

## STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-60-00

September 8, 2000

The following is offered in response to your request for a formal interpretation of Table 703.4 of the 1995 CABO One and Two Family Dwelling Code portion of the 1999 State Building Code.

**Question:** Is the use of aluminum coil stock as horizontal siding, as described below, code-compliant? The material in question is 24 inches wide with a 1 inch 90 degree bend in the bottom for use as a drip. It is being lapped 2 inches at the ends (without caulking) and fastened with ¼ inch long siding nails.

**Answer:** No, the installation you describe is not code-compliant. Coil stock is intended to be bent to shape and used as a covering for trim as an accessory to an aluminum or vinyl siding installation. Unless the manufacturer provides information stating that the material can be used as siding, and the installation is compliant with Table 703.4, it cannot be used as siding. Even if the manufacturer sanctions the use of the material as siding, Table 703.4 indicates that the installation you describe may contain code violations. Depending on the thickness of the material, a backer may be required. Horizontal aluminum of 0.019 inch thickness is only to be applied over a backer unless the maximum panel width is 10 inches and the maximum flat area is 8 inches. Horizontal aluminum of 0.024 inch thickness may be installed without a backer regardless of panel width. The table also give nailing requirements that differ depending on the sheathing system employed. In any case, the minimum size nail allowed is 1 ½ inch in length and may be required to be as long as 2 ½ inches, far exceeding the ¼ inch nails employed.