, it will be tested to the greatest claim made on manufacturer's data sheet or other collateral materials. *(Refer to the SWR Institute Validation Program Agreements for testing specifics for sealants, pre-cured sealants and wall coatings.)*

## IV. Reporting Procedures

If the product(s) passes...

- The manufacturer may apply to SWR Institute for a validation number and seal.

A copy of the test results for each product tested is to be sent to SWR Institute along with the completed Validation Program Agreement.

SWR Institute will then enter the product(s) into its database and issue the validation number and seal. Additionally, SWR Institute will notify its membership and the trade press about the product(s) passing the validation procedure.

If the product(s) fails ...

- The laboratory will notify the manufacturer, but not SWR Institute. The manufacturer has the option to re-submit the materials for re-testing.

## V. Costs

- All costs associated with the testing procedure will be the responsibility of the manufacturer.
- SWR Institute charges \$450 per validated product. This must be paid prior to SWR Institute issuing a validation number and seal.

## VII. Term of Validation

- Each validated product has a term of five years from the date of validation. However, if the validated product is reformulated in such a way as to effect any of the characteristics tested and validated, the validation approval status becomes void. The manufacturer must re-submit the new product, and pass the validation procedure to obtain its validation status. A new Validation Program Agreement and Validation Seal will be re-issued in such situations.
- Any misrepresentation of the Validation Seal, as signifying anything other than the Validation of the product, or any misuse of the Validation Seal may be grounds for SWR Institute, in its sole judgment, to withdraw the Certificate of Validation and the right to use the Seal of Validation.
- Upon expiration of the five year validation term, the product must be re-submitted for testing, even if no changes have been made to the product, to see if test results remain in compliance with stated properties of the product.

## VIII. Reporting on Validated Products

- SWR Institute will provide a list of validated products to anyone who requests them.
- SWR Institute will provide validation test results for a validated product to anyone who requests them.



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