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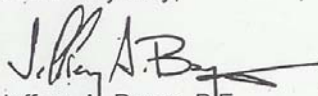
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Re: ALC 2000 System

The ALC 2000 System, which utilizes one foot (1') tall by two feet (2') wide by one inch (1") thick limestone panels, is a lightweight cladding material. For this reason, it is ideal for use in the earthquake prone United States. The basic system is designed for a 20 psf wind pressure. Unlike heavier traditional limestone walls, the forces on the stone and anchorage are more critical from the 20psf wind than from zone 4 seismic forces.

The gravity load from each stone in the ALC 2000 System is anchored individually back to the substrate. Also, individual stones are separated by high performance structural silicone. Because of these two features, minor temporary movement in the building such as that from earthquakes, will not affect the structural integrity of the system. The cladding is dependent on the performance and resiliency of the substrate and underlying foundation.

This is the only standardized high performance exterior stone cladding system we know of. It's acceptance and popularity to the architectural community and end user should be immediate and widespread. Therefore, it is critical that all parties involved recognize that the design charts and details in your Panel and Profiles Handbook are based on a 70 mph wind zone, a semi-dry climate, such as Dallas, and limited stone panel sizes. Differing criteria and unique applications should be reviewed by a professional engineer to verify its adequacy.

Yours very truly,  
  
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