



PUBLISHED: April 2025
REVISED: February 2026
EXPIRATION: February 2029

PRODUCT: Allura® Backer, Allura® Backer with TripleBlock™, Allura Backer® LD, Allura® Backer LD with TripleBlock™

REPORT HOLDER: Plycem USA LLC

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CSI DIVISION: 09 00 00 - Finishes

CSI SECTION: 09 28 13 – Cementitious Backing Boards
09 30 00 – Tiling

APPLICABLE CODES: 2024, 2021, 2018 International Building Code (IBC)
2024, 2021, 2018 International Residential Code (IRC)

EVALUATED: Physical Properties
Surface-Burning Characteristics
Mold Resistance
Mortar Shear Bond



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CODE EVALUATION REPORT

1.0 APPROVED FOR FOLLOWING:

APPROVED TYPES OF CONSTRUCTION:	Types I-VAB
APPROVED USE:	Backing boards for internal wet and dry areas
APPROVED INSTALLATIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Base for wall tile in tub/shower areas • Wall and Ceiling panels in tub/shower areas. • Backing board for any wet area • Base for floors and countertops

2.0 DESCRIPTION:

2.1 General:

Allura® Backer products, including Allura® Backer, Allura® Backer LD, Allura® Backer with TripleBlock™ and Allura® Backer LD with TripleBlock™, are nominal ¼-inch (6.4mm) or ½-inch (12.7mm) thick fiber-cement backer boards complying as Grade I per ASTM C1288. Allura® Backer products comply with the 2024/2021/2018 IBC Sections 2509.2 and 2024/2021/2018 IRC Sections R503, R602 and R702.4.2 for use as a fiber-cement backer board as tileable base for wall, floor and ceiling installations including wet areas defined in 2024/2021/2018 IBC Section 1210 when installed in accordance with this report. The Allura® Backer products are available in the sizes and densities as outlined in Table 1 of this report.

Allura® Backer products are approved for use with modified dry-set mortar and Type 1 Organic adhesives. Allura® Backer products are not intended as interior finish in areas defined as wet per Section 2509.1 of the 2024/2021/2018 IBC. Installation in wet area applications requires finishing with materials of smooth, hard nonabsorbent surface. Allura® Backer with TripleBlock™ and Allura® Backer LD with TripleBlock™ are classified as resistant to fungi growth when evaluated in accordance with ASTM G21.

Allura® Backer products as outlined in Table 1 have a flame spread index of 0 and a smoke developed index of 5 or less in accordance with ASTM E84 meeting Class A requirements.

Table 1. Allura® Backer with Triple Block™ Backer Product Options

PRODUCTS	THICKNESS		WIDTH		LENGTH	
	inches	mm	ft	mm	ft	mm
Allura® Backer (Standard Density)	0.25	6.4	3	914	5	1524
			4	1219	8	2438
	0.42	10.7	3	914	5	1542
			4	1219	8	2438
Allura® Backer with TripleBlock™ (Standard Density)	0.25	6.4	3	914	5	1524
			4	1219	8	2438
	0.42	10.7	3	914	5	1542
			4	1219	8	2438
Allura® Backer LD (Low Density)	0.42	10.7	3	914	5	1542
			4	1219	8	2438
Allura® Backer LD with TripleBlock™ (Low Density)	0.42	10.7	3	914	5	1542
			4	1219	8	2438



3.0 DESIGN:

Allura® Backer products do not require design when used as a non-load bearing interior substrate for application of tile and decorative finish, or when used as backerboard. Fasteners when used for support of interior decorum, furniture and cabinetry are to penetrate the underlying wall framing and not rely on Allura® Backer products as the anchorage substrate.

4.0 INSTALLATIONS:

4.1 General:

Installation of Allura® Backer products must comply with the manufacturer's published installation instructions, this report, and the applicable code(s). Where differences are found, this report and the applicable building code shall be followed.

4.1.1 Special Inspection:

Use of Allura® Backer fiber-cement backer boards do not require special inspection.

4.2 General Applications:

Allura® Backer products are to be installed with a minimum of 1-¼-inch (31mm) length roofing nail or a No. 8 screw. If using ½-inch (38mm) Allura® Backer products use a minimum of 1-½-inch (38mm) length roofing nail or a No. 8 screw. For vertical installations, fasteners shall be installed at 8-inches (203mm) on center to studs around the perimeter and in the field. For horizontal installations into subfloor or plywood, fasteners shall be installed at 8-inches (203mm) on center over the entire surface. Ceiling applications require 6-inch (152mm) on center with a No. 8 screw with a minimum length of 1-½-inch (38mm) long. Fasteners are to be a minimum of ¾-inches (9.5mm) from the edge and 2-inches (51mm) from the corner.

5.0 LIMITATIONS:

- Allura® Backer products are not approved as a tileable substrate for use with ANSI 118.1 non-modified dry-set mortars.
- Allura® Backer products for use in exterior areas exposed to weather or left exposed in areas defined as wet per Section 2509.1 of the 2024/2021/2018 IBC are outside the scope of this report.
- Allura® Backer and Allura® Backer LD have not been evaluated for mold resistance.
- Allura® Backer products are manufactured in White City, OR, Nuevo Laredo, Mexico and Santa Clara, Mexico with inspections by QAI Laboratories.

6.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION:

The following data has been submitted for evaluation of Allura® Backer products:

- Data outlining Allura® Backer with TripleBlock™ compliance for surface burning characteristics evaluated to ASTM E84.
- Data outlining Allura® Backer compliance for surface burning characteristics evaluated to ASTM E84.
- Data outlining Allura® Backer LD compliance for surface burning characteristics evaluated to ASTM E84.
- Data outlining Allura® Backer products compliance with ASTM C1288, Grade I, for use as backer board and interior finish applications.
- Data evaluating Allura® Backer with TripleBlock™ for fungi resistance in accordance with ASTM G21.
- Data evaluating Allura® Backer LD with TripleBlock™ for fungi resistance in accordance with ASTM G21.
- Data evaluating Allura® Backer products for Modified Dry-Set Mortar and Type 1 Organic Adhesives shear bond.

7.0 MARKING:

An example of Allura® Backer finished product label is outlined in Figure 1 below (other labels similar):



Figure 1. Allura® Backer Finished Product Label Example



CODE EVALUATION REPORT

Allura® Backer Products
CERus-1052
Revision: February 2026
Expiration: February 2029
Page 4 of 4

8.0 ELIGIBILITY OF REPORT

QAI's Code Evaluation Report complies with the 2024 IBC Section 104.2.3.6 for *Alternative materials, design and methods construction*. QAI's Code Evaluation Report complies with the 2021 / 2018 / 2015 IBC Section 104.11 *Alternative materials, design and methods of construction and equipment* subsection 104.11.1 *Research Reports*. Supporting data has been evaluated by QAI for compliance of the noted materials and assemblies to the applicable code by QAI, and *approved* source as detailed below.

The attached report has been reviewed by a QAI Registered Professional Engineer approved by the specific state Board of Professional Engineers noted on the specific P.E. seal(s).

Per section 1703 of the IBC, QAI is an independent third-party testing, inspection and certification agency accredited by the International Accreditation Service, Inc. (IAS) for this specific scope (see IAS PCA-118). QAI can confirm that based on its IAS accreditation it meets IBC Section 1703.1 on Independence, Section 1703.1.2 on Equipment and Section 1703.1 on Personnel.

This Evaluation report has been designed to meet the performance requirements of IBC Section 1703.4 and contains the required information to show the product, material or assembly meets the applicable code requirements.

The product is labeled per section IBC 1703 and subject to follow-up inspection per IBC 1703.6 using QAI IAS accredited ISO/IEC 17020 inspection program (see IAS AA-723).

For more information regarding QAI Laboratories, please visit www.qai.org.



The above is an example of the QAI registered Listing mark. The Listing mark may only be used by the Report Holder per the QAI service agreement on products defined in this report. The 'us' indicator in the 8 o'clock position indicates the product complies with the properties evaluated with limitations outlined in this report for use in the US market. A 'c' indicator in the 4 o'clock position indicates the product has been evaluated for use in the Canadian market.

