POWERPANEL H_2O

INSTALLATION GUIDELINES FOR WET AREAS AND SWIMMING POOLS

fermacell®

POWERPANEL H_2O INSTALLATION

- Powerpanel H_2O can be fixed to Fermacell steel or treated timber sub-structures. For Steel studs a fixing face of 50 mm and 0.6 mm gauge is recommended. For Timber studs a minimum fixing face of 38 mm wide CLS timber may be used.
- Support centres. Nominally at maximum 600 mm for walls and maximum 500 mm for ceilings. This can be designed specifically to individual project performance requirements. Ensure maximum deflection of L/360 for supporting structures.
- Fixing Methods
  - i. Powerpanel screws for steel and timber studs –
    - a) Walls – Maximum 250 mm centres
    - b) Ceilings – Maximum 200 mm centres
  - ii. Proprietary Staples for timber studs
    - a) Walls – Maximum 200 mm
    - b) Ceilings – Maximum 150 mm
- Jointing. Boards should be jointed with Fermacell Jointstik. For double layer systems only the outer layer needs to be jointed. All joints should be tight butt joints. All joints must be reinforced with a Fibre tape. For swiming pool areas the tape must be Alkali resistant.
- Vertical Joints should be supported over studs.
- Horizontal joints should be supported or backed by a support section (e.g. timber noggins or 70 mm wide galvanised steel flat strap) or by an inner layer of board (i.e. double layered system).
- Ceiling boards should be supported fully around the perimeter and at all joints.
- Movement Joints are required at maximum 8m intervals for walls and ceilings.

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Ref: 123/456

- Horizontal Joints must be offset by a minimum of 400 mm.
- Joints between layers must be offset by a minimum of 200mm.
- Install at an ambient temperature of 5°C minimum.
- Internal corners may be jointed with a bitumastic mastic or silicone. Ensure the internal jointing material is fire rated as required.

CUTTING POWERPANEL H_2O

Use a proprietary Tungsten tipped circular saw with a guide, or a hand saw.
Wear appropriate PPE. COSHH details are available on request.

FINISHING POWERPANEL H_2O

Wet and Splashback areas

- Apply 1 coat of Fermacell primer to the whole board surface, and allow to dry for 2 hours.
- Apply 1 coat of Fermacell Waterproofing agent to internal corners, followed by Fermacell flexible sealing tape. Once this has dried then apply 2 more coats of Fermacell Waterproofing application to the corner, overlapping the edge of the flexible tape by 50 mm.

Tiled Areas

- Fix as described above. Prime and tile as per manufacturers instructions. If required reduce stud centres to 400 mm or less to accommodate larger and heavier tiles.
- For wall linings reduce stud centres to 400 mm and tie back for additional support as required.

Painted Areas

- Ensure Joints are reinforced with a fibre tape. Apply Powerpanel surface finish to the whole of the board in 2 mm layers to required thickness. Allow each layer to dry fully before application of additional layer. The maximum recommended thickness for Powerpanel surface finish is 10 mm.
- The drying time for Powerpanel Surface Finish is 1 mm/day.

Rendered Areas

- Apply render to manufacturers recommendations.

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Swimming Pool Areas

- Swimming pools areas are subject to higher levels of corrosion due to the chemicals used, and so steel studs and steel ceiling profiles will require additional protection to Corrosion Level C4 as a minimum. Some applications may require a greater level of corrosion resistance up to level C5.

- If required a Vapour Barrier should also be used between swimming pools and adjacent dry areas. This should be fitted over the stud prior to fitting the board.

- All joints should be taped as per manufacturers recommendations with an alkali resitant firbre tape. Any holes must be filled.

- Cold Bridging can be an issue in these areas. The use of timber studs will reduce this issue considerably. With steel studs a thermal isolating strip should be placed over the face of the studs prior to fitting the Powerpanel H_2O boards. Typical materials are a 3 mm x 50 mm wide closed cell polyurethane foam strip. In all cases we advise a thermal calcualtion is carried out to confirm performace.

- All corners should be treated as per the guidelines above for the wet and splashback areas using the Fermacell Waterproofing system. This consists of a Primer Sealer, Waterproofing Application, Flexible Corner Tape and Pipe Penetration Patches.

- Where greater additional or more robust protection is required, then the waterproofing application should be applied to the full surface area of the Powerpanel H_2O.

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