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### **PIMA Technical Bulletin for Canadian Marketplace Highlights Critical Differences Between Class I and Class A Roof Assemblies**

Alexandria, VA – The Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association (PIMA) issued a new technical bulletin for the Canadian roofing marketplace detailing the differences between Class 1 and Class A roof assemblies. This follows a recently released technical bulletin on the same topic issued for the U.S. market.

“There continues to be confusion in both the Canadian and U.S. markets about these two test methods,” said Jared Blum, President of PIMA. “We hope this bulletin will bring clarity to the confusion because in the past few months we have seen substitutions of roof components which may be inappropriate and could pose a potential risk to building occupants.”

The bulletin specifically notes the differences between Class 1 and Class A roof assemblies including:

- ❖ A Class A roof is the result of *one* test, the external spread of flame test. It is governed by compliance to either the CAN/ULC S107M, UL 790 standard or ASTM E 108 standard.
- ❖ A Class 1 roof has undergone a *series of tests* including the external spread of flame described under the Class A rating, plus wind, hail, corrosion and leakage. An insulated steel deck roof assembly must also pass fire tests by FM Approvals which measure the potential for fire spread on the underside of a roof deck.
- ❖ The test standard to achieve a Class 1 rating is more comprehensive than the standard used to gain a Class A rating. All Class 1 roof assemblies are Class A, B or C roofs, but not all Class A roof systems meet Class 1.
- ❖ All roof assemblies must be installed as tested. Substitution of any component, such as insulation type and thickness, in tested roof assemblies can only be granted by FM Approvals or UL and may require additional testing.

PIMA issues technical bulletins to keep roofing contractors, architects, roofing consultants and specifiers apprised of the latest information about polyiso insulation. A copy of this technical bulletin, PIMA Technical Bulletin #111 Canada “Roofing Regulations In Canada: Class 1 and Class A Roof Assemblies Are Not The Same,” can be found on the PIMA web site at [www.pima.org](http://www.pima.org).

PIMA is the trade organization that advances the use of polyiso insulation in the United States and Canada. Polyiso one of the most widely used, energy efficient and cost-effective insulation products available. PIMA’s membership consists of manufacturers and marketers of polyiso insulation, as well as suppliers to the industry. For more information about this legislation, please visit the PIMA Web site at [www.pima.org](http://www.pima.org), or call 703-684-1136.