

Product Evaluation

EC16 | 0625

Engineering Services Program

The following product has been evaluated for compliance with the wind loads specified in the International Residential Code (IRC) and the International Building Code (IBC).

This product evaluation is not an endorsement of this product or a recommendation that this product be used. The Texas Department of Insurance has not authorized the use of any information contained in the product evaluation for advertising, or other commercial or promotional purpose.

This product evaluation is intended for use by those individuals who are following the design wind load criteria in Chapter 3 of the IRC and Section 1609 of the IBC. The design loads determined for the building or structure shall not exceed the design load rating specified for the products shown in the limitations section of this product evaluation. This product evaluation does not relieve a Texas licensed engineer of his responsibilities as outlined in the Texas Insurance Code, the Texas Administrative Code, and the Texas Engineering Practice Act.

For more information, contact TDI Engineering Services Program at (800) 248-6032.

Evaluation ID: EC-16

Effective Date: June 1, 2025

Re-evaluation Date: June 2029

Product Name: Allura® Fiber Cement Siding Products

Manufacturer: PLYCEM USA LLC
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Houston, TX 77067
(844) 525-5872

Distributed under the brand name Allura will be acceptable for use in designated catastrophe areas along the Texas Gulf Coast when installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions and this product evaluation.

Product Description:

The fiber cement exterior cladding products evaluated in this report are cellulose fiber reinforced cement siding boards comprised of cellulose fiber that is mixed with water, Portland cement, silica, and proprietary additives. The cellulose fiber cement mixture is formed into sheets and then cut to master size. A smooth or embossed pattern is pressed into the masters before they are sent to the final autoclaving process. After the autoclaving process, the masters are cut to product sizes. A primer coating is applied to the siding, and at the customer's request, a finish paint coating may be applied to the siding.

All siding must be clearly labeled with the manufacturer's name, plant of production and/or trademark.

The following fiber cement siding products have been accepted:

Lap Siding is nominal 5/16" thick. The siding is available in 5-1/4", 6-1/4", 7-1/4", 8-1/4", 9-1/4", and 12" wide profiles. The siding is 12' in length. The following profiles and textures are available: cedar lap siding with a textured surface; and smooth lap siding.

Shapes Siding is nominal 5/16" thick. The siding panels are 16" wide and 48" long and are available in 4 different configurations: Random Square Straight Edge, Random Square Staggered Edge, Half-Rounds and Octagons with a textured surface.

Vertical Siding is nominal 5/16" thick. The siding is available in 48" x 96", 108" and 120" wide profiles. The following profiles and textures are available: smooth panel, stucco texture panel, cedar panel no grooves, cedar panel with 3/8" grooves.

Soffit is nominal 1/4" thick. 8' long panels are available in 4' widths. 12' long panels are available in 12", 16" and 24" widths. The panels may be perforated or smooth.

Installation Instructions

General Installation Requirements:

Fasteners must be corrosion resistant as required by the IRC and the IBC.

If non-structural sheathing is installed between the siding and the wall studs, then the length of the fastener must be increased by the thickness of the non-structural sheathing.

Fiber cement siding must not be used to resist lateral loads.

Wind Resistant Assemblies:

Table 1: Lap Siding, 12" in width or less Face Fastened						
Assembly Number	Allowable Design Pressure (psf)	Fastening Method	Fastener Type	Min. Framing Type	Max. Framing Spacing	Min. Sheathing
(1) [12F/W/16]	-40	Face Fastened through Overlap	Min. 2-1/2" galvanized roofing nails, 0.092" shank diameter, 0.222" head diameter	2 x 4 SPF	16" o.c.	5/8" gypsum
Installation (Face Fastened Lap Siding): Wall bracing must be installed as required. A water resistive barrier must be applied to the wall studs prior to siding installation. Vertical joints shall occur over wall framing. The siding must be applied with a minimum 1-1/4" overlap. Position the fasteners 3/4" from the bottom edge of the siding in order to penetrate both courses. Fasten 3/8" from butt ends.						

Table 2A: Lap Siding, 9-1/4" in width or less
Face Fastened

Assembly Number	Allowable Design Pressure (psf)	Fastening Method	Fastener Type	Min. Framing Type	Max. Framing Spacing	Min. Sheathing
(2) [9.25F/W/16]	-68	Face fastened to framing	7d galvanized siding nails (2-1/2" long, nominal 0.095" shank diameter, 0.235" head diameter)	2 x 4 SPF	16" o.c.	N/A
Installation (Face Fastened Lap Siding): Wall bracing must be installed as required. A water resistive barrier must be applied to the wall studs prior to siding installation. Vertical joints shall occur over wall framing. The siding must be applied with a minimum 1-1/4" overlap. Position the fasteners 3/4" from the bottom edge of the siding in order to penetrate both courses. Fasten 3/8" from butt ends.						

Table 2B: Lap Siding, 9-1/4" in width or less
Blind Fastened

Assembly Number	Allowable Design Pressure (psf)	Fastening Method	Fastener Type	Min. Framing Type	Max. Framing Spacing	Min. Sheathing
(3) [9.25B/W/16]	-40	Blind fastened to framing	6d galvanized roofing nails (2" long, 0.120 shank diameter, 3/8" diameter head)	2 x 4 SPF	16" o.c.	N/A
(4) [9.25B/S/16]	-32	Blind fastened to framing	Min. #8 x 1-5/8" long self-tapping, corrosion resistant screws with a 3/8" diameter wafer head	Min. 16-gauge 3.625" x 1.375" steel C-stud	16" o.c.	N/A
Installation (Blind Fastened Lap Siding): Wall bracing must be installed as required. A water resistive barrier must be applied to the wall studs prior to siding installation. Vertical joints must occur over wall framing. The siding must be applied with a minimum 1-1/4" overlap. Position the fasteners 1" from the top edge of the siding. Fasten not less than 3/8" from butt ends. For installation over minimum 20-gauge steel wall studs, a minimum of 1/2" thick gypsum shall be applied on the interior surface.						

Table 3A: Lap Siding, 8-1/4" in width or less Face Fastened

Assembly Number	Allowable Design Pressure (psf)	Fastening Method	Fastener Type	Min. Framing Type	Max. Framing Spacing	Min. Sheathing
(5) [8.25F/S/24]	-55	Face Fastened through Overlap	#8-18 x 0.390" head diameter x 2" wafer head screw	Min. 20-gauge 3.625" x 1.375" steel C-stud	24" o.c.	5/8" gypsum

Installation (Face Fastened Lap Siding): Wall bracing must be installed as required. A water resistive barrier must be applied to the wall studs prior to siding installation. Vertical joints must occur over wall framing. The siding must be applied with a minimum 1-1/4" overlap. Position the fasteners 3/4" from the bottom edge of the siding in order to penetrate both courses. Fasten 3/8" from butt ends.

Table 3B: Lap Siding, 8-1/4" in width or less Blind Fastened

Assembly Number	Allowable Design Pressure (psf)	Fastening Method	Fastener Type	Min. Framing Type	Max. Framing Spacing	Min. Sheathing
(6) [8.25F/16]	-30	Blind Fastened to Wood Furring	#10-13 x 0.450" HD x 2" Type "A" pancake head screw	Minimum 18-gauge steel studs; Minimum 18-gauge horizontal Z-girts @ 24" o.c. secured to studs with #10 x 1" self-drilling screws; 1x4 furring 16" o.c attached to Z-girts with #10x2" self-drilling screws	16" o.c.	N/A
(7) [8.25B/F/24]	-28	Blind Fastened Furring	#10-13 x 0.450" HD x 2" Type "A" pancake head screw	Minimum 18-gauge steel studs; Minimum 18-gauge horizontal Z-girts @ 24" o.c. secured to studs with #10 x 1" self-drilling screws; 1x4 furring 24" o.c attached to Z-girts with #10x2" self-drilling screws	16" o.c.	N/A
(8) [8.25B/S/16]	-29	Blind Fastened to Framing	#10-13 x 0.450" HD x 2" Type "A" pancake head screw	Min. 20-gauge 3.625" x 1.375" steel C-stud	16" o.c.	5/8" gypsum

Installation (Blind Fastened Lap Siding): Wall bracing must be installed as required. A water resistive barrier must be applied to the wall studs prior to siding installation. Vertical joints must occur over wall framing. The siding must be applied with a minimum 1-1/4" overlap. Position the fasteners 1" from the top edge of the siding. Fasten not less than 3/8" from butt ends. For installation over minimum 20-gauge steel wall studs, a minimum of 1/2" thick gypsum must be applied on the interior surface.

Table 4A: Lap Siding, 7-1/4" in width or less Face Fastened						
Assembly Number	Allowable Design Pressure (psf)	Fastening Method	Fastener Type	Min. Framing Type	Max. Framing Spacing	Min. Sheathing
(9) [7.25F/S/24]	-50	Face Fastened through Overlap	#8-18 x .390" head diameter x 2-1/4" wafer head screw	Min. 20-gauge 3.625" x 1.375" steel C-stud	24" o.c.	5/8" gypsum and 1/2" rigid insulation
Installation (Face Fastened Lap Siding): Wall bracing must be installed as required. A water resistive barrier must be applied to the wall studs prior to siding installation. Vertical joints must occur over wall framing. The siding must be applied with a minimum 1-1/4" overlap. Position the fasteners 3/4" from the bottom edge of the siding in order to penetrate both courses. Fasten 3/8" from butt ends.						

Table 4B: Lap Siding, 7-1/4 inches in width or less Blind Fastened						
Assembly Number	Allowable Design Pressure (psf)	Fastening Method	Fastener Type	Min. Framing Type	Max. Framing Spacing	Min. Sheathing
(10) [7.25B/S/16]	-36	Blind Fastened to Framing	#10-16 x 0.450" HD x 2" Type "A" pancake head screw	Min. 20-gauge 3.625" x 1.375" steel C-stud	16" o.c.	5/8" gypsum
(11) [7.25B/S/24]	-32	Blind Fastened to Framing	#10-16 x 0.450" HD x 2" Type "A" pancake head screw	Min. 20-gauge 3.625" x 1.375" steel C-stud	24" o.c.	5/8" gypsum
(12) [7.25B/W/16]	-57	Blind Fastened at 8" o.c.	0.120" x 0.375" head diameter x 1-3/4" galvanized ring shank roofing nail	2 x 4 SPF	16" o.c.	15/32" SPF Plywood
(13) [7.25B/W/16]	-71	Blind Fastened at 8" o.c.	#10-13 x 0.450 HD x 1-1/2" pancake head screw	2 x 4 SPF	16" o.c.	15/32" SPF Plywood
Installation (Blind Fastened Lap Siding): Wall bracing must be installed as required. A water resistive barrier must be applied to the wall studs prior to siding installation. Vertical joints must occur over wall framing. The siding must be applied with a minimum 1-1/4" overlap. Position the fasteners 1" from the top edge of the siding. Fasten not less than 3/8" from butt ends. For installation over minimum 20-gauge steel wall studs, a minimum of 1/2" thick gypsum must be applied on the interior surface.						

Table 5: Lap Siding, 6-1/4" in width or less Blind Fastened

Assembly Number	Allowable Design Pressure (psf)	Fastening Method	Fastener Type	Min. Framing Type	Max. Framing Spacing	Min. Sheathing
(14) [6.25B/S/24]	-40	Blind Fastened to Framing	#10-16 x 0.450" HD x 2" Type "A" pancake head screw	Min. 20-gauge 3.625" x 1.375" steel C-stud	24" o.c.	5/8" gypsum
(15) [6.25B/S/16]	-58	Blind Fastened to Framing	#10-16 x 0.450" HD x 2" Type "A" pancake head screw	Min. 20-gauge 3.625" x 1.375" steel C-stud	16" o.c.	5/8" gypsum

Installation (Blind Fastened Lap Siding): Wall bracing must be installed as required. A water resistive barrier must be applied to the wall studs prior to siding installation. Vertical joints must occur over wall framing. The siding must be applied with a minimum 1-1/4" overlap. Position the fasteners 1" from the top edge of the siding. Fasten not less than 3/8" from butt ends. For installation over minimum 20-gauge steel wall studs, a minimum of 1/2" thick gypsum must be applied on the interior surface.

Table 6: Shapes Siding Blind Fastened

Assembly Number	Allowable Design Pressure (psf)	Fastening Method	Fastener Type	Min. Framing Type	Max. Framing Spacing	Min. Sheathing
(16) [SB/W/16]	-89	Blind fastened to sheathing	6d galvanized, ring shank nails	2 x 4 SPF	16" o.c.	5/8" OSB
(17) [SB/S/16]	-50	Blind fastened to sheathing	#9 x 0.40 head diameter x 2-1/4" ribbed wafer head screw	Min. 20-gauge 3.625" x 1.375" steel C-stud	16" o.c.	7/16" OSB

Installation (Blind Fastened Shapes Siding): A water resistive barrier must be applied to the wall sheathing prior to siding installation. Refer to the manufacturer's installation instructions for installation requirements. Shapes siding has different requirements for fastener placement and overlapping.

Table 7: Smooth Vertical Siding 4' x 8'

Assembly Number	Design Pressure (psf)	Fastening Method	Fastener Type	Min. Framing Type	Max. Framing Spacing	Min. Sheathing
(20) [VPB/PLY/16]	-60	Fastened to Sheathing at 6" o.c.	#8 x 0.40" HD x 1-5/8" ribbed wafer head screws	Min. 20-gauge 3.625" x 1.375" steel C-stud	16" o.c.	15/32" SPF Plywood
(21) [VPB/SGP/24]	-33	Fastened through Polyiso and Sheathing at 6" o.c.	#9 x 0.40" HD x 2-1/4" ribbed wafer head screws	Min. 20-gauge 3.625" x 1.375" steel C-stud	24" o.c.	5/8" Gypsum & 1/2" Polyiso
(22) [VPB/SP/24]	-29	Fastened through Sheathing at 6" o.c.	#9 x 0.40" HD x 2-1/4" ribbed wafer head screws	Min. 20-gauge 3.625" x 1.375" steel C-stud	24" o.c.	1/2" Polyiso
(23) [VPT/SH/24]	-47	Siding fastened to easytrim @ 12" o.c. to horizontal 20-ga hat channel spaced 16" o.c.	#10-16 x 0.450" HD x 2" Type "A" pancake head screw	Min. 20-gauge 3.625" x 1.375" steel C-stud	24" o.c.	5/8" Gypsum
(24) [VP/WOSB/16]	-42	Fastened to Z-Girt using Commercial Fastening Pattern A	#12-11 x 0.450" HD x 1" pancake head screw	2 x 4 SPF	16" o.c.	7/16" OSB w/ 2" Z-Girts
(25) [VPT/WOSB/16]	-42	Fastened to framing at 6" o.c.	0.120" x 0.375" head diameter x 1-3/4" galvanized roofing nail	2 x 4 SPF	16" o.c.	7/16" OSB

Installation (Vertical Siding): Panels must be installed with framing spacing between 12" to 24" o.c. and a minimum 7/16" OSB, 1/2" plywood, or other sheathing. Fasten the siding at all stud locations. Do not fasten closer than 2" from the corners in either direction. Place fasteners no closer than 3/8" from edge. Space fasteners a max of 6" o.c. on all edges and 12" o.c. at intermediate framing members. Paint all field-cut edges. Butt all vertical panel joints together. Do not caulk vertical joints unless covering vertical joint with trim batten.

Table 8: Soffit, 24 inches in width or less

Assembly Number	Design Pressure (psf)	Fastening Method	Fastener Type	Min. Framing Type	Max. Framing Spacing	Min. Sheathing
(26) [S/S/16]	-70	Fastened 4" o.c. at perimeter and intermediate wall	#8 x 1-1/4" length x 0.315 head diameter ribbed bugle head screw	Min. 20-gauge 3.625" x 1.375" steel C-stud	16" o.c.	N/A
(27) [S/W/16]	-70	Fastened 4" o.c. at perimeter and intermediate wall	6d x 2" galvanized common nail	2 x 4 SPF	16" o.c.	N/A

Installation (Soffit): The soffit must be fastened 3/4" from the side edge, 3/8" from the butt end, and 2" from the corner. Butt ends should be in contact, fastened at corresponding ends, and supported by framing. Cut edges must be primed or painted prior to soffit installation.

Note: Keep the manufacturer's installation instructions available on the job site during the installation. Use corrosion resistant fasteners as specified in the IRC and the IBC.