
SUBJECT: EXPOSURE TO SOLVENTS

Content Premier SIPS are commonly used as a structural component because they provide both insulation and structure in a single component. Premier SIPS are manufactured with Exposure I rated structural Oriented Strand Board (OSB) facings and a rigid insulation core (Expanded Polystyrene - EPS). The rigid insulation core provides the structural connection between the OSB facings and must be protected for the life of the structure from exposure to solvents that may damage the rigid insulation core.

Solvents: The rigid insulation core may be attacked and damaged by some solvents and/or their vapors. The installation of roof coverings, wall covering, or other materials attached to Premier SIPS must be done with water based and /or low VOC materials, as materials containing solvents could lead to damage of the Premier SIPS rigid insulation core.

In addition, temporary roof, wall, or floor coverings must be breathable to ensure that any damaging solvent vapors present in the construction of the Premier SIPS structure are able to breathe quickly through the temporary covering materials. For example, the use of clear polyethylene (not breathable) applied over asphalt paper may lead to the trapping of solvents that could damage the SIP structure.

Note: The use of water based and/or low VOC adhesives, sealants, coatings, cleaning solutions, etc. help to meet the ever growing need to eliminate solvent based VOC emitting materials used in construction. The selection and use of water based and/or low VOC materials also furthers building practices that improve air quality performance in buildings. Premier SIPS supports these important initiatives by obtaining Clean Air Certification for its SIP assembly and SIP sealant.