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**ATTENTION:** This installation guide is intended to provide general information for the designer and end user. The following guidelines will help you properly install the ZIP System® R-Sheathing. We urge anyone installing this product to read these guidelines in order to minimize the risk of safety hazards and to prevent voiding any applicable warranties. This manual is a general installation guide and does not cover every installation condition. Proper installation shall be deemed to mean the most restrictive requirement specified by Huber Engineered Woods (HEW), local building code, engineer or architect of record or other authority having jurisdiction. Please acknowledge that it is solely your obligation for all safety requirements and code compliance. For additional information, contact Huber Engineered Woods LLC.

**ZIP System® R-Sheathing Safety Guidelines**
- Follow all OSHA regulations and any other safety guidelines and safety practices.
- Use approved safety belts and/or harnesses or other fall protection equipment.
- Install ZIP System® R-Sheathing and ZIP System™ tape only in dry conditions and on dry surfaces. Do not install in rain, snow, frost or other slippery conditions.
- Do not apply flame directly to foam layer. Foam will burn and smoke if exposed to an ignition source of sufficient heat and intensity or open flame, such as a welder’s torch.

**What is ZIP System® R-Sheathing?**
ZIP System® R-Sheathing panels consist of an oriented strand board panel laminated with a water-resistant facer on the exterior and a rigid foam insulation panel bonded on the opposite (interior) face. When properly installed and taped, ZIP System R-Sheathing provides a water-resistant barrier, air barrier and exterior insulation in one product. It may also be used in the construction of braced wall panels or shear walls in certain conditions. See the Structural Bracing to Resist Lateral Forces section of this installation manual for more information.

The OSB substrate complies with Voluntary Product Standard PS2 for wood structural panels and the water-resistant barrier complies as an alternate to the water-resistant barrier prescribed in the code. ZIP System® R-Sheathing is available with a 1/2-inch, 1-inch, 1-1/2-inch and 2-inch foam insulation panel.

**ZIP System® R-Sheathing Includes:**
- ZIP System® wall sheathing panels with built-in water-resistant barrier and preprinted fastening and tape guides.
- Foam insulation panel.
- ZIP System™ tape.

**Storage and Handling**
- Set panel stack on three supports (stickers) to keep a minimum of 4 inches of clearance above ground level.
- Outdoors, cover panels loosely with a waterproof protective material such as a tarpaulin.
- Anchor covers on top of the stack, but keep away from sides and bottom to assure good air circulation.
- In high moisture environments, cut banding on the panel stack to prevent edge damage.
- Factory applied packaging is intended only for protection during transit.
- Packaged units must be stored indoors or within a covered structure.
- For temporary job-site storage, units should be stacked on pallets at least three inches above ground level and completely covered with a weatherproof covering such as a tarpaulin.
- The temporary factory-applied packaging should be slit or removed to prevent accumulation of condensation.
- Do not stack more than three units high.

**ZIP System® R-Sheathing Notes and Limitations**
- ZIP System® R-Sheathing is approved for wall use only. Do not use on roofs.
- Do not use abutted against stone or masonry without providing a minimum of a 1/2-inch gap.
- Do not install ZIP System™ tape in temperatures less than 20° F.
- Do not install ZIP System™ tape in temperatures less than 20° F.
- ZIP System R-Sheathing products are not approved for manufactured housing applications that are built under a federal building code administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- Not intended to replace traditional wood structural panels in applications where the wall sheathing is designed to resist combined wind uplift and shear.
- Do not use in fire-rated assemblies in lieu of a required “wood structural panel.”
- Do not apply secondary coatings to the overlay on ZIP System R-Sheathing.
- Minimum 1/2-inch gypsum wall board must be installed on the interior side of the wood wall studs as a thermal barrier using code-recognized fasteners per IRC or IBC requirements.
- Only use in buildings of Type V construction or construction permitted under the International Residential Code.
- In areas where the probability of termite infestation is “very heavy” the clearance between ZIP System R-Sheathing and finished grade shall be no less than 6-inches.

**Note:** In cladding systems requiring multiple layers of water-resistant barriers, like traditional hard-coat stucco and adhered stone veneers, ZIP System® R-Sheathing is intended only to replace the first layer.
ZIP System® R-Sheathing Installation Manual

Overview: ZIP System® R-Sheathing is composed of ZIP System® wall sheathing panels, laminated exterior foam panel insulation and ZIP System™ seam sealing tape. ZIP System R-Sheathing panels should be fully installed before the seam sealing tape is applied. The following manufacturer installation steps and recommendations are presented as a general outline of the installation process. You are fully and solely responsible for all safety requirements. Good construction practices should be followed at all times.

Step 1. Install any necessary mechanical strapping directly to framing. Any metal straps, ties or other connectors designed to resist uplift, shear or diaphragm loading must be installed prior to ZIP System® R-Sheathing installation. The requirement for mechanical uplift connections shall be determined by the designer-of-record, local building codes or authority having jurisdiction. Detail A should not be considered typical and only applies when mechanical uplift connections are specified.

Straps, ties and connectors installed on the exterior face of stud will not be visible after ZIP System® R-Sheathing panels are installed. Schedule any necessary anchor or nailing inspections accordingly.

Step 2. Install ZIP System® R-Sheathing panels positioned with the water-resistive barrier facing out. The panels may be installed with the long side of the panel oriented either horizontally or vertically to the framing members. Wall panels that are designed to resist lateral shear forces should have solid framing or blocking behind all panel edges. Foam insulation is oversized on one 4-ft and one 8-ft. edge relative to the ZIP System R-Sheathing face to accommodate proper gapping of panels. Panels should be installed with foam edges touching. Please coordinate panel field placement and orientation in order to take advantage of this gapping feature.
**Step 3**. Fasten the panels to the framing members with code approved fasteners. When used to resist lateral forces, nail fastener penetration into the wood wall stud should be a minimum of 1 1/2-inches. If staples are used (R3 and R6 only), fasteners must penetrate a minimum 1-inch into the framing. See, Structural Bracing to Resist Lateral Forces, on page 5, for fastener and fastener spacing options. It is the responsibility of the general contractor to ensure correct fastener type and spacing prior to installation. Apply fasteners 3/8 inch from panel edge.

**ZIP System® R-Sheathing thickness** may influence building interior and exterior dimensions, framing layout or foundation design for anchored veneers. For example: Foundation brick ledges may need to be wider when using ZIP System R-Sheathing (See DETAIL G on page 9), or wall stud placement may need to be adjusted from building corners to allow for sheathing thickness. Designer and general contractor should make necessary adjustments (if any) to the design and/or construction methods to accommodate these changes.

**ZIP System® tape** must be installed using a roller to apply pressure to the pressure sensitive adhesive layer of the tape.
Structural Bracing to Resist Lateral Forces

ZIP System® R-Sheathing wood-framed walls may be designed to resist lateral shear forces by prescriptive or engineered methods in accordance with the International Building and Residential Codes (See Table 1 and Table 2 below). All seams between panels used to resist lateral loads must be backed by solid wood framing. If the panel is not required for structural bracing, the panels should be installed with a minimum 0.131” shank diameter nails (minimum 1-inch embedment into wood studs) spaced at 6 inches on center on panel edges and 12 inches on center in the field of the panel. Minimum 1/2-inch thick gypsum wallboard must be installed as a thermal barrier in accordance with Chapter 26 of the IBC or Chapter 3 of the IRC.

Installation When Not Part of Lateral Force Resisting System
ZIP System® R-Sheathing that is not intended to resist wind or seismic loads may be attached to framing using 0.131” diameter shank nails. Nails must penetrate the studs at least 1 inch.

Installation When used in Wall Bracing or Shear Walls
ZIP System® R-Sheathing may be used in the construction of braced wall panels in accordance with WSP bracing method (2009 IRC) as an equivalent alternative to the prescribed wood structural panels ONLY if installed per Table 1 below. All requirements, restrictions and limitations listed in the IRC regarding the applicability and use of prescriptive wall bracing methods still apply.

### TABLE 1
PRESCRIPTIVE METHOD: FASTENING REQUIREMENTS FOR ZIP SYSTEM® R-SHEATHING WITH FRAMING OF DOUGLAS FIR-LARCH FOR WIND OR SEISMIC LOADING UNDER THE 2009 IRC (WSP METHOD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>R-SHEATHING TYPE</th>
<th>FRAMING</th>
<th>FASTENERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nominal Stud Size (Min.)</td>
<td>Maximum Stud Space (inches)</td>
<td>Fastener Specifications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-3</td>
<td>2-by-4</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-3</td>
<td>2-by-4</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-6</td>
<td>2-by-4</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-9</td>
<td>2-by-4</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-12</td>
<td>2-by-4</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-12</td>
<td>2-by-4</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. All fasteners must be located a minimum of 3/8 inch from panel edges.
2. Fasteners must be common nails or equivalent, or staples, of a type generally used to attach wood sheathing.
3. R-12 R-Sheathing panels have a foam plastic insulation thickness of 2.0 inch. R-9 R-Sheathing panels have a foam plastic insulation thickness of 1.5 inch. R-6 R-Sheathing panels have a foam plastic insulation thickness of 1.0 inch. R-3 R-Sheathing panels have a foam plastic insulation thickness of 0.5 inch.
4. Fasteners must be common nails or equivalent, or staples, of a type generally used to attach wood sheathing.

Designers may use ZIP System® R-Sheathing as an alternate to wood structural panels in the construction of wood shear walls when designed in accordance with 2012 or 2009 IBC Sections 2305 and 2306 (as applicable). The allowable shear loads are listed in Table 2.

### TABLE 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>R-SHEATHING TYPE</th>
<th>FRAMING</th>
<th>FASTENERS</th>
<th>ALLOWABLE SHEAR CAPACITY 3,6,7 (plf)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nominal Stud Size (Min.)</td>
<td>Maximum Stud Space (inches)</td>
<td>Fastener Specifications</td>
<td>Edge/Field Spacing (inches)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-3</td>
<td>2-by-4</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0.131-inch shank nails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-3</td>
<td>2-by-4</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0.131-inch shank nails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-3</td>
<td>2-by-4</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16ga staples, 7/16-inch crown, 2-inch length</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-6</td>
<td>2-by-4</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0.131-inch shank nails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-6</td>
<td>2-by-4</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0.131-inch shank nails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-9</td>
<td>2-by-4</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0.131-inch shank nails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-12</td>
<td>2-by-4</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0.131-inch shank nails</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm; 1 pound per foot (plf) = 14.59 N/m.

1. All fasteners must be located a minimum of 3/8 inch from panel edges.
2. Fasteners must be common nails or equivalent, or staples, of a type generally used to attach wood sheathing.
3. R-12 R-Sheathing panels have a foam plastic insulation thickness of 2.0 inch. R-9 R-Sheathing panels have a foam plastic insulation thickness of 1.5 inch. R-6 R-Sheathing panels have a foam plastic insulation thickness of 1.0 inch. R-3 R-Sheathing panels have a foam plastic insulation thickness of 0.5 inch.
4. For framing of other species, the shear value above must be multiplied by the Specific Gravity Adjustment Factor = (1 - (SG - SG )), where SG = Specific Gravity of the framing lumber in accordance with the AF&PA NDS. This adjustment factor must not be greater than 1.0.
5. Fasteners must be common nails or equivalent, or staples, of a type generally used to attach wood sheathing to wood framing.
6. The allowable shear capacity may be increased by 40% for wind in Allowable Stress Design in accordance with Section 2306.3 of the 2015, 2012 and 2009 IBC.
7. All panel edges must be backed by framing.
ZIP System® R-Sheathing – Tape Installation

Apply ZIP System™ tape after ZIP System® R-Sheathing panels are fully fastened to wall framing. Only ZIP System tape should be used to seal the seams of ZIP System R-Sheathing. Make sure that the panel surface is dry and free of sawdust and dirt prior to taping. ZIP System tape is a contact tape that requires application pressure for an adequate seal.

**Step 1.** Tape all seams using ZIP System™ tape. Center the tape over the seam within +/- 1/2 inch to provide adequate coverage and reduce wrinkles in tape.

Use the ZIP System™ tape gun or ZIP System® roller to apply pressure to the tape and smooth out any wrinkles.

**Step 2.** Wherever tape splices occur at a horizontal or vertical seam, create an overlapping splice of at least 3 inches.

At T-joints, the tape pieces should overlap by at least 1 inch. Apply pressure onto the surface of the tape to ensure a secure bond between the panel and the tape.

Use the ZIP System™ tape gun or ZIP System® roller to apply pressure to the tape and smooth out any wrinkles.

Take special care to remove any voids and/or trapped air at splice areas and T-joints.

**Step 3.** Tape inside and outside corner seams.

Tip: When taping inside corner seams, it is helpful to cut a manageable length of ZIP System™ tape and hold the ends in the middle using only your index fingers and thumbs. Slightly pulling both ends of the tape causes the tape edges to naturally curl inward. With the tape in tension, place it in the inside corner. Repeat as you go up the full height of the wall.
ZIP System® R-Sheathing – Window Installation

DISCLAIMER: Please defer to/consult the installation instructions of your window manufacturer as well as local code requirements. It is the responsibility of the general contractor to coordinate rough opening dimensions with window dimensions and install any necessary extensions or solid blocking as needed.

**Step 1.** Install sill/pan flashing that satisfies the requirements of ASTM E 2112 and AAMA 711 into the rough opening. ZIP System™ tape or ZIP System™ stretch tape may be used as pan flashing. Other adhesive-based flashing tapes may be used if they satisfy ICC-ES AC-148 or AAMA 711.

**Step 2.** From the interior of the rough opening, apply low-pressure polyurethane foam (for windows) between the rough opening and the window frame. (Caulk sealant compatible with the flashing and backer rod may be used in lieu of polyurethane foam.) When using ZIP System™ tape, 100% silicone, butyl and polyurethane sealants are acceptable.
ZIP System® R-Sheathing – Exterior Cladding Installation

The outside layer of ZIP System® R-Sheathing consists of a 7/16” wood structural panel that can be used as a nailbase for finished exterior cladding that does not require direct attachment to structural framing. For finished wall cladding requiring fasteners to penetrate into the structural framing we recommend following the finished cladding manufacturer’s installation recommendations. The maximum allowable cladding weights and cladding fastener schedules are listed in Table R703.15.1 of the 2015 IRC.

DISCLAIMER: The following steps represent a general overview of exterior cladding installation. Please defer to/consult the installation instructions of your cladding manufacturer as well as local code requirements.

Lap Siding

It is the responsibility of the general contractor to ensure that fasteners used to install lap siding are of adequate length to satisfy the requirements of governing building codes and siding manufacturer’s installation instructions.
Anchored Masonry Brick Veneer

**DETAIL F**

- Min. ½-inch gypsum wallboard
- Wall stud framing
- Wall cavity insulation
- ZIP System™ tape installed over all panel seams (install with ZIP System tape gun or roller)
- Install solid blocking between studs as needed for required edge nailing on braced wall panels
- Brick veneer anchors (ties) shall be anchored to wall studs through ZIP System® R-Sheathing panels and spaced per governing code

**DETAIL G**

- Air gap per code
- Wall cavity insulation
- Min. ½-inch gypsum wallboard
- Code approved base flashing
- Top edge of flashing taped with ZIP System™ tape or adhesive backed flashing (Must meet AC148 or AAMA 711)

NOTE: Coordinate brick ledge dimension to include thickness of ZIP System® R-Sheathing panel

It is the responsibility of the general contractor to ensure that fasteners used to install brick veneer anchors (ties) are of adequate length to satisfy the requirements of governing building codes.

To learn more about our ZIP system® R-sheathing call 1.800.933.9220 or visit ZIPsystem.com.