

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Key Detail Considerations for Insulated Stucco Systems

CONTINUOUS INSULATION (CI)

Construction trends, changes in building codes and standards are driving the increased use and thickness of continuous insulation (CI). Common CI thicknesses are typically 1 ½" or more which can create new challenges for detailing the building envelope.

KEY DETAIL CONSIDERATIONS

As common with many claddings, the use of CI has been limited and regional. Typical stucco thickness ranges from 3/8" to 7/8". With CI added at a thickness of 1" or less, CI stucco systems (stucco + CI) are approximately 1 ½".

Generally stucco claddings terminate into accessories with grounds that match the combined thickness of the stucco and CI (if used). Examples include openings (window, door, etc.), terminations of walls, and transitions to other materials or claddings. When adding CI, factors such as interfaces, CI thickness and type of construction should be considered.

NON COMBUSTIBLE CONSTRUCTION

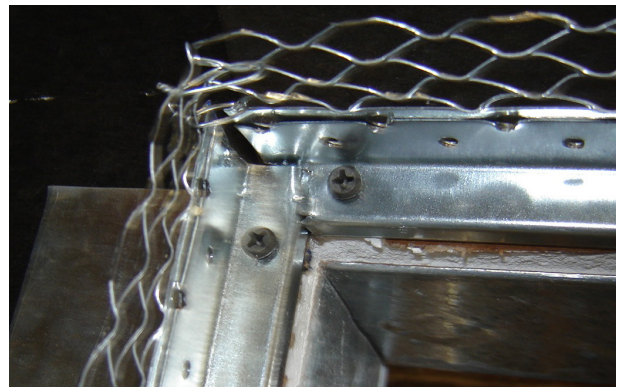
Exterior wall assemblies, such as CI stucco, that incorporate foam plastic insulation (e.g., EPS, XPS, Neopor® GPS Plus) in the assembly must comply with NFPA 285 (see IBC section 2603.5), if the project is required to be non-combustible. This is the case with buildings classified as Type I, II, III, or IV construction. CI stucco assemblies may need to incorporate alternative detail/termination techniques to demonstrate NFPA 285 compliance.

WALL GEOMETRY

Adding CI to a stucco system will increase its thickness and change the typical wall geometry or plane. Due to performance needs and since grounds for trim accessories are generally only commercially available up to 1 ½", there may be a need to consider alternative CI enclosure or encapsulation. One option available is CI Weep Track. The following images demonstrate a typical application sequence of CI stucco incorporating CI Weep Track that encloses/encapsulates the CI.



Typical CI Weep Track at Opening



CI Weep Track Prior to CI Installation



Typical CI Insulation



Typical Return at Opening



Typical Opening/Return after Trim Accessory and Plaster Base Application



Typical Return



Typical Opening/Return after Stucco Application