



November 6, 2019

Brundy Pursley
Midsouth Interiors and Exteriors
Casey Fisher
Choate Construction Company

Re: Engineering the Installation of RockCast lightweight Products on concrete masonry veneer products to the wall system.

Brundy:

I am writing this letter in response to all of the recent questions and emails regarding the anchoring of the RockCast Lightweight Product, utilizing the Piazza Track or Clip System, to a 3 5/8 inch thick solid Concrete Masonry Unit with a cavity wall design.

My previous letter on September 20, 2019 confirmed that this is an acceptable installation when using a properly sized anchor, from a manufacturer such as Hilti and is sized for the weight and pullout of the product that is to be mounted to the masonry veneer. In addition, my letter stated that we cannot comment on the wall system and how this extra weight of the lightweight stone and CMU veneer will impact the anchoring of this system to the back-up wall.

The Engineer of Record, or the Architect, is responsible for these design questions. I have included copies of the more relevant NCMA TEK guides and our product Specifications. Anchored veneer systems are supported laterally by the backing system and supported vertically by the foundation or other structural elements. Anchors transfer the loads to the back-up system. Designing these systems must consider other variable such as when areas of the country have excessive wind or seismic conditions. In any case, any unique circumstance that is outside of the typical TEK guides, requires the EOR and Architect for this review, not the material manufacturer. After discussing this with a few of our engineering partners, everyone has been hesitant to get involved as they did not do the design on the building and it is well under construction.

This letter, by no means, excludes us from providing an engineered package for the lightweight material, showing the track and anchoring on the CMU veneer. It merely is confirming that it is not our responsibility to design the anchoring of the CMU veneer to the back-up wall system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark A. Swortwood". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

Mark A. Swortwood
Senior Vice President

Cc: Chris Pierpont