



Green Glue Noiseproofing Compound vs. QuietGlue Pro

March 9, 2011

Serious has stated that QuietGlue Pro performs equal to or better than Green Glue at a 30% to 40% price advantage. The full white paper detailing these findings, conducted over 3 years, can be found on the QuietGlue website. Here we directly answer certain claims that Green Glue has made which we believe are at best misleading and at worst, false.

1) **Viscosity.**

- a. Green Glue implies that QuietGlue Pro is less usable than Green Glue. That is simply false. We believe that customers care about ease of use more than viscosity. We have tested both Green Glue and QuietGlue Pro with a 3/8" nozzle opening. Both dispense at 200 grams/second or faster. That is under 10 seconds per tube at a reasonable force. The speed of dispensing is mostly controlled by the nozzle size, not the viscosity. Green Glue instructions state: *"Acceptable tip openings range from 1/8" to 3/8". We have researched coverage patterns and bead sizes considerably in our labs and have not found a dramatic difference among different techniques and choices."* QuietGlue Pro instructions are the same. A larger tip opening will always dispense faster.
- b. Green Glue implies that one needs to form the proper film. This is simply false as they essentially state in their own instructions above. And it is also false that QuietGlue Pro does not spread properly between the panels (it does). The test results speak for themselves.

- 2) **STC rating of 55.** Green Glue states that they had an STC 55 in 2005 and we should just take that and move on. To state this clearly: We have not been able to reproduce their results after spending considerable financial and people resources on testing in multiple independent labs with varying dry times out to 35 days. See the white paper for full details. We believe it is likely that Green Glue has retested their panels after changes were made to the lab but have not been able to reproduce that result. Furthermore, Green Glue personnel made those original panels in 2005 according to their test reports, not a 3rd party contractor (as we have used). If Green Glue really wanted to put this to rest, they have had years to produce another test confirming the old results and they have yet to do so. Their lack of new testing speaks volumes. They further state that they know of no long term testing of QuietGlue pro. QG pro is based on technology used in our highest volume QuietRock panels for years. Over 2 million panels have been installed since 2003. We believe their argument is specious.

- 3) Drying and Compression:** Green Glue falsely implies that in order to use QuietGlue Pro you must methodically walk on the panels. This is absurd. No where in our instructions does it say one should walk on the panels. In one test in 2008 the contractor did indeed walk on the panels...on their own accord. Their walking did not improve, or degrade, the performance. It was simply a note in a test document. To set the record straight, no methodical walking is needed with QuietGlue Pro.
- 4) Test Report Comparisons:** Green Glue suggests that somehow the testing methods and screws etc. are different. Their statement is unsupported and incorrect. After 3 years of testing and QuietGlue Pro winning every time, we believe we have proven our point. See more detail in the white paper.
- 5) Fire and Environmental:** Green Glue falsely implies that only their product is tested.
- a. QuietGlue Pro has passed Mold Resistance to ASTM D3273 (MicroStar Labs test 2010-214).
 - b. As for ASTM E84 or UL273, these are surface burn tests which DO NOT APPLY to glues which are sandwiched between other materials. Only the exposed material is subject to test. Unless you expect a customer to put glue on the outer wall surface and not sandwich it, the test does not apply nor is it meaningful. We are very familiar with these tests for our coatings products and drywall products (the exposed surface is tested). But for QuietGlue Pro as well as Green Glue...there is no exposed surface of glue in its intended use so the test is meaningless and cannot be used to impart any indication of fire resistance in the wall assembly.
 - c. UL263 is for use in fire rated assemblies where all elements are controlled per the test (ie a specific gypsum board used). There is no reason a glue would detract from the gypsum board ratings. So for a 1-hour rated wall...as long as the assembly is already UL rated for 1 hour, adding glue or paint or anything else to the outside surfaces of that wall does not affect the base wall rating unless the wall has been penetrated (which damping glue does not do). There is no need for further approvals or testing in this case. In addition, QuietGlue Pro technology is used in fire-rated panels which are only 5/8" thick total under the QuietRock brand name.
- 6) Field Performance:** Green Glue states they have thousands of installs and no one ever called to say it stopped working. QuietGlue Pro is based on proven technology used in 2+ million installed QuietRock panels since 2003. No one ever called us either.

QuietGlue Pro Comparison Table

Product Comparison Data	Green Glue	QuietGlue Pro	Notes
Cost	\$165-\$175/case	\$99-\$119/case	Green Glue is overpriced by 30% to 40% for lower performance. Why waste money?
Performance	Good	Best	In 3 years of back to back independent testing, QuietGlue Pro outperforms Green Glue (see the white paper)
Ease of Application	200g/s	200g/s	Both glues can be dispensed at 10 seconds per tube
Flow Characteristics	OK	OK	Forming a film does not improve performance of either product
CA 01350	OK	In Process	QuietGlue Pro is formulated to be a low formaldehyde product where required for indoor air quality
Mold Resistant	Yes	Yes	Both tested to ASTM D3273
Surface Burn UL723 ASTM E84	N/A	N/A	Test is not applicable to unexposed surfaces and does not impart any indication of usage in fire rated wall assemblies
Fire rated Assembly UL 263	N/A	N/A	Glue does not penetrate the original fire-rated wall assembly (just like paint) so additional testing is not required
Recommended for use by DIY	No	Yes	Damping glues are a low cost method in applications where labor cost is low. But Green Glue costs 30% to 40% more than QuietGlue Pro...so it is not cost effective in any application
Cost Effective in Commercial Construction	No	Sometimes	Green Glue costs 30% to 40% more than QuietGlue Pro. Too expensive for most uses. When labor rates or space are important, certain commercial applications may be better served by QuietRock
Recommended for use in walls	STC 53	STC 53	3 years of independent lab testing proves QuietGlue Pro outperforms Green Glue.
Recommended for use in Floor Ceiling	Yes	Yes	
Field Installations	1000's?	2+ million panels	Based on technology used in QuietRock panels (which were introduced in 2003)
Compression of panels required	No	No	Neither product requires methodically walking on them or compressing them