



ThermalStar® Interior Use

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ThermalStar sheathing products (X-Grade, EIFS, GX Series, LCI) are expanded polystyrene products approved for many applications on walls above and below grade, on commercial or residential applications.

Where foamed plastics are used in construction, the general requirement in the model codes is for the insulation to be separated from the interior space by a thermal barrier, such as ½" gypsum. The model codes provide a pathway for approval of foam plastics to be installed in various applications without a thermal or ignition barrier. ThermalStar products have been tested to comply with these requirements.

One pathway in the model codes requires foam plastics exposed to the interior of attics or crawlspaces to be protected by an approved ignition barrier (6 are listed in the codes) or demonstrate comparable resistance to fire without the ignition barrier. The testing and approval criteria for meeting the fire resistance is published in ICC-ES AC12, Appendix B. ThermalStar EPS products are shown in UL Report ULEX.R16529-01 (available online) as passing AC12 App B up to 4" thick installation in attics or crawlspaces with no ignition barrier required. Thickness approved is dependent on density of the product.

Foam plastics tested on walls or ceiling in the following tests are deemed acceptable without a thermal barrier if they pass the requirements set forth in the interior finishes section of the model codes: UL1715, NFPA286, UL1040, and FM4880 full scale interior burn tests. ThermalStar EPS products are shown in UL Report ULEX.R16529-01 (available online) as passing NFPA286 on walls and ceilings up to 4" thick installation with no thermal barrier required. Thickness approved is dependent on density of the product.

Evaluation agencies have technical accreditations which allow review of test reports and extension to various assemblies. ICC-ES is one such agency, as is UL, Intertek, QAI, IAPMO, NTA, and DRJ. Atlas EPS uses UL to compile all flame resistance testing per the model codes into a convenient evaluation report, backed by 3rd party product listing as well by UL. Check the most recent publication of ULEX.R16529-01 for complete details on approved exposed use of Atlas EPS products.

APPLICATION OF THERMALSTAR PRODUCTS TO INTERIOR OF BUILDINGS IS LIMITED TO THOSE LISTED IN ULEX.R16529. USES AS EXPOSED INSULATION IN LARGE OCCUPANCY STRUCTURES SUCH AS MOVIE THEATRES, CONCERT HALLS, RESTAURANTS, NIGHT CLUBS, OR AUDITORIUMS ARE NOT APPROVED APPLICATIONS FOR THERMALSTAR EPS PRODUCTS.

This bulletin is current as of the date above.

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