

## **TEST REPORT**

Rendered to:

AFCO INDUSTRIES, INC.

For:

PRODUCT: Redi-Rail TM

**TYPE:** Aluminum Level Guardrail System

Report No: A5899.01-119-19 Report Date: 01/03/11



## **TEST REPORT**

A5899.01-119-19 January 3, 2011

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## **TEST REPORT**

Rendered to:

AFCO INDUSTRIES, INC. 3400 Roy Street Alexandria, Louisiana 71307

> Report No.: A5899.01-119-19 Test Date: 12/15/10 Report Date: 01/03/11

#### 1.0 General Information

#### 1.1 Product

Redi-Rail TM

## **1.2 Type**

Aluminum Guardrail System

## 1.3 Project Description

Architectural Testing was contracted by AFCO Industries, Inc. to conduct structural performance tests on the 96 in wide by 42 in high *Redi-Rail* <sup>TM</sup> aluminum level guardrail system. The system was evaluated for the design load requirements of the following building codes:

2009 International Building Code®, International Code Council

2009 International Residential Code®, International Code Council

Structural tests were performed according to Chapter 17 (Structural Tests and Special Inspections) of IBC 2009.

#### 1.4 Limitations

All tests performed were to evaluate structural performance of the guardrail assembly to carry and transfer imposed loads to the supporting structure. The test specimens evaluated included the infill, rails and rail brackets. The posts are not a tested component and are included in the test setup only to facilitate the rail bracket anchorage.



## 1.5 Qualifications

Architectural Testing has demonstrated compliance with ANS/ISO/IEC Standard 17025 and is consequently accredited as a Testing Laboratory (TL-144) by International Accreditation Service, Inc.

#### **1.6 Product Description**

AFCO Industries, Inc. provided the fully-assembled test specimens with the following details:

Top Rail: 2 in high by 2.3 in wide contoured 6063-T6 aluminum extrusion with 0.08 in wall

Bottom Rail: 1.5 in wide by 1.25 in deep 6063-T6 aluminum extrusion with 0.08 in wall

Pickets (In-Fill): - 0.75 in square 6063-T6 aluminum extrusion with 0.05 in wall

- 0.75 in diameter 6063-T6 aluminum extrusion with 0.05 in wall

Baluster Connector: 0.63 in diameter (at bottom) by 0.67 in high glass-filled nylon

connector with one 0.19 in diameter hole in the center for attachment to

the rail using a #10 x 3/4 in pan-head, sheet-metal screw

Top Rail Bracket: 2 in wide by 1.3 in high 6063-T6 aluminum extruded saddle bracket

with separate 1.5 in wide by 1.2 in high 6063-T6 aluminum extruded

contoured top cap

Bottom Rail Bracket: 1.7 in wide by 1.7 in high 6063-T6 aluminum extruded socket bracket

<u>Fasteners</u>: #10 by 2" self-drilling, pan head, stainless steel, sheet-metal screw (two in

bracket/post)

#8 by 3/4" self-drilling, pan-head, sheet-metal screw (one in rail/bracket)

Post: 3 in square 6005A-T61 aluminum extrusion with 0.125 in wall

Support Foot: 0.75 in diameter baluster cut to length and secured to underside of bottom rail

at the mid-span with glass-filled nylon connector with a single #10 x 3/4"

screw

See drawings in Appendix A and photographs in Appendix B for additional details.

#### 2.0 Structural Performance Testing of Assembled Railing Systems

#### 2.1 Test Equipment

The guardrail was tested in a self-contained structural frame designed to accommodate anchorage of the guardrail assembly and application of the required test loads. The specimens were loaded using an electric winch mounted to a rigid steel test frame. High strength steel cables, nylon straps, and load distribution beams were used to impose test loads on the specimens. Applied load was measured using an electronic load cell located in-line with the loading system. Electronic linear motion transducers were used to measure deflections.



#### 2.2 Test Setup

The 96 in wide by 42 in high level guardrail assembly was installed and tested as a single railing section by directly securing the aluminum posts into a rigid steel test fixture, which rigidly restrained the posts from deflecting. The posts are not a tested component and are included in the test setup only to facilitate the rail bracket anchorage. Transducers mounted to an independent reference frame were located to record movement of reference points on the guardrail system components (ends and mid-point) to determine net component deflections. See photographs in Appendix B for individual test setups.

#### 2.3 Test Procedure

Each test specimen was inspected prior to testing to verify size and general condition of the materials, assembly, and installation. No potentially compromising defects were observed prior to testing. An initial load, not exceeding 50% of design load, was applied and transducers were zeroed. Load was then applied at a steady uniform rate until reaching 2.0 times design load in no less than 10 seconds. After reaching 2.0 times design load, the load was released. After allowing a minimum period of one minute for stabilization, load was reapplied to the initial load level used at the start of the loading procedure, and deflections were recorded and used to analyze recovery. Load was then increased at a steady uniform rate until reaching 2.5 times design load or until failure occurred. The testing time was continually recorded from the application of initial test load until the ultimate test load was reached.

#### 2.4 Test Results

The following tests were performed on the level guardrail assemblies for the design load requirements of the codes referenced. Deflection and permanent set were component deflections relative to their end-points; they were not overall system displacements. All loads and displacement measurements were horizontal, unless noted otherwise.

#### **Key to Test Results Tables:**

<u>Load Level</u>: Target test load

<u>Test Load</u>: Actual applied load at the designated load level (target). Where more than one value is reported, the test load was the range (min.-max.) that was held during the time indicated in the test.

<u>Elapsed Time (E.T.)</u>: The amount of time into the test with zero established at the beginning of the loading procedure. Where more than one value is reported, the time was the range (start-end) that the designated load level was reached and sustained.



## 2.4 Test Results (Continued)

# Test Series No. 1 96 in by 42 in *Redi-Rail* Aluminum Level Guardrail System with 3/4 in Diameter Aluminum Balusters IBC – All Use Groups

Test No. 1 – 12/15/10 Design Load: 50 lb / 1 Square Ft at Center of In-Fill (on Two Balusters)								
Load Lovel	Togt I and (lb)	E.T.		Displace	ment (in)			
Load Level	Test Load (lb)	(min:sec)	End	Mid	End	Net <sup>1</sup>		
Initial Load	25	00:00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
2.0x Design Load	101	00:30	0.30	0.83	0.53	0.42		
Initial Load	25	02:06	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00		
100% Recovery from 2.0 x Design Load								
2.5x Design Load	125	02:24	Ach	ieved Load	without Fa	ilure		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Net displacement was the infill displacement relative to its top and bottom.

Test No. 2 – 12/15/10  Design Load: 50 lb / 1 Square Ft at Bottom of In-Fill (on Two Balusters)							
I and I amal	Togt I and (lb)	E.T.		Displace	ment (in)		
Load Level	Test Load (lb)	(min:sec)	End	Mid	End	Net 1	
Initial Load	25	00:00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
2.0x Design Load	100	00:21	0.04	0.75	0.03	0.72	
Initial Load	25	01:55	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02	
97% Recovery from 2.0 x Design Load							
2.5x Design Load	132	02:15	Achieved Load without Failure				

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Net displacement was the bottom rail displacement relative to its ends.

Test No. $3 - 12/15/10$ Design Load: 50 plf x (96 in ÷ 12 in/ft) = 400 lb Horizontal Uniform Load on Top Rail								
I and I aval	Test I and (lb)	E.T.	E.T. Rail Displacement			(in)		
Load Level	Test Load (lb)	(min:sec)	End	Mid	End	Net <sup>1</sup>		
Initial Load	100	00:00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
2.0x Design Load	802	01:13	0.10	3.13	0.07	3.05		
Initial Load	100	02:50	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25		
92% Recovery from 2.0 x Design Load								
2.5x Design Load	1000	04:17 Achieved Load without Failure				ilure		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Net displacement was mid-rail displacement relative to the rail at the support posts.



## 2.4 Test Results (continued)

## Test Series No. 1 (continued)

Test No. $4 - 12/15/10$									
Design Load: 200 lb Concentrated Load at Ends of Top Rail (Brackets)									
Load Level <sup>1</sup>	Toot I and (lb)	E.T.	Rail Displa	cement (in)					
Load Level	Test Load (lb)	(min:sec)	Rail End #1	Rail End #2					
Initial Load	100	00:00	0.00	0.00					
2.0x Design Load	809	01:25	0.22	0.20					
Initial Load	100	03:03	0.01	0.01					
95% Recovery from 2.0 x Design Load									
2.5x Design Load	1005	04:12	Achieved Load without Failure						

A spreader beam was used to impose loads on both ends of the railing system; therefore, loads were doubled.

Test Series No. 2

120 in by 42 in *Redi-Rail* Aluminum Level Guardrail System with 3/4 in Square Aluminum Balusters IRC – One- and Two-Family Dwellings

Test No. 1 – 12/15/10 Design Load: 50 lb / 1 Square Ft at Center of In-Fill (on Two Balusters)								
Lood Lovel	Test Lead (lb)	E.T.		Displace	ment (in)			
Load Level	Test Load (lb)	(min:sec)	End	Mid	End	Net 1		
Initial Load	25	00:00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
2.0x Design Load	100	00:26	0.51	1.06	0.94	0.34		
Initial Load	25	02:06	0.00	0.01	0.05	0.00		
100% Recovery from 2.0 x Design Load								
2.5x Design Load	126	02:28	Achieved Load without Failure					

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Net displacement was the infill displacement relative to its top and bottom.

Test No. 2 – 12/15/10								
Design Load: 50 lb / 1 Square Ft at Bottom of In-Fill (on Two Balusters)								
Load Level	Test Lead (lb)	<b>E.T.</b>		Displace	ment (in)			
Load Level	Test Load (lb)	(min:sec)	End	Mid	End	Net <sup>1</sup>		
Initial Load	25	00:00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
2.0x Design Load	100	00:32	0.05	1.26	0.05	1.21		
Initial Load	25	01:55	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01		
99% Recovery from 2.0 x Design Load								
2.5x Design Load	126	02:17	Achieved Load without Failure					

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Net displacement was the bottom rail displacement relative to its ends.



## 2.4 Test Results (continued)

## Test Series No. 2 (continued)

Test No. 3 – 12/15/10									
Desig	Design Load: 200 lb Concentrated Load at Midspan of Top Rail								
Load Level	Tost Load (lb)	E.T.	Rail Displacement (in)						
Loau Level	Test Load (lb)	(min:sec)	End	Mid	End	Net <sup>1</sup>			
Initial Load	50	00:00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
2.0x Design Load	400	01:01	0.07	4.37	0.07	4.30			
Initial Load	50	02:26	0.01	0.51	0.00	0.51			
88% Recovery from 2.0 x Design Load									
2.5x Design Load	500	03:43	Achieved Load without Failure						

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Net displacement was mid-rail displacement relative to the rail at the support posts.

Test No. 4 – 12/15/10 Design Load: 200 lb Concentrated Load at Ends of Top Rail (Brackets)								
Load Level <sup>1</sup>	Test Load (lb)	E.T.	Rail Displa	cement (in)				
Loau Levei	Test Load (10)	(min:sec)	Rail End #1	Rail End #2				
Initial Load	100	00:00	0.00	0.00				
2.0x Design Load	803	00:45	0.25	0.27				
Initial Load	102	02:27	0.01	0.02				
93% Recovery from 2.0 x Design Load								
2.5x Design Load	1006	03:24	Achieved Load without Failure					

A spreader beam was used to impose loads on both ends of the railing system; therefore, loads were doubled.



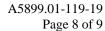
## 2.5 Summary and Conclusions

Using performance criteria of 75% deflection recovery from 2.0 times design load and withstanding an ultimate load of 2.5 times design load, the test results substantiate the use of railing assemblies reported herein as installed between adequate supports with guardrail details and Occupancy Classification as shown in the following table:

Maximum Guardrail System Dimensions*	Guardrail Type	Support Post used in Testing	Code Occupancy Classification
96 in by 42 in Redi-Rail (Aluminum)	Level	3 in Square Aluminum Post	IBC – All Use Groups
120 in by 42 in Redi-Rail (Aluminum)	Level	3 in Square Aluminum Post	IRC - One- and Two-Family Dwellings

<sup>\*</sup> Guardrails are qualified up to and including the listed maximum guardrail system dimensions for use in the referenced Code Occupancy Classification

The posts are not a tested component and are included in the test setup only to facilitate the rail bracket anchorage.





## 3.0 Closing Statement

Detailed drawings, data sheets, representative samples of test specimens, a copy of this test report, and all other supporting evidence will be retained by Architectural Testing for a period of four years from the original test date. At the end of this retention period, said materials shall be discarded without notice, and the service life of this report by Architectural Testing shall expire. Results obtained are tested values and were secured using the designated test methods. This report neither constitutes certification of this product nor expresses an opinion or endorsement by this laboratory; it is the exclusive property of the client so named herein and relates only to the tested specimens. This report may not be reproduced, except in full, without the written approval of Architectural Testing.

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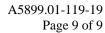
Adam J. Schrum
Technician II
Structural Systems Testing

Travis A. Hoover Program Manager Structural Systems Testing

AJS:ajs/tah

Attachments (pages): This report is complete only when all attachments listed are included.

Appendix A - Drawings (11) Appendix B - Photographs (5)





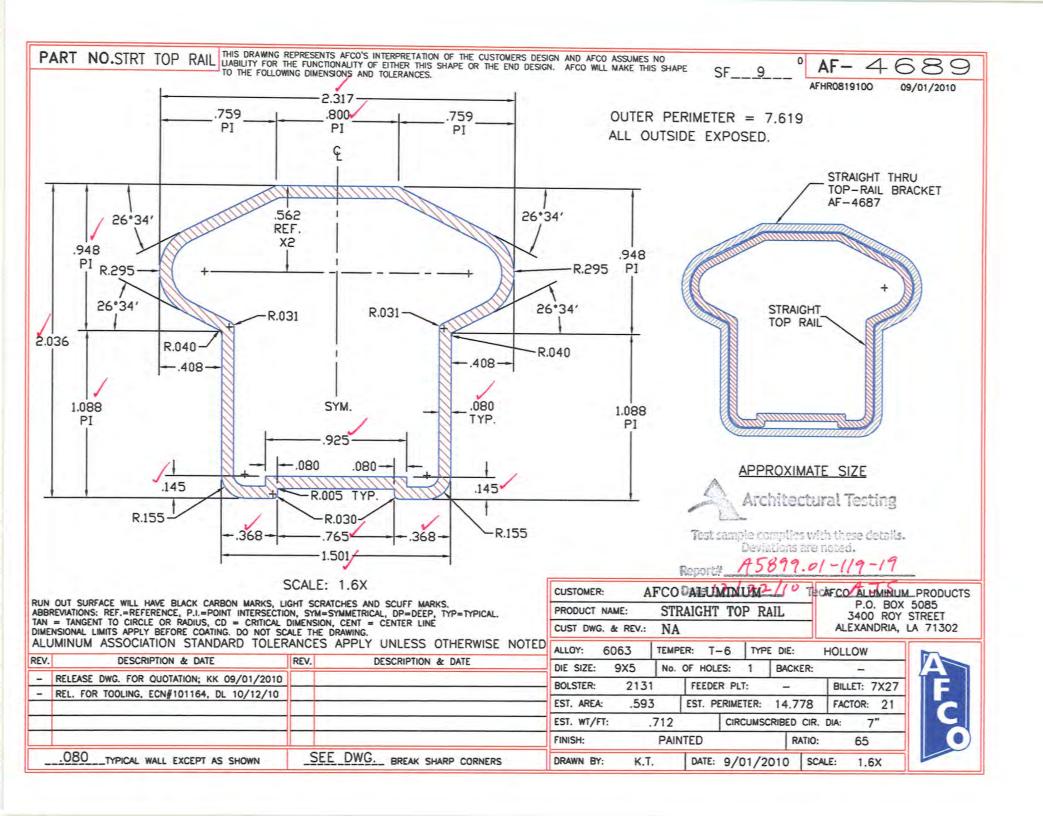
# **Revision Log**

<u>Rev. #</u>	<b>Date</b>	Page(s)	Revision(s)
0	01/03/11	N/A	Original report issue



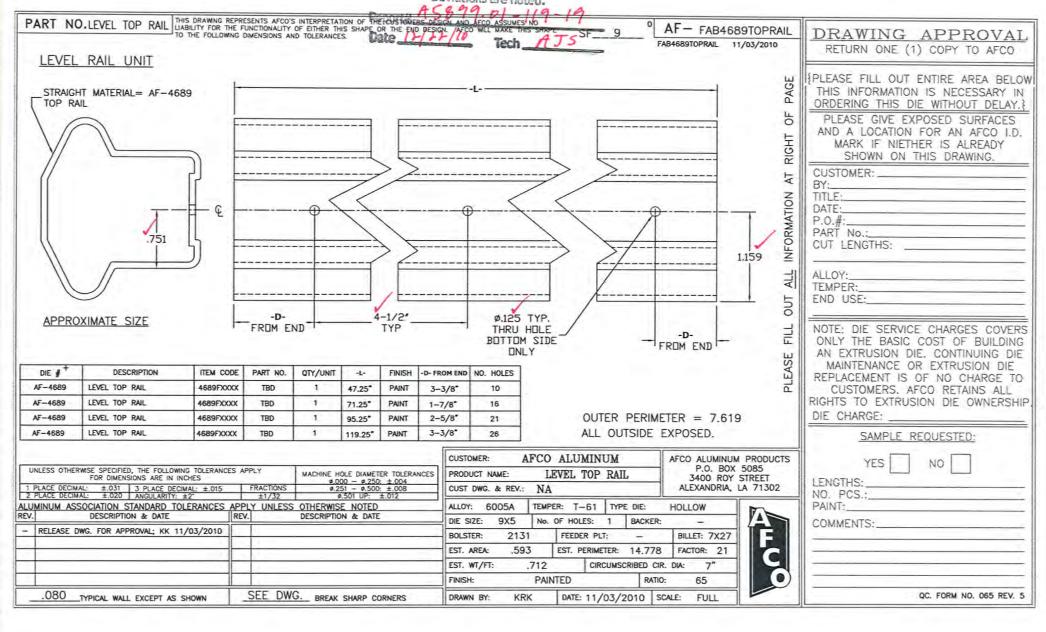
## APPENDIX A

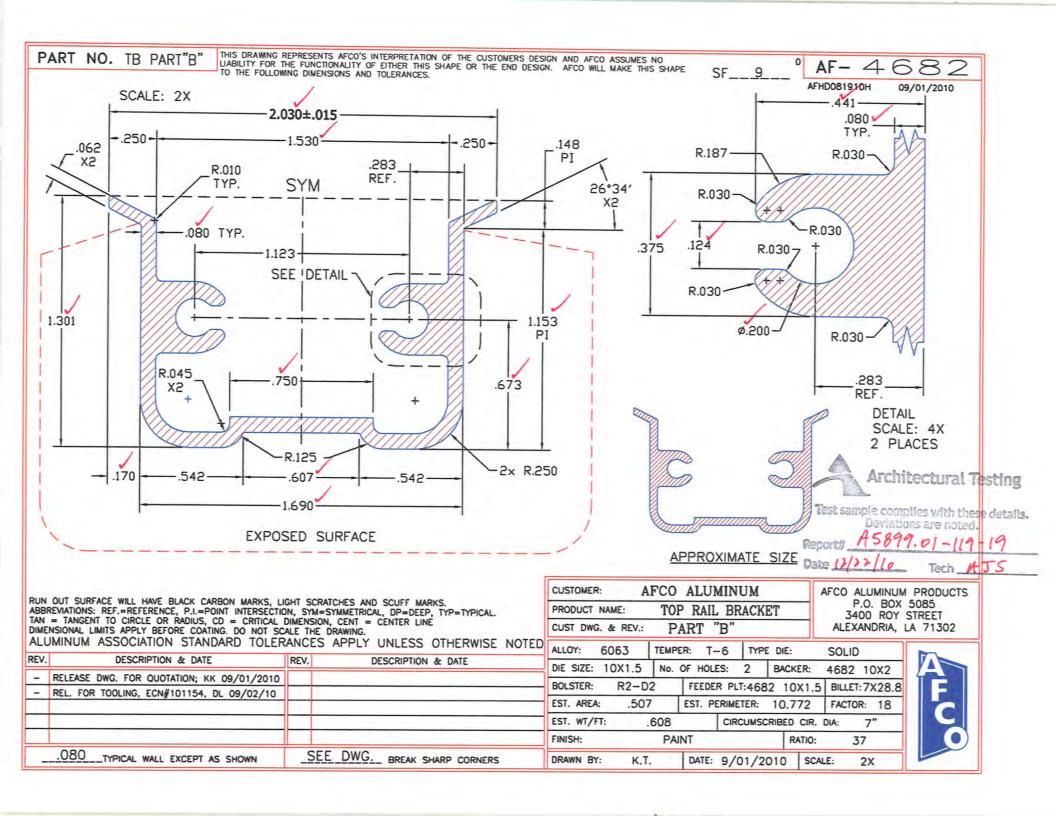
**Drawings** 

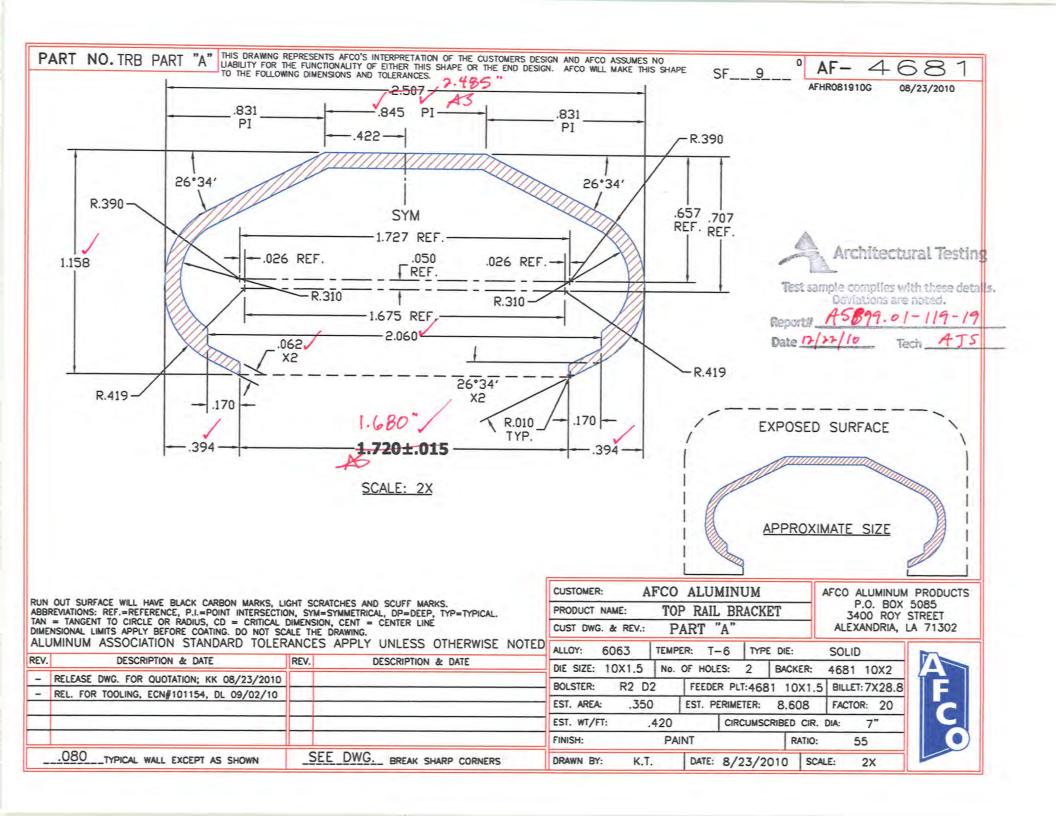


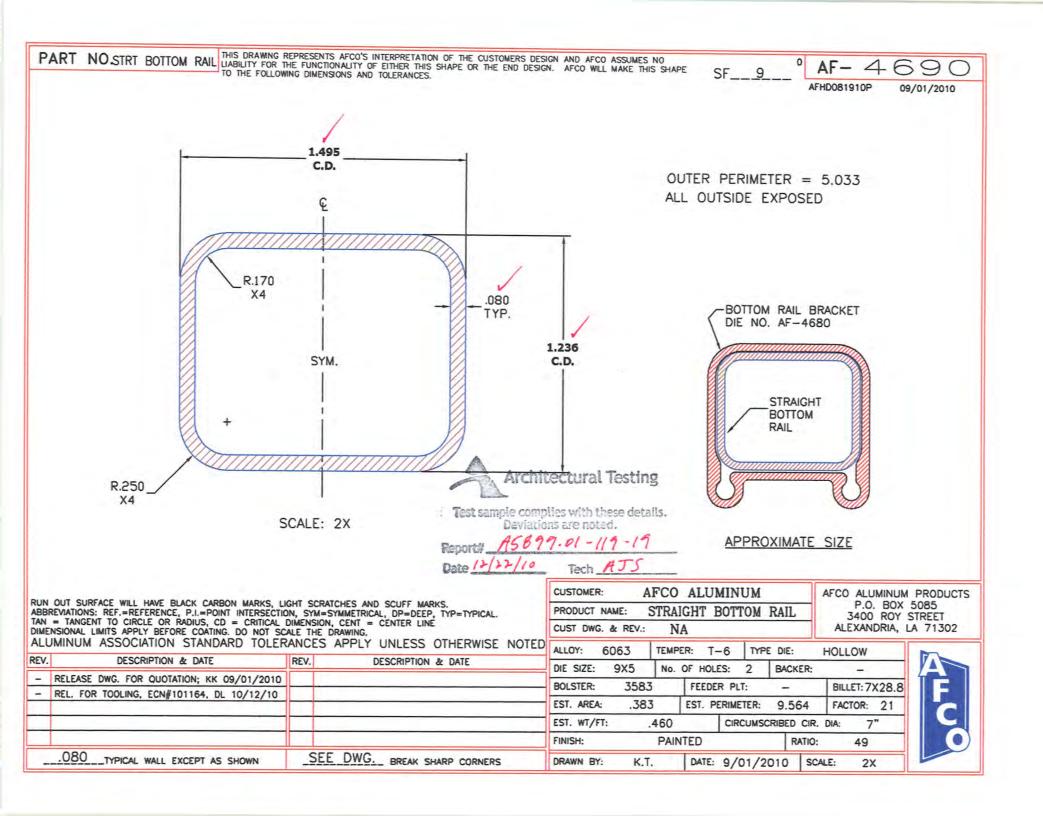


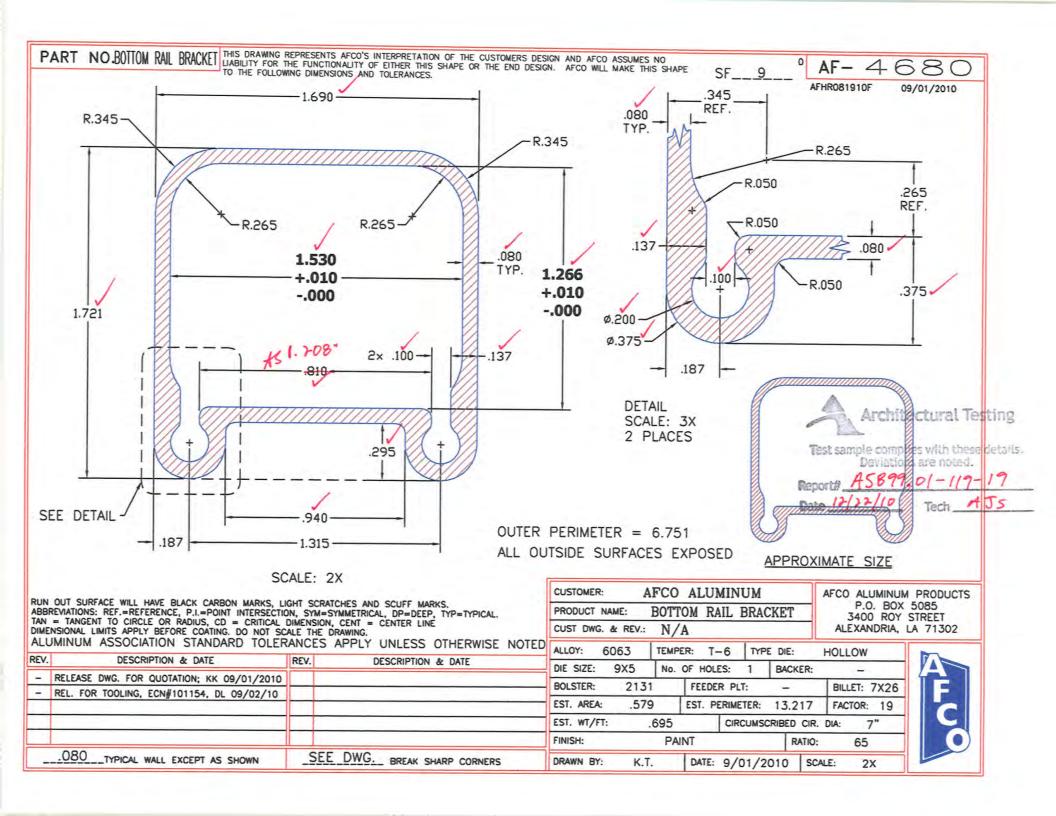
Test sample complies with these details. Deviations are noted.



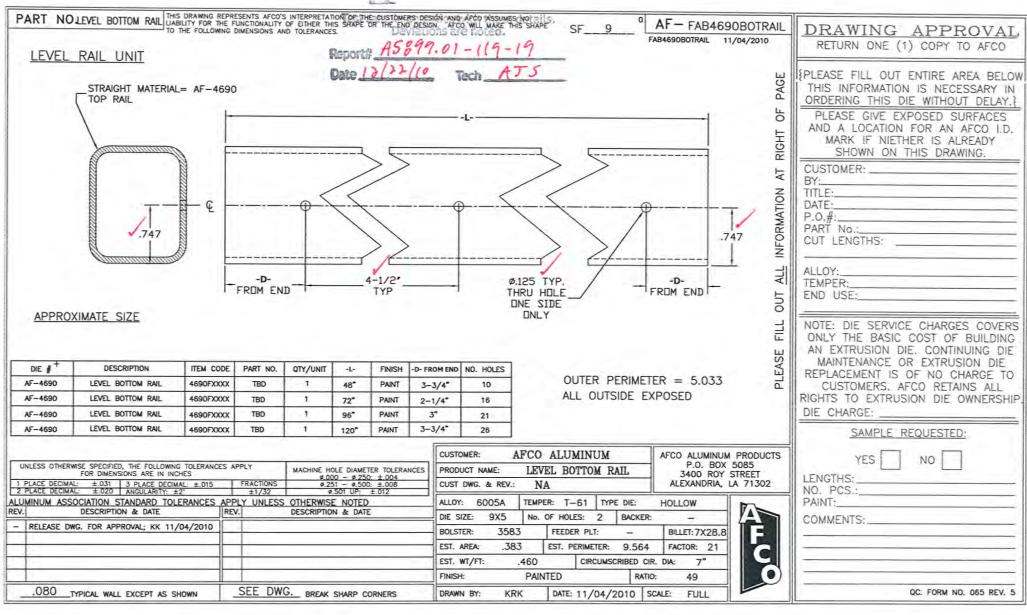


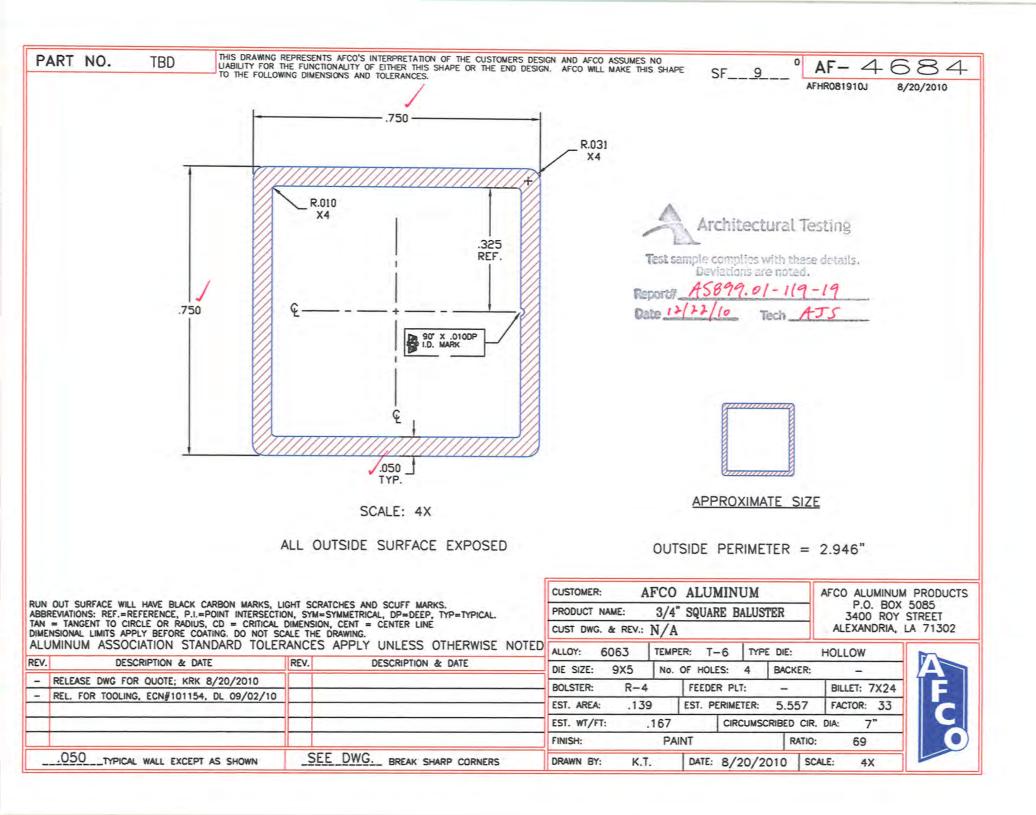












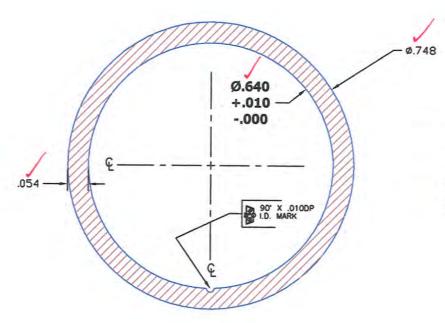
PART NO.

TBD

THIS DRAWING REPRESENTS AFCO'S INTERPRETATION OF THE CUSTOMERS DESIGN AND AFCO ASSUMES NO LIABILITY FOR THE FUNCTIONALITY OF EITHER THIS SHAPE OR THE END DESIGN. AFCO WILL MAKE THIS SHAPE TO THE FOLLOWING DIMENSIONS AND TOLERANCES.

AFHR081910I

8/20/2010



rchitectural Testing

Test sample complies with these details. Deviations are noted.

5899.01-119-



APPROXIMATE SIZE

OUTSIDE PERIMETER = 2.350"

ALL OUTSIDE SURFACE EXPOSED

SCALE: 4X

RUN OUT SURFACE WILL HAVE BLACK CARBON MARKS, LIGHT SCRATCHES AND SCUFF MARKS.
ABBREVIATIONS: REF.=REFERENCE, P.I.=POINT INTERSECTION, SYM=SYMMETRICAL, DP=DEEP, TYP=TYPICAL.
TAN = TANGENT TO CIRCLE OR RADIUS, CD = CRITICAL DIMENSION, CENT = CENTER LINE
DIMENSIONAL LIMITS APPLY BEFORE COATING. DO NOT SCALE THE DRAWING.
ALLUMINUM ASSOCIATION STANDARD TOLFRANCES APPLY LINLESS OTHERWISE

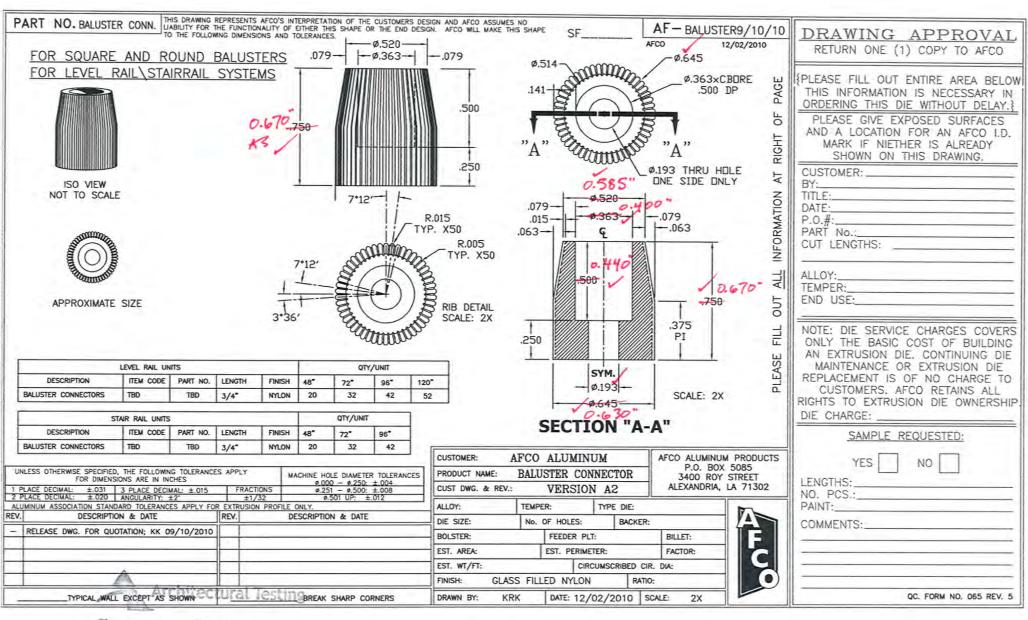
REV.	DESCRIPTION & DATE	REV.	DESCRIPTION & DATE
-	RELEASE DWG FOR QUOTE; KRK 8/20/2010		
-	REL. FOR TOOLING, ECN#101154, DL 09/02/10		
	1		
	.054 TYPICAL WALL EXCEPT AS SHOWN		BREAK SHARP CORNERS

CUSTOMER: AFCO ALUMINUM 3/4" ROUND BALUSTER PRODUCT NAME: CUST DWG. & REV .: NA

AFCO ALUMINUM PRODUCTS P.O. BOX 5085 3400 ROY STREET ALEXANDRIA, LA 71302

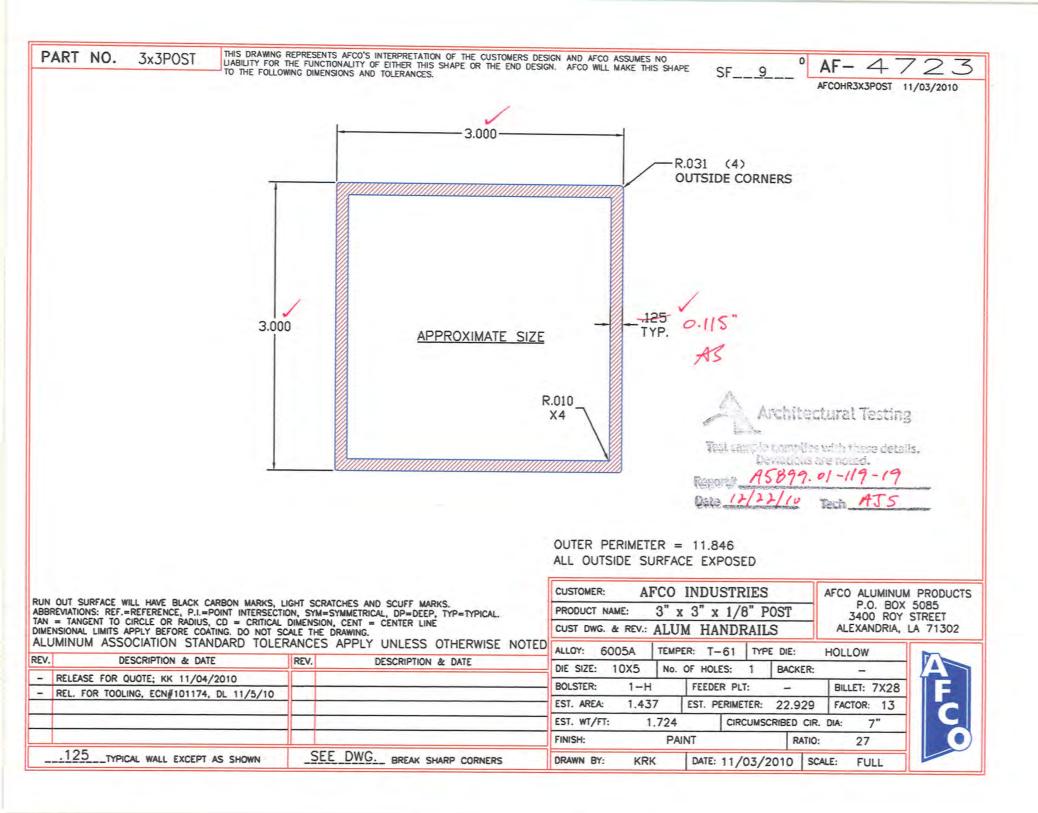
ALLOY: 6	063	TEMPER: T-		-6	6 TYPE DIE		: HOLLOW			
DIE SIZE:	9X5	No.	OF HOLE	ES:	1	BACK	ER:	_		
BOLSTER:	R-4		FEEDE	R PLT: -				BILLET: 7X21		
EST. AREA:	REA: .117		EST. PERIMET		R: 4.372		72	FACTOR: 31		
EST. WT/FT:	140 CIRCU			JMSCRIBED CIR. DIA: 7"						
FINISH:	PAINT				RATIO:		ATIO:	82		
DRAWN BY:	K.T.		DATE:	0/2010 SCA		SCAL	E: 4	X		





Test sample complies with these details. Deviations are noted.

Report# 45879.01-119-19
Date 17/12/10 Tech AJS





## APPENDIX B

Photographs





Photo No. 1 In-Fill Load Test at Center of Two Balusters



Photo No. 2 In-Fill Load Test at Bottom of Two Balusters





Photo No. 3 Horizontal Uniform Load on Top Rail





Photo No. 4 Concentrated Load Test at Midspan of Top Rail



Photo No. 5 Concentrated Load Test at Ends of Top Rail (Brackets)



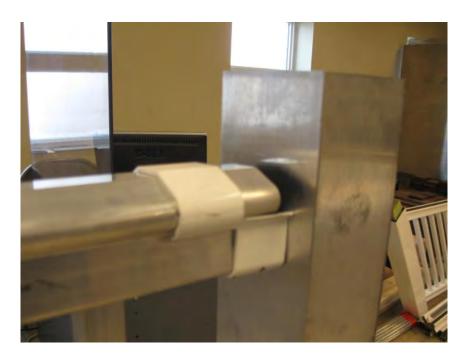


Photo No. 6 Top Rail/Bracket/Post Connection

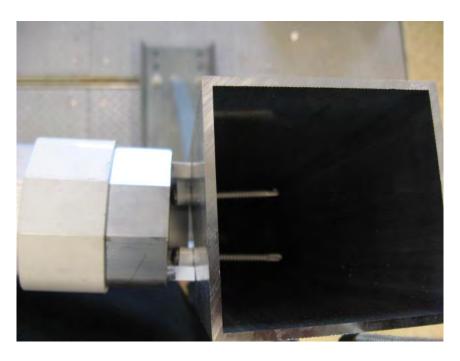


Photo No. 7 Anchorage of Top Rail Bracket to Post





Photo No. 8 Bottom Rail/Bracket/Post Connection