

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Water-Resistive Barrier Requirements for Cement Plaster Stucco on Framed Construction in the 2006, 2009 & 2012 IBC and IRC

The basic water-resistive barrier requirements prescribed in the International Building Code and the International Residential Code are described below. Local building code requirements may differ due to local amendments to these codes or other code versions in use.

WATER-RESISTIVE BARRIER REQUIREMENTS FOR STUCCOBASE OR ASTM C926 STUCCO (FIELD MIX) ARE:

- **Non-wood based sheathing** - a minimum of 1 layer of No.15 asphalt felt, complying with ASTM D226 for Type 1 felt or other approved material.
- **Wood based sheathing** - a water-resistive vapor permeable barrier with a performance at least equivalent to 2 layers of Grade D paper. The code includes an exception for water-resistive barriers over wood based sheathing. It states: "Exception: where the water-resistive barrier that is applied over wood based sheathing has a water resistance equal to or greater than that of 60 minute Grade D paper and is separated from the stucco by an intervening, substantially non-water absorbing layer or drainage space."

Alternative water-resistive barriers that may be used include polymeric water-resistive barriers such as Tyvek® StuccoWrap and acceptable equals that comply with and are recognized by local building codes as meeting the requirements listed above. Please refer to specific manufacturers for verification of their products' compliance with applicable codes. Senershield®-R/-RS fluid-applied water-resistive barrier may be used, provided a slip sheet (building paper or other separation layer) or paper-backed lath is applied over the Senershield-R.

Note: Senershield-R/-RS are tested per ASTM E2178 Air Permeance of Building Materials and may be used as part of an air barrier system.