Exterior Panels Installation Guidelines

OVERVIEW - Figure 1

• Stonewood Exterior is ideal to be used as rain screen cladding in a ventilated façade system.

STONEWOOD Architectural Panels

- This installation guideline only specifies minimum requirements in general terms how Stonewood should be attached / fastened to the sub-structure.
- This guideline does not address the selection, design, and mounting of the substructure itself and the attachment to the structural wall.
- Fiberesin recommends the framework and fastening system promoted by North Clad Inc. (www.northclad.com). Stonewood is also compatible with many existing extrusion framework and fastening systems available for similar products.
- To meet the local building code, building professionals should be consulted for the final layout of the fastening/attachment plan of Stonewood to the substructures.

VENTILATION - Figure 2

- A. The distance between Stonewood and the wall (or insulation) is minimum 1".
- B. The head ventilation the distance between the top edge of the cladding and the eaves, is minimum $\frac{3}{4}$ ".
- C. The base ventilation the distance between the bottom edge of the cladding and the flashing bottom, is minimum ³/₄".

SPACE BETWEEN PANEL EDGES - Figure 3

A. A minimum distance of ¼" must be maintained on all sides between the panels, to accommodate hygro-thermal movement of the panel.

FIXING SYSTEMS

- A. Two types of attachments screws and rivets (4.8 mm diameter recommended) are acceptable.
- B. Two types of attachment methods exposed (Figure 3) and concealed (Figure 4).
- C. Exposed method works for all panel thicknesses, but concealed method is recommended for only ½" or thicker panels.
- D. North Clad (www.northclad.com) only provides exposed fasteners.















Figure 4 – Concealed fixing

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THREE SUPPORTS SCENARIO

- A. Stonewood façade panel must be fastened at least three points in each direction to the sub-structure (Figure 5).
- B. Maximum 24" between fasteners.
- C. Actual numbers of fastening points, therefore the distance between supports, are to be verified by building professionals for the wind load per local building code.
- D. The distance between the edge mounting points and the panel edges shall be between 1" and 3" (Figure 3 and 5).

FIXED / FLOATING POINTS - Figure 6

- A. All the support points are floating, except the one in the middle of the panel or the one as close as possible to the geometric center of the panel.
- B. The drilled holes of the floating points must be at least 3 mm larger than the screws/rivets. The actual number of fastening points, therefore the distance between fasteners, is based on wind loads, local building codes, and must be verified by a building professional.
- C. The fixed point has the hole drilled to the specification of the diameter of the screws/rivets.

SAWING AND DRILLING

- A. Normal woodworking or metal working tools are applicable for sawing/drilling.
- B. For best results, use carbide-tipped saw blade and router bits with reduced cutting speed.
- C. A supporting board must be used underneath the Stonewood to drill a clean hole.
- D. Panels should be cut using a track saw on a guild rail with a blade designed for cutting aluminum / plastic. Fiberesin recommends the Festool TS 55 REQ Plunge Cut Track Saw and Festool 496307 Aluminum/Plastic saw blade for reference.

COLOR MATCHING

- A. The exposed fasteners should be lacquered to match the Stonewood panel.
- B. Colored fasteners are available from North Clad (www.northclad.com).

WORKMANSHIP/FIELD FABRICATION GUIDELINES

A. Fabrication and installation of Stonewood Exterior Panels should be performed only by experienced professionals. On-site fabrication is permitted, but shop fabrication is recommended.



Figure 5 - Three supports scenario



Figure 6 – Fixed points vs. floating points

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