

Product Information Bulletin

International Residential Code 2009

Section R613, Structural Insulated Panel Wall Construction

The use of structural insulated panels (SIPs) in residential construction applications is recognized in **Section R613, STRUCTURAL INSULATED PANEL WALL CONSTRUCTION**, of the 2009 International Residential Code[®]. When SIPs are used within the restrictions of Section R613 of the 2009 IRC for wall applications, project drawings, typical details and specifications are not required to bear the seal of the architect or engineer responsible for design, unless otherwise required by the state law of the jurisdiction having authority.

Section R613 addresses construction of exterior SIP walls and interior load-bearing structural insulated panel walls for buildings not greater than 60 feet (18,288 mm) in length perpendicular to the joist or truss span and not greater than 40 feet (10,973 mm) in width parallel to the joist span or truss. The provisions of R613 restrict the use of SIPs to wall applications for buildings not greater than two stories in height with each story not greater than 10 feet (3048 mm) high.

All exterior walls installed in accordance with the provisions of section R613 are considered as load-bearing walls. SIP walls constructed in accordance with section R613 are limited to sites subjected to maximum design wind speed of 130 miles per hour, Exposure A, B or C, maximum ground snow load of 70 pounds per foot (3.35 kN/m²), and Seismic Zones A, B, and C.

The scope of the IRC provision was established based upon a test program conducted by APA, The Engineered Wood Association.

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