



**Englekirk & Hart
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TO: Prospective Users of NCMA/KORFIL Hi-R

FROM: Gary C. Hart, President
Englekirk & Hart, Inc. *GCH*

NCMA/KORFIL Hi-R block has been the subject of an extensive experimental testing program and an in-depth analytical study in order to ensure safety and serviceability. We have prepared a structural engineering report which summarizes this work and describes the recommended design criteria. The report also presents a one-to-one comparison between the 1985 UBC code criteria and the experimental results. I can assure you that the experimental and analytical studies were done at arms length and meet the highest standards for professional review.

NCMA/KORFIL Hi-R can now be used under Section 105 of the 1985 UBC. The sufficient evidence needed is available upon your request to us and we would, if you so desire, present this evidence to the building official. An ICBO Evaluation Services Report Number is in the process of being obtained under their new corporate structure. This evaluation report number has been slow in being obtained not because of any technical and/or quality issues but because of the slow and cumbersome process of their new review system.

Normally, I would believe that such a letter as this on our stationery is not necessary to encourage you to use NCMA/KORFIL Hi-R or any other product. However, due to the exceptional quality of this product and the unreasonable slowness of the ICBO Evaluation service, I feel that such action is not only warranted but essential. I have provided a brief resume of my background and our staff in order to hopefully provide support for our position if you are not familiar with our work. We are structural engineers and we have always been very active in professional structural engineering activities. For example, Dr. Englekirk, I and our staff currently hold the following selected professional positions: Board of Directors of The Precast Concrete Institute, The Masonry Society and The Structural Engineers Association of Southern California; Chairman of SEAOSC Seismology Committee/Materials, The 4th U.S. National Earthquake Engineering Conference, and The Masonry Society Code Committee; and members of two US/Japan Coordinated Research Program Steering Committee (Precast Concrete and Masonry).

I hope that you will select NCMA/KORFIL Hi-R for your project and that if you have any questions you will please call me.

cc: Dave Nickerson, Korfil
Mark Hogan, NCMA