



BUILDING CONFIDENCE

TECH TIP

Building Code Requirements for Wood Structural Panels

When building with plywood or oriented strand board, the panels shall meet the requirements of the building code(s) enforced in your jurisdiction. For the U.S. the 2006 International Residential Code (IRC) is adopted at the state or local level in 48 states plus Washington DC and U.S. Virgin Islands and the 2006 International Building Code (IBC) is adopted at the state or local level in 50 states plus Washington, D.C.

Both the IBC and IRC require wood structural panels such as plywood and OSB, when used for structural purposes, to conform to U.S. Department of Commerce Voluntary Product Standards, PS 1, *Structural Plywood* (DOC PS 1), or PS 2, *Performance Standard for Wood-Based Structural-Use Panels* (DOC PS 2), and to be identified by the mark of an approved testing and grading agency. These requirements can be found in Chapter 23, Section 2303 of the 2006 IBC and Chapter 5, Section R503; Chapter 6, Section R604; and Chapter 8, Section R803 of the 2006 IRC. Architects, engineers and designers are advised to specify panels by grade or span rating in accordance with DOC PS 1 or PS 2.

TECO maintains accreditations as an inspection, testing, and certification agency. Copies of our accreditation certificates as a recognized Inspection Agency (AA-654) and Test Laboratory (TL-207 & TL-306) can be downloaded from the IAS website at www.iasonline.org, or contact TECO. A copy of our accreditation certificate as a recognized Certification Agency can be downloaded from the SCC website at www.scc.ca, or contact TECO.