

## *Installing Housewrap over ZIP System® Sheathing*



ZIP System® sheathing are wood structural panels with built-in, protective overlays that eliminate the need for building wrap or roofing felt. It is code recognized in ICC-ES ESR 1474 as an alternate to the water-resistive barrier required in Chapter 14 of the IBC and Chapter 7 of the IRC and satisfies the requirements for air barriers as defined in the ICC International Energy Conservation Code. It is also code recognized in ICC-ES ESR-1473 as an alternate to roofing underlayment (felt paper) required by code when panel seams are taped with the ZIP System tape. Therefore, housewrap is not required when ZIP System Sheathing is properly installed as the primary barrier in a one-layer system.

Housewrap is required over ZIP System® Sheathing when transitioning between adjacent walls where ZIP System® Sheathing was not used. When transitioning to ZIP System® Sheathing adjacent to a housewrap system, it is recommended to continue the housewrap a minimum of twelve inches onto the ZIP System® panels and then apply ZIP System® tape across the cut edge of the housewrap. The ZIP System® tape is recommended to be centered at this transition area to ensure at least one inch of the tape is onto the ZIP System® panel surface. If the ZIP System® Sheathing is below the housewrap system, it is not recommended to tape the cut edge of the housewrap because of the “bladder” condition that taping a bottom edge of a wrapped water resistive barrier could create. The proper transitioning of housewrap to ZIP System® Sheathing will not void the ZIP System® Sheathing 30-Year Limited Warranty.

Another application which housewrap may also be used, is when adhered stone or hard coat stucco is used as the exterior cladding. Section R703.6.3 in the International Residence Code (IRC) requires an additional water-resistive barrier equivalent to grade D building paper or an intervening non-water absorbing layer or designed drainage space be installed prior to the application of hard-coat stucco or adhered stone. With the ZIP System® Sheathing performing as the primary barrier, additional housewrap performs as a secondary intervening barrier to create a “bond break” between the stone/stucco and ZIP System® Sheathing.

Huber Engineered Woods recommends installing windows prior to any housewrap installation and flashing all windows, doors and wall penetrations back to the face of ZIP System® Sheathing in accordance with ZIP System® Sheathing instructions. All cut edges of housewrap around the window should be taped to the surface of ZIP System sheathing with an approved flashing tape. Housewrap tape does not qualify as flashing tape. It is the responsibility of the general contractor to ensure all windows, doors and wall penetrations are properly flashed to the surface of ZIP System® Sheathing.

If ZIP System® Sheathing exceeds the 180-Day allowable exposure period, an additional housewrap layer or code approved water resistive barrier must be installed per manufacturer’s requirements over the entirety of the ZIP System.

The use of peel and stick membranes as an additional protective layer are not approved with ZIP System® Sheathing in a wall and will void the ZIP System® Sheathing 30-Year Limited Warranty. Peel and Stick membranes minimize drainability which may provide a possibility of trapped moisture between the membrane and the face of ZIP System® Sheathing. Huber Engineered Woods accepts no responsibility or liability for damages caused by the application of peel and stick membranes used in conjunction with ZIP System® Sheathing wall assemblies.

Installing housewrap or a comparable product on ZIP System® Sheathing does not void the ZIP System® Sheathing warranty. Huber Engineered Woods is not liable for any damages caused by improper housewrap or flashing installation. It is the responsibility of the general contractor, designer-of-record or authority having jurisdiction to incorporate proper flashing materials and techniques when using a housewrap product on top of ZIP System® Sheathing.

Please visit [zipsystem.com](http://zipsystem.com) or contact our technical services department at 800-933-9220 Ext 2716 or at [techquestions@huber.com](mailto:techquestions@huber.com) with any questions or comments.