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RESEARCH REPORT: RR 26063
(CSI # 072500)

Expires: December 1, 2017
Issued Date: November 1, 2016
Code: 2014 LABC

GENERAL APPROVAL – Initial Approval – STYROFOAM™ brand PLAZAMATE™
Extruded Polystyrene Foam Insulation Boards, Density and Compressive Resistance.

DETAILS

STYROFOAM™ brand PLAZAMATE™ insulation boards are extruded polystyrene foam plastic complying with ASTM C578. PLAZAMATE™ boards are 2 ft. wide x 8 ft. long with nominal thicknesses of 1.5 to 3 inches. The insulation boards are manufactured at a minimum density of 1.80 pcf and a minimum compressive strength of 60 psi.

Vertical compression is measured at 10% deformation or at yield, whichever occurs first. Adequate design safety factors shall be considered to prevent long-term creep.

STYROFOAM™ brand PLAZAMATE™ insulation boards may be used as lightweight structural fill in floor cavities when installation is in accordance with conditions of approval referenced below.

The insulation boards described above are approved subject to the following conditions:

1. STYROFOAM™ brand PLAZAMATE™ insulation boards must be separated from the building interior with a minimum 1-inch-thick layer of concrete or masonry on all faces as required by Los Angeles Building Code Section 2603.4.1.1, except in buildings of Type V construction where separation may be by a minimum nominally ½-inch-thick wood structural panel when installation is in accordance with Los Angeles Building Code Section 2603.4.1.14. Where the thermal barrier consists of a minimum 1-inch-thick layer of concrete or masonry, the thickness of the insulation boards may exceed 4 inches.
2. The design of the concrete or masonry covering is outside the scope of this general approval and must comply with all applicable code requirements for the occupancy and type of construction for the specific project.
3. The design loads to be resisted by the STYROFOAM™ brand PLAZAMATE™ polystyrene foam plastic insulation boards must be determined in accordance with the Los Angeles Building Code. The compressive resistance of the insulation boards at 10% deformation is listed in detail section above, as determined in accordance with ASTM D1621. The use of the insulation boards is limited to floor applications where the uniform and localized loading does not exceed the compressive resistance of the boards at 10% deformation.
4. Design calculations and details for the specific application verifying compliance with this general approval shall be submitted to the structural plan check section for review. The documents shall be prepared by an engineer or architect licensed in the state of California.
5. STYROFOAM™ brand PLAZAMATE™ insulation boards must be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's published installation instructions and the 2014 Los Angeles Building Code. The insulation boards may not be used structurally to resist loads except as provided for in this general approval.
6. When the insulation boards are used in a fire-resistance-rated floor assembly, penetrations through the assembly must be protected in accordance with Los Angeles Building Code Section 714.4.
7. Fabrication of STYROFOAM™ brand PLAZAMATE™ shall be in a shop of a fabricator licensed by the City of Los Angeles Building Department, in accordance with the manufacturing standards submitted to the Department.

The Dow Chemical Company
RE: STYROFOAM™ brand PLAZAMATE™ Insulation Boards

DISCUSSION

The report is in compliance with the 2014 Los Angeles City Building Code.

The approval was based on tests in compliance with ASTM D1621 – Standard Test Method for Compressive Properties of Rigid Cellular Plastics

Addressee to whom this Research Report is issued is responsible for providing copies of it, complete with any attachments indicated, to architects, engineers and builders using items approved herein in design or construction which must be approved by Department of Building and Safety Engineers and Inspectors.

This general approval of an equivalent alternate to the Code is only valid where an engineer and/or inspector of this Department has determined that all conditions of this approval have been met in the project in which it is to be used.

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