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To Whom it May Concern,

Piazza Stone® Lightweight Masonry Units have been extensively evaluated by DRJ Engineering for the Technical Evaluation Report (TER 1909-03). This evaluation involved some testing under ASTM C1364. This testing standard is used consistently in the Cast Stone Industry to establish performance metrics of products that help indicate how the product will perform over a lifetime of service. The Cast Stone Institute states that these standards encapsulated within ASTM C1364 have been developed to help ensure the product will last 100 years or more.

Though these metrics do not predict or guarantee a certain lifetime, they do indicate that products which meet the criteria are likely to last at least as long in service as a Cast Stone product. There is no technical reason to suggest that Piazza Stone® Lightweight Masonry Units will have a shorter lifespan while yet meeting these universally accepted criteria.

There are, however, reasons to suggest that the Piazza Stone® Lightweight Masonry Units might have enhanced performance compared to Cast Stone over its lifetime. First, the Piazza Stone® Lightweight Masonry Units has no need for reinforcement. One of the possible reasons for a reduction in structural performance in Cast Stone product is cracks that allow water to corrode the reinforcing elements. Piazza Stone® Lightweight Masonry Units, because they are not reinforced, do not carry this risk.

Second, if cracks do become present in a Piazza Stone® Lightweight Masonry Units, the adhesive mixture bonded to the foam on the inside of the unit will prevent the cracked portion from falling off of the building and being a hazard. This effect is not present with Cast Stone.

Therefore, with regards to service life, a designer can specify the Piazza Stone® Lightweight Masonry Units with the same level of confidence as Cast Stone. Any further inquiries regarding the lifespan and technical performance of the Piazza Stone® Lightweight Masonry Units may be referred to the Piazza Stone Engineering Dept, which has completed this analysis and statement.

Sincerely,
Brundy Pursley
President / Inventor
Piazza Stone LLC

5/11/2021