November 18, 2010

Mr. Robert J. Shluzas, President
Aerosmith Fastening Systems
5621 Dividend Rd.
Indianapolis, IN. 46241

RE: Test Sample Gripshank Pin Application Times

Dear Mr. Shluzas,

Progressive Engineering, Inc. has recently performed numerous shear wall tests that are intended to provide wind and seismic performance values using test standards ASTM E564, ASTM E2126 and ICC-ESR Acceptance Criteria AC230. We oversaw the construction of 39 wall panels each 8’ X 8’ in dimension; with frames of Cold-Formed Steel Framing (CFSF) thicknesses ranging from 33 mils to 68 mils. Each wall was sheathed with two 4’x8’ wood panels of either 15/32” thick plywood or 7/16” thick OSB.

Each of the 39 wall panels constructed had the wood sheathing fastened to the CFSF using Aerosmith® Brand tools and their hardened steel, Gripshank® pin fasteners. The fastening patterns ranged from pins at 2” o.c. to 6” o.c. on the perimeter studs; and 12” on center in the field of each panel.

We observed the time used to fully fasten each 8’x8’ wall section. The walls with 6” & 12” patterns took an average of 2 minutes and 39 seconds to complete with Aerosmith pins. Walls that had 2” & 12” patterns took a slightly higher time of 3 minutes and 22 seconds for Aerosmith pins. All measured times include ‘as needed’ time to reload the Aerosmith tool with fasteners.

One additional “control” wall assembly was constructed using 54 mil CFSF, 15/32” plywood, and fastened 6” & 12” o.c. with an electric screw gun using a #8, 1 ¼”, self-drilling, pan head screw fastener. The time taken to complete the screw fastening of this 8’x8’ wall panel was 18 minutes and 12 seconds.

Should there be any additional questions regarding average application times you can contact me at (574) 533-0337.

Sincerely,

Greg A. Weeden
Director of Testing & Listing Services