



Technical Bulletin FH 2023-04

First Release:

April 11, 2023

Prepared by:

FORTIFIED Technical Team

Applicable Standards:

FORTIFIED Home™–Hurricane
FORTIFIED Home™–High Wind

Applicable Designation Level:



Use of Factory Seconds or Unlabeled Material in FORTIFIED

Introduction

The use of proper materials is essential to the resiliency of a home and is required for compliance with the [2025 FORTIFIED Home™ Standard](#). During the manufacturing process materials that do not meet the manufacturer’s quality assurance standards, either for aesthetic or functional reasons, are set aside and later bundled together and sold as “factory seconds” or in unlabeled wraps.

This technical bulletin clarifies that the use of factory seconds or unlabeled products is unacceptable in the FORTIFIED Home program.



Figure 1: Example of non-compliant shingles

Additional Information

The *FORTIFIED Home Standard* specifies acceptable material requirements. For example, Section 4.7.1 requires asphalt shingles to meet either ASTM D3161 (Class F) or ASTM D7158 (Class H) standards. While shingles are used as an example, most materials used to meet the FORTIFIED standard have individual testing or material requirements.

To verify that products meet these testing or material requirements, it is important to ensure that first quality products with proper labeling are being used and documented in all stages of construction of a FORTIFIED Home.





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Compliance Verification Requirements

The [FORTIFIED Home Documentation Requirements](#) specifies areas where proof of compliance with material standards is required. In these cases, the simplest path for compliance is to take a photograph of the product label after it has been delivered to site. The photo must be site specific, verified by geolocation stamp or home address visible in the picture.

IBHS will request additional information if sufficient documentation of product labels is not provided.

Additional References

For additional guidance, refer to the following:

- [2025 FORTIFIED Home Standard](#)
- [FORTIFIED Home Documentation Requirements](#)
- [FORTIFIED Legal Disclaimer](#)

