



Technical Tip

What is the PS2 Performance Category?

AdvanTech and ZIP System panels satisfy the provisions of U.S. Department of Commerce Voluntary Product Standard 2 (PS2) *Performance Standard for Wood-Based Structural-Use Panels* as specified in ICC-ES ESR-1785, ESR-1473 and ESR-1474.

Up until 2008, structural panel thickness was determined and labeled by only the panel's nominal thickness, which was subject to a range tolerance specified in the PS2. The thickness tolerances were applicable during panel manufacturing or at a standard dry condition since panel thickness can naturally change due to variations in moisture conditions. Packaging and labeling regulations adopted by some state and local laws now specify that labeling of panel dimensions must comply with standards developed by the National Conference on Weights and Measures. These regulations require labeling that is not compatible with the thickness tolerances specified in PS2, therefore a new "Performance Category" was developed. The Performance Category for panel thickness is reflected in the latest edition of the performance standard, PS2-10, and appears in the grade-stamp on all PS2 panels. The Performance Category determines the panel thickness range according to the nominal panel thickness designations used in the International Building Code and the International Residential Code. For labeling purposes, abbreviations PERF CAT, CAT, or Category are permitted.

A tolerance of plus or minus 1/32 in. (for English basis) or 0.8 mm (for metric basis) is allowed on the trademark-specified Performance Category of 13/16 in. (20.5 mm) and less. Panels with Performance Categories greater than 13/16 in. allow a tolerance of plus or minus 5% of the panel thickness. The panel thickness shall adhere to the following Table.

| Panel Thickness Requirements* | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Performance Category | Minimum Thickness, in. (mm) | Maximum Thickness, in. (mm) |
| 7/16 PERF CAT | .406 (10.32) | .469 (11.91) |
| 1/2 PERF CAT | .469 (11.91) | .531 (13.49) |
| 5/8 PERF CAT | .594 (15.08) | .656 (16.67) |
| 19/32 PERF CAT | .563 (14.29) | .625 (15.88) |
| 23/32 PERF CAT | .688 (17.46) | .75 (19.05) |
| 7/8 PERF CAT | .831 (21.11) | .919 (23.34) |
| 1 PERF CAT | .950 (24.13) | 1.05 (26.67) |
| 1-1/8" PERF CAT | 1.069 (27.15) | 1.181 (30.00) |

*PS2-10, Table 1

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