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Legacy report on the 1997 *Uniform Building Code*™

DIVISION: 09—FINISHES
Section: 09250—Gypsum Board

FIBEROCK® BRAND SHEATHING AND FIBEROCK® BRAND PANELS—WATER RESISTANT

UNITED STATES GYPSUM COMPANY
125 SOUTH FRANKLIN STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606

1.0 SUBJECT

FIBEROCK® Brand Sheathing and Fiberock® Brand Panels—Water Resistant.

2.0 DESCRIPTION

2.1 General:

FIBEROCK® Brand Sheathing Panels are gypsum-based panels intended for use as exterior wall sheathing. FIBEROCK Brand Water Resistant Panels are gypsum-based panels intended for use as interior water-resistant backing board. Both panels can be used as thermal barriers for foam plastic insulation. The panels are manufactured from gypsum, cellulosic fibers and other additives, and are homogeneous, with the cellulose fiber dispersed evenly throughout the panel thickness.

The panels have a Class I flame-spread classification and a smoke-developed rating of 450 or less when tested in accordance with UBC Standard 8-1, and have a minimum thermal-barrier index of 15 when tested in accordance with UBC Standard 26-2.

2.2 Materials:

2.2.1 FIBEROCK Brand Sheathing: The sheathing panels are for use as exterior wall sheathing panels on walls, soffits or protected exterior ceilings. They have a water-resistance-treated core and a water-resistant coating on both faces. The panels meet the performance requirements of ASTM C 79-92. They are available in 1/2- and 5/8-inch (12.7 and 15.9 mm) thicknesses with square edges and in various widths and lengths. The 5/8-inch-thick (15.9 mm) panels comply with ASTM C 79 as Type X panels.

2.2.2 FIBEROCK Brand Panels—Water Resistant: The panels are for use as a water-resistant backing board that provides the base for application of ceramic or other tile on floors, interior walls and ceilings. The panels are coated on both faces with a proprietary coating and have a water-resistance-treated core. The panels meet the performance requirements of ASTM C 36-97 and ASTM C 630-92. They

are available in 1/2- and 5/8-inch (12.7 and 15.9 mm) thicknesses with tapered edges and in various widths and lengths. The 5/8-inch-thick (15.9 mm) panels comply with ASTM C 630 as Type X panels.

2.3 Installation:

2.3.1 General: The Sheathing Panels and Water Resistant Panels can be used as alternatives to gypsum sheathing boards and water-resistant gypsum backing boards, respectively, where specified in the UBC, in either combustible or noncombustible construction, on either vertical or horizontal assemblies. Both panel products can be used in fire-resistive construction as described in Section 2.4 of this report. Sheathing Panels can be used for racking shear resistance as described in Section 2.5. When installed on exterior walls, the Sheathing Panels must be covered with an approved exterior wall covering and approved weather-resistive barrier as required in Section 1402.1 of the UBC.

The panels must be installed as specified in the UBC for the applicable gypsum board type, except as noted in this report. Maximum ceiling framing spacing for 1/2-inch-thick (12.7 mm) FIBEROCK Brand Panels—Water Resistant, when used as a base for tile in wet areas, is 16 inches (406 mm) on center. Maximum framing spacing for all other FIBEROCK panel applications is 24 inches (605 mm) on center. The panels may be applied either parallel or perpendicular to framing. Nails attaching the panels to wood framing must be spaced a maximum of 8 inches (203 mm) on center on walls, 7 inches (178 mm) on center on interior ceilings and 6 inches (152 mm) on center on exterior soffits and ceilings. Minimum No. 6 screws are permitted to have a maximum spacing of 16 inches (406 mm) on center for FIBEROCK Brand Panels—Water Resistant, applied to wall framing spaced a maximum of 16 inches (406 mm) on center. For all other FIBEROCK panel applications, minimum No. 6 screws are permitted to have a maximum spacing of 12 inches (305 mm) on center, when attached to wood or steel framing. Screws must penetrate into wood framing not less than 3/4 inch (19.1 mm) and through metal framing not less than 3/8 inch (9.5 mm).

2.4 Fire-resistive Construction:

The FIBEROCK panels can be used as an alternative to gypsum panels specified in Tables 7-B or 7-C of the UBC, on either wood framing, steel framing, or furred-out masonry. Allowable axial bearing loads on wood studs cannot exceed a design stress of 0.78 F_c , with the maximum not greater than 78 percent of the calculated stress with studs having a slenderness ratio, l/d , of 33, in accordance with Chapter 23, Division III, of the UBC.

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2.5 Racking Shear Resistance:

The FIBEROCK panels can be used as an alternative to gypsum sheathing boards and gypsum wallboard of the same thickness described in Table 25-1 of the UBC for wood-framed wall construction.

2.6 Identification:

Each FIBEROCK panel is marked on the back of the panel with the United States Gypsum Company name, the product name, the thickness, the evaluation report number (ICBO ES ER-5578), and the name of the quality control agency (Underwriters Laboratories Inc.).

3.0 EVIDENCE SUBMITTED

Data in accordance with the ICBO ES Acceptance Criteria for Nonpaper-faced Fiber-reinforced Gypsum Panels Used as an Alternate to Gypsum Board (AC158), dated October 1999.

4.0 FINDINGS

That the FIBEROCK panels described in this report comply with the 1997 *Uniform Building Code*[™], subject to the following conditions:

- 4.1 The panels are manufactured, identified and installed in accordance with this report and the manufacturer's instructions.**
- 4.2 Use of the panels in fire-resistive construction is limited to the assemblies described in Section 2.4 of this report.**
- 4.3 Use of the panels for shear resistance is as described in Section 2.5 of this report.**
- 4.4 The panels are manufactured in Gypsum, Ohio, under a quality control program with inspections by Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (AA-668).**

This report is subject to re-examination in one year.