



EmpireBlock Three-Part Specification

07 42 43

Composite Wall Panels

Part I - General

1.1 SECTION INCLUDES:

- A. Exterior, panelized fiber cement cladding system and accessories to complete a drained and back-ventilated rainscreen.
- B. Interior fiber cement panelized cladding system and accessories.

1.2 RELATED SECTIONS

- A. Section 05 41 00 - Structural Metal Stud Framing
- B. Section 06 10 00 - Rough Carpentry
- C. Section 06 16 00 - Sheathing
- D. Section 07 20 00 - Thermal Protection
- E. Section 07 25 00 - Weather Barriers
- F. Section 07 60 00 - Flashing and Sheet Metal
- G. Section 07 90 00 - Joint Protection

1.3 REFERENCES

- A. American Architectural Manufacturers Association (AAMA):
 - 1. AAMA 509-14 – Voluntary Test and Classification Method of Drained and Back Ventilated Rain Screen Wall Cladding Systems
- B. ASTM International (ASTM):
 - 1. ASTM C 518 - Standard Test Method for Steady-State Thermal Transmission Properties by Means of the Heat Flow Meter Apparatus.
 - 2. ASTM C 1185 - Standard Test Methods for Sampling and Testing Non-Asbestos Fiber Cement.
 - a. ASTM C 1186 – Standard Specification for Flat Fiber-Cement Sheets.
 - 3. ASTM E-84 - Standard Test for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials.
 - 4. ASTM E 119 - Standard Test Methods for Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials.
 - 5. ASTM E 228 - Standard Test Method for Linear Thermal Expansion of Solid Materials with a Vitreous Silica Dilatometer.

- 6. ASTM E 330 - Standard Test Method for Structural Performance of Exterior Windows, Curtain Walls, and Doors by Uniform Static Air Pressure Difference.
- 7. ASTM E 331 - Standard Test Method for Water Penetration of Exterior Windows, Curtain Walls, and Doors by Uniform Static Air Pressure Difference.
- C. Florida Building Code - Test Protocol HVHZ
 - 1. Testing Application Standard (TAS) 202, 203 – HVHZ Test Procedures
- D. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA):
 - 1. NFPA 285 - Fire Test Method for Exterior Wall Assemblies Containing Combustible Material.
 - 2. NFPA 268 – Ignition Resistance of Exterior Wall Assemblies.
- E. Standards Council of Canada & Underwriters Laboratories Canada (ULC):
 - 1. CAN/ULC S-102 – Standard Method of Test for Surface Burning Characteristics.
 - 2. CAN/ULC S-134 – Standard Method of Fire Test of Exterior Wall Assembly.

1.4 SUBMITTALS

- A. Submit under provisions of Section 01 33 00.
- B. Product Data: Submit manufacturer's product description, storage and handling requirements, and installation instructions.
- C. Product Test Reports and Code Compliance: Documents demonstrating product compliance with local building code, such as test reports or Evaluation Reports from qualified, independent testing agencies.
- D. LEED Credits: Provide documentation of LEED Credits for project certification under USGBC LEED 2009 (Version 3.0) or 2012 v.4.
- E. Manufacturer's Details: Submit drawings (.dwg, .rvt, and/or .pdf formats), including plans, sections, showing installation details that demonstrate product dimensions, edge/termination conditions/treatments, compression and control joints, corners, openings, and penetrations.
- F. Samples: Submit samples of each product type proposed for use.

1.5 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A. Manufacturer Qualifications:
 - 1. All fiber cement panels specified in this section must be supplied by a manufacturer with a minimum of 10 years of experience in fabricating and supplying fiber cement cladding systems.
 - a. Products covered under this section are to be manufactured in an ISO 9001 certified facility.

2. Provide technical and design support as needed regarding installation requirements and warranty compliance provisions.

B. Installer Qualifications: All products listed in this section are to be installed by a single installer trained by manufacturer or representative.

C. Mock-Up Wall: Provide a mock-up wall as evaluation tool for product and installation workmanship.

D. Pre-Installation Meetings: Prior to beginning installation, conduct conference to verify and discuss substrate conditions, manufacturer's installation instructions and warranty requirements, and project requirements.

1.6 DELIVERY, STORAGE, AND HANDLING

A. Panels must be stored flat and kept dry before installation. A waterproof cover over panels and accessories should be used at all times prior to installation. Do not stack pallets more than two high. Refer to the information included on each pallet.

B. If panels are exposed to water or water vapor prior to installation, allow to completely dry before installing. Failure to do so may result in panel shrinkage at ship lap joints, and such action may void warranty.

C. Panels MUST be carried on edge. Do not carry or lift panels flat. Improper handling may cause cracking or panel damage.

D. Direct contact between the panels and the ground should be avoided at all times. It is necessary to keep panels clean during installation process.

1.7 WARRANTY

A. Provide manufacturer's 15-year warranty against manufactured defects in fiber cement panels. Additional 5-year extension available when refinished in year 14-15.

B. Provide manufacturer's 15-year warranty against manufactured defects in panel finish.

C. Warranty provides for the original purchaser. See warranty for detailed information on terms, conditions and limitations.

PART II: PRODUCTS

2.1 MANUFACTURERS

A. Acceptable Manufacturer: Nichiha Corporation, 18-19 Nishiki 2-chome Naka-ku, Nagoya, Aichi 460-8610, Japan.

B. Acceptable Manufacturer's Representative: Nichiha USA, Inc., 6465 E. Johns Crossing, Suite 250, Johns Creek, GA 30097. Toll free: 1.866.424.4421, Office: 770.805.9466, Fax: 770.805.9467, www.nichiha.com.

1. Basis of Design Product: Nichiha EmpireBlock.

- a. Profile color: EmpireBlock.
- b. Profile: Smooth concrete finish with two rows of 1-1/4" diameter dimples spaced every 1' 10-1/16" lengthwise, 11-1/2" in the height dimension.
- c. Accessory/Component Options:
 - i. Manufactured Corners with 3-1/2" returns.
 - ii. Aluminum trim options: Corner Key, Open Outside Corner, H-Mold, J-Mold, Compression Joint, Inside Corner
 - 1. Finish: Clear Anodized or Primed.
 - iii. Essential Flashing System: Starter, Overhang.
 - 1. Finish: Matte black.
- d. Dimensions - AWP-3030: 455mm (17-7/8") (h) x 3,030 mm (119-5/16") (l).
- e. Panel Thickness: 16 mm (5/8").
- f. Finish: Matte, lightly textured.
- g. Weight: 57.32 lbs. per panel.
- h. Coverage: 14.81 sq. ft. per panel.
- i. Factory sealed on six [6] sides.

C. Substitutions: Not permitted.

D. Requests for substitutions will be considered in accordance with provisions of Section 01 60 00.

2.2 MATERIALS

- A. Fiber cement panels manufactured from a pressed, stamped, and autoclaved mix of Portland cement, fly ash, silica, recycled rejects, and wood fiber bundles.
- B. Panel surface pre-finished and machine applied.
- C. Panels profiled along 3030mm edges so that the long joints between the installed panels are ship-lapped.
- D. Factory-applied sealant gasket added to top panel edge; all 3030mm edge joints contain a factory sealant.

2.3 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS:

- A. Fiber Cement Cladding – Must comply with ASTM C-1186, Type A, Grade II requirements:

1. Wet Flexural Strength: Result: 1418 psi, Lower Limit: 1015 psi.
2. Water Tightness: No water droplets observed on any specimen.
3. Freeze-thaw: No damage or defects observed.
4. Warm Water: No evidence of cracking, delamination, swelling, or other defects observed.
5. Heat-Rain: No crazing, cracking, or other deleterious effects, surface or joint changes observed in any specimen.

B. Mean Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion (ASTM E-228): Max 1.0×10^{-5} in./in. F.

C. Surface Burning (CAN-ULC S102/ASTM E-84): Flame Spread: 0, Smoke Developed: 0.

D. Wind Load (ASTM E-330): Contact manufacturer for ultimate test pressure data corresponding to framing type, dimensions, fastener type, and attachment clips. Project engineer(s) must determine Zone 4 and 5 design pressures based on project specifics.

1. Minimum lateral deflection: $L/120$.

E. Water Penetration (ASTM E-331): No water leakage observed into wall cavity.

F. Steady-State Heat Flux and Thermal Transmission Properties Test (ASTM C-518): 16mm thick panel thermal resistance R Value of 0.47.

G. Fire Resistant (ASTM E-119): The wall assembly must successfully endure 60-minute fire exposure without developing excessive unexposed surface temperature or allowing flaming on the unexposed side of the assembly.

H. Ignition Resistance (NFPA 268): No sustained flaming of panels, assembly when subjected to a minimum radiant heat flux of $12.5 \text{ kW/m}^2 \pm 5\%$ in the presence of a pilot ignition source for a 20-minute period.

I. Fire Propagation (NFPA 285): Wall assembly of Nichiha AWP, Ultimate Clips and Starter Track, Tyvek Commercial Wrap, $\frac{1}{2}$ " Densglass Gold Sheathing, 16" o.c. 18 gauge steel studs, mineral wool in-cavity insulation, and interior $\frac{5}{8}$ " Type X gypsum met the acceptance criteria of NFPA 285.

J. Fire Propagation (CAN/ULC S-134): Wall assembly of Nichiha AWP, Ultimate Clips and Starter Track, Tyvek Housewrap, $\frac{5}{8}$ " FRT plywood, 16" o.c. 2x wood studs, fiberglass in-cavity insulation, and interior $\frac{5}{8}$ " Type X gypsum met the acceptance criteria of CAN/ULC S-134.

K. Drained and Back Ventilated Rainscreen (AAMA 509-14): System classifications: W1, V1

L. Florida Building Code - Test Protocol HVHZ (TAS 202, 203): Horizontal Application Design Pressure: 95 psf, Vertical Application Design Pressure: 85 psf.

2.4 INSTALLATION COMPONENTS

A. Ultimate Clip System:

1. Starter Track:
 - a. Horizontal Panel Installations - FA 700 – 3,030mm (l) galvalume coated steel.
 - b. Vertical Panel Installations (AWP-3030 only) – FA 710T – 3,030mm (l) galvalume.
2. Panel Clips: JEL 778 “Ultimate Clip II” (10mm rainscreen for 16mm AWP) – Zinc-Aluminum-Magnesium alloy coated steel.
 - a. Joint Tab Attachments (included) – used at all AWP-1818 panel to panel vertical joints – NOT used with AWP-3030 installations.
3. Corner Clips: JE 777C (10mm rainscreen for 5/8” AWP Manufactured Corners) -- Zinc-Aluminum-Magnesium alloy coated steel.
4. Single Flange Sealant Backer – FHK 1015 R (10mm) – 6.5’ (l) fluorine coated galvalume.
5. Double Flange Sealant Backer – FH 1015 R (10mm) – 10’ (l) fluorine coated galvalume.
6. Corrugated Spacer – FS 1005 (5mm), FS 1010 (10mm) – 4’ (l).

B. Aluminum Trim (optional): Paint primed trim as specified in finish schedule.

C. Essential Flashing System (optional):

1. Starter – main segments (3,030mm), inside corners, outside corners
2. Overhang – main segments (3,030mm), inside corners, outside corners, joint clips

D. Fasteners: Corrosion resistant fasteners, such as hot-dipped galvanized screws appropriate to local building codes and practices must be used. Use Stainless Steel fasteners in high humidity and high-moisture regions. Panel manufacturer is not liable for corrosion resistance of fasteners. Do not use aluminum fasteners, staples or fasteners that are not rated or designed for intended use. See manufacturer’s instructions for appropriate fasteners for construction method used.

E. Flashing: Flash all areas specified in manufacturer’s instructions. Do not use raw aluminum flashing. Flashing must be galvanized, anodized, or PVC coated.

F. Sealant: Sealant shall comply with ASTM C920, Class 35.

PART III: EXECUTION

3.1 EXAMINATION

A. Verification of Conditions:

1. Fiber cement panels can be installed over braced wood, steel studs and sheathing including plywood, OSB, plastic foam (1" or less) or fiberboard sheathing. Fiber cement panels can also be installed over Structural Insulated Panels (SIP's), Concrete Masonry Units (CMU's) and Concrete Block Structures (CBS's) with furring strips, and Pre-Engineered Metal Construction. Insulated Concrete Forms (ICFs) require added measures. Consult with Nichiha Technical Services.
2. Allowable stud spacing: 16" o.c. maximum.
3. A weather resistive barrier is required when installing fiber cement panels. Use an approved weather resistive barrier (WRB) as defined by the 2015 IBC or IRC. Refer to local building codes.
4. Appropriate metal flashing should be used to prevent moisture penetration around all doors, windows, wall bottoms, material transitions and penetrations. Refer to local building codes for best practices.

B. Examine site to ensure substrate conditions are within alignment tolerances for proper installation.

C. Do not begin installation until unacceptable conditions have been corrected.

D. Do not install panels or components that appear to be damaged or defective. Do not install wet panels.

3.2 TOLERANCE

A. Wall surface plane must be plumb and level within +/- ¼ inch in 20 feet in any direction.

1. One layer of Nichiha 5mm (~3/16") Spacer may be used as shim.

3.3 INSTALLATION

A. General: Install products in accordance with the latest installation guidelines of the manufacturer and all applicable building codes and other laws, rules, regulations and ordinances. Review all manufacturer installation, maintenance instructions, and other applicable documents before installation.

1. Consult with your local dealer or Nichiha Technical Department before installing any Nichiha fiber cement product on a building higher than 45 feet or three stories or for conditions not matching prescribed standard installation guide requirements and

methods. A **Technical Design Review (TDR)** process is available to evaluate project feasibility.

2. **Vertical Control/Expansion Joints** are required at each AWP-3030 vertical joint, or H-Mold trim may be used instead.

3. **Horizontal/Compression Joints** are required for multi-story installations of AWP. Locate joints at floor lines. Joints are flashed minimum ½" breaks. Do not caulk. Refer to installation guide(s).

A. Wood framed buildings of three or more floors require a compression joint at each floor.

B. Steel framed buildings (including reinforced concrete core with LGMF exterior walls) of more than three floors (or 45 feet) require a compression joint every 25 feet at a floor line.

B. Panel Cutting

1. Always cut fiber cement panels outside or in a well ventilated area. Do not cut the products in an enclosed area.

2. Always wear safety glasses and NIOSH/OSHA approved respirator whenever cutting, drilling, sawing, sanding or abrading the products. Refer to manufacturer SDS for more information.

3. Use a dust-reducing circular saw with a diamond-tipped or carbide-tipped blade.

a. Recommended circular saw: Makita 7-1/4" Circular Saw with Dust Collector (#5057KB).

b. Recommended blade: Tenryu Board-Pro Plus PCD Blade (#BP-18505).

c. Shears (electric or pneumatic) or jig saw can be used for complicated cuttings, such as service openings, curves, radii and scrollwork.

4. **Silica Dust Warning:** Fiber cement products may contain some amounts of crystalline silica, a naturally occurring, potentially hazardous mineral when airborne in dust form. Consult product SDS or visit

<https://www.osha.gov/dsg/topics/silicacrystalline/>.

5. Immediately clean dust from cut panels as it may bind to the finish.

3.4 CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

A. Review manufacturer guidelines for detailed care instructions.