Technical Bulletin No. 001

Frequently Asked Questions

Question = BLACK
Answer = BLUE

BASIC INSTALLATION

1. **Can LP® SmartSide® siding be used on a curved wall?**
    a. No. Bending the siding puts stress on the paper overlay and would reduce the long-term performance of the siding.
    b. Siding products installed on curved walls are NOT covered under LP® SmartSide® or LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® Limited Warranty.

2. **Can LP® SmartSide® products be used as column cladding in a sloped application?**
    a. Yes. LP® SmartSide® and LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® Lap, Panel, Vertical Siding, Trim or Soffit may be used as column cladding in a sloped applications as allowed in the LP Non-Standard Application (NSA) Bulletin No. 5005. The slope of the column cladding must NOT exceed ten (10) degrees from vertical.
    b. The NSA is covered under a different Prorated 10-year Limited Warranty.
    c. All other aspects of the installation shall be consistent with the LP® SmartSide®, LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish®, or the LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® Accessory Products Application Instructions.

3. **What is the pattern repetition on LP® SmartSide® cedar texture siding products?**
    a. The products repeat the pattern every 62.8 inches (160 mm). Keep in mind that the texture starts differently on each press plate creating a more random installed appearance.

4. **Can LP® SmartSide® siding products be used in the interior of my home, and will the warranty remain in effect?**
    a. Using LP® SmartSide® siding products in an interior application are acceptable, and the Interior Use Limited Warranty in effect is for 90 days.
    b. Please review the Safety Date Sheet (SDS) before using indoors.

5. **How do I talk to an LP representative about siding installation questions?**
    a. Call LP Customer Service Line at 888-820-0325. They are available Monday thru Friday during regular business hours.

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6. **What is the LP® SmartGuard® process?**
    a. LP® SmartSide® siding products feature our exclusive SmartGuard® process.
    b. The SmartGuard® process offers four components of protection against termites and fungal decay:
        1. advanced formula of binders,
        2. waxes,
        3. zinc borate, and
        4. water-resistant resin-saturated paper overlay
    c. This process helps keep out moisture for long-term durability and strength against harsh weather.

7. **How does LP® SmartSide® protect against termite damage?**
    a. LP® SmartSide® siding products feature the SmartGuard® process which offers protection against termites with zinc borate.
    b. The LP® SmartSide® Limited Warranty covers termite damage which affects the structural integrity of the siding.
        1. This Limited Warranty does not cover or provide a remedy for minor surface grazing by termites which does not interfere with the Product's ability to perform as siding, soffit, or trim; except where a ZB resistance issue exists.

8. **Does LP® SmartSide® resist carpenter ants and bees the same way it does termites?**
    a. No. Carpenter ants and bees only excavate the wood to form galleries for a home. They bite off chunks of the wood, but do not eat it. They typically drop these bits of wood outside the hole they are digging. Since they don't eat the wood, they are not exposed to a high enough dose of the zinc borate (boric acid) to cause mortality.
    b. Carpenter ants also like wet and partially decayed wood because it is easier to excavate. LP's SmartGuard process offers protection to keep decay out, so if the structure is flashed, built well and moisture is kept out the ants should not be attracted to the wood.

9. **Are LP® SmartSide® siding products resistant to Woodpeckers?**
    a. LP® SmartSide® trim and siding are not desirable to insects that woodpeckers use as a food source.

10. **Does ivy growing on LP® SmartSide® siding pose any possible problems?**
    a. Yes. Avoid growing ivy on engineered wood siding. Siding with seams are vulnerable to penetration by ivy roots which can cause damage, both as the ivy is growing and when it is pulled off. Ivy can easily work its way between siding planks opening the joints. Ivy can increase the risk of rot, or harbor wood destroying insects and other pests.

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11. **What are the allowable maximum spans for LP® SmartSide® siding?**
    a. Most LP® SmartSide® siding is limited to 16 inches o.c. framing spans.
    b. 76 Series lap siding and 190 Series panel siding may be installed on framing spans up to 24 inches (610 mm) o.c. when attached directly to studs.
    c. There are exceptions for siding attached directly to wood structural panel wall sheathing. Consult LP® SmartSide® Application Instructions, PR-N124, and ESR-1301 for more information.

12. **Can LP® SmartSide® siding products be installed over foam plastic sheathing (rigid foam insulation) 1 inch thick or less?**
    a. Yes. Siding may be installed directly over foam plastic sheathing.
    b. A properly installed WRB is required behind siding, unless exempt by local building code.
    c. Increase nail length to ensure a min. 1-1/2 inch (38 mm) penetration into studs, or combination of studs and WSP sheathing, or WSP sheathing only attachment.

13. **Can LP® SmartSide® siding products be installed over foam plastic sheathing (rigid foam insulation) greater than 1 inch thick?**
    a. Yes. Refer to IRC Chapter 7, Wall Covering for prescriptive siding attachments over foam plastic sheathing up to 4 inches (102 mm) thick, direct to wood or steel studs for support of siding weight only. Does NOT include wind loads.
        1. Refer to Table 703.15.1 for min. fastening requirements over foam plastic sheathing to wood studs.
        2. Refer to Table 703.16.1 for min. fastening requirements over foam plastic sheathing to steel studs.

14. **How do I install LP® SmartSide® lap siding over SIP assemblies?**
    a. Follow requirements in LP® SmartSide® application instructions for Alternative Fastening Options over SIP Assemblies.

15. **How do I install LP® SmartSide® panel siding over SIP assemblies?**
    a. Follow requirements in Table 5a and Table 5b of APA Product Report PR-N124 for fastening options over SIP Assemblies.

16. **How do I install LP® SmartSide® lap siding over ICF assemblies?**
    a. Follow requirements in LP® SmartSide® application instructions for Alternative Fastening Options over ICF Assemblies.

17. **How do I install LP® SmartSide® panel siding over ICF assemblies?**
    a. LP does NOT recommend LP® SmartSide® panel siding for use over ICF Assemblies. If used, LP will not warrant for Buckling and Shrinkage. However, the balance of Limited Warranty does remain intact.

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18. **Is house-wrap (water-resistive barrier) required behind LP® SmartSide® siding products?**
    a. A code-approved water-resistive barrier (WRB) is required behind siding, unless exempt by local building code. Although building codes generally exempt concrete masonry units (CMU) or poured concrete walls from WRB requirements, LP still requires a **non-compressible drainable housewrap** behind siding. See Technical Bulletin #031.
    b. Refer to the WRB manufacturer's installation instructions for proper use.
    c. LP assumes no liability for water penetration, or any other issues associated with the WRB.

19. **How is LP® SmartSide® siding different from OSB?**
    a. LP commodity OSB sheathing and LP® SmartSide® siding products both use geometrically controlled wood strands to provide strength and stiffness.
    b. LP® SmartSide® siding products are treated with the LP® SmartGuard® process.
    c. Every LP® SmartSide® siding product is treated to the core with an advanced formula of binders, waxes, and zinc borate before being bonded with a water-resistant, resin-saturated overlay. This process helps keep out moisture for long term durability and strength against harsh weather.

20. **Can LP® SmartSide® trim and siding be installed so it contacts the ground?**
    a. No. LP® SmartSide® products are designed for above-ground applications.

21. **Do I need special tools to work with LP® SmartSide® trim or siding products?**
    a. No. LP® SmartSide® trim and siding products can be installed using common woodworking tools.

22. **Can LP® SmartSide® siding be installed with J-Channel windows or doors that have channels designed to receive vinyl siding?**
    a. Yes. See LP Technical Note #058 for details.

23. **Why has the thickness of LP® SmartSide® trim and siding products in the 2021 catalog increased?**
    a. The actual thickness of LP® SmartSide® products has not changed. The change in the 2021 catalog reflects a change in thickness labeling which is now consistent with industry standards outlined in Product Standard PS 2-18, Appendix D, Table 1.
    b. Previous "minimum thickness" labeling was based on the lowest potential thickness for individual pieces. The new "thickness" labeling now represents the lower tolerance of the products average thickness of any unit of material.

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LAP

24. Can LP® SmartSide® lap siding be installed vertically?

a. Yes. Refer to Alternate Fastening Options section in the LP® SmartSide® Lap Siding application Instructions for proper application information.
b. Lap siding installed vertically must be installed in a sheathing only attachment method over minimum 7/16 Category WSP sheathing with an APA Trademark that contains the consensus Standard DOC PS 2.

25. Why is it important to gap LP® SmartSide® lap siding at vertical joints?

a. LP® SmartSide® lap siding will expand in length naturally as its moisture level balances with the surrounding environment after it is installed. Providing a 3/16 inch (5 mm) gap at all vertical joints ensures the necessary room for any possible linear expansion.
b. When siding leaves the mill its moisture content is less than 5%.
c. After installation lap siding will need to acclimate to the moisture content in the geographic location it is installed.
d. Across the country equilibrium moisture content varies and can be many times the moisture content of the siding when it leaves the mill. The process of siding reaching a moisture level balance with the local environmental conditions causes the lap siding to slightly increase in length.
e. The moisture content of siding once it reaches equilibrium will vary but can range as high as 9% to 14%.

26. Can LP® SmartSide® siding be overlapped more than recommended 1 inch (25 mm)?

a. Yes. The specified overlap and nail placement down from the top of siding are a minimum requirement in LP® SmartSide® application instructions.
b. Remember, siding should not project beyond the thickness of the trim and increasing the overlapped may require a thicker trim.

27. Can LP® SmartSide® lap siding or LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® lap joint siding be ripped to create a smaller size?

a. Ripping lap siding to make narrower lap siding is NOT recommended, as it will leave the edge unprotected.
b. If the material is ripped, special care must be taken to seal unprotected edge.
    1. Sealing can be accomplished by applying paint according to the manufacturer's requirements.
    2. Field spray applied coatings on cuts are NOT recommended.
c. The siding will continue to be warranted under the LP® SmartSide® Limited Warranty or the LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® Limited Warranty, although any issue caused by ripping will not be LP's responsibility.

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28. **Can LP® SmartSide® lap siding butt joints be pan flashed, rather than caulked?**
    a. Butt joints can be pan flashed without caulk, sealant, or joint covers if the siding ends at the butt joint are factory prefinished.
    b. Field cut ends at butt joints must be caulked, regardless of field painting.
    c. All other aspects of the installation shall be consistent with the LP® SmartSide® Application Instructions.

29. **Can metal frame trim systems be used with SmartSide siding?**
    a. Yes. LP SmartSide siding products may be installed with metal frame trim systems according to LP Technical Note #015.
    b. Siding and metal frame trim system must be installed in a sheathing only attachment method over minimum 7/16 Category WSP sheathing with an APA Trademark that contains the consensus Standard DOC PS 2.

PANEL

30. **Why must I use the alignment bead on LP® SmartSide® grooved panel siding?**
    a. Using the alignment bead will help ensure that all the grooves on your LP® SmartSide® panel siding will appear to have the same width.
    b. Providing a 1/8 inch (3 mm) edge gap using the alignment bead ensures the necessary room for acclimation.

31. **Can LP® SmartSide® panel siding with shiplap edges, be installed horizontally or diagonally?**
    a. No. LP® SmartSide® panel siding with shiplap edges is designed to be installed parallel to the framing (vertical).
    b. Refer to the LP® SmartSide® panel siding application instructions.

32. **Can a window be installed over the exterior surface of LP® SmartSide® panel siding?**
    a. LP® SmartSide® panel siding Limited Warranty remedies will be honored when windows are installed per manufacturer's recommendations.

33. **When LP® SmartSide® panel siding is installed, is it ok to allow the 4 foot wide end (horizontal joint) to rest on the flashing?**
    a. No. A drainage space is required between the panel siding drip edge and the flashing.
    b. Refer to the LP® SmartSide® panel siding application instructions for proper installation details.

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VERTICAL SIDING

34. Can LP® SmartSide® Vertical Siding be fastened directly to the studs?

a. No. LP SmartSide vertical siding CANNOT be attached directly to studs, it must be installed in a sheathing only attachment method, over min. 7/16 Category WSP sheathing with an APA Trademark that contains consensus Standard DOC PS 2.
b. Refer to Alternate Fastening Options section in the LP Technical Note #028 for proper application information.

35. Are there any aesthetics concerns when using LP® SmartSide® 38 Series cedar texture panel siding 4'x 8' (1 219mm x 2 438 mm) with LP® SmartSide® 38 Series Vertical Siding 16"x 16' (406 mm x 4 877 mm)?

a. No. 38 Series cedar texture panel siding 4'x 8' (1 219mm x 2 438 mm) is made with the same cedar texture plate as the 38 Series Vertical Siding 16"x 16' (406 mm x 4 877 mm).

CEDAR SHAKES

36. How thick should trim be when installed with LP® SmartSide® cedar shakes?

a. Trim should be thick enough, so the LP® SmartSide® cedar shakes do not extend beyond the face of the trim.
b. If trim is installed abutting LP® SmartSide® cedar shakes, the 540 Series Trim is recommended. (Preferred method)
    1. Shake reveal range must be between a maximum of 10 inches (254 mm) and a minimum 7 inches (178 mm).
c. If trim is installed over LP® SmartSide® cedar shakes, a thinner 440 or 190 Series trim may be used. (Alternate method)

SOFFIT

37. Can LP® SmartSide® soffit be used for siding?

a. Maybe. LP makes one dual use cedar texture, no groove, square edge panel (PID Number 41044) that can be used as both soffit and siding.
b. All other soffit products are designed specifically for protected soffit applications, whereas siding is designed for a direct exposure to the weather.

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38. Does LP SmartSide vented soffit provide enough ventilation to satisfy the I-Codes?

a. LP® SmartSide® vented soffits are available in two different ventilation sizes:
   1. 5 square inches of ventilation for every 12 inches of length of soffit.
   2. 10 square inches of ventilation for every 12 inches of length of soffit.
b. The I-Codes require a min. net free open area of soffit ventilation be provided.
c. Information for soffit minimum net free ventilation area requirements can be found in the 2021 IRC Section R806.2, or 2021 IBC Section 1202.2.1, verify compliance with your local building code.

39. Do I have to apply screening to LP® SmartSide® vented soffit to comply with I-Code?

a. No. A screening is not required to be applied to the back of the LP® SmartSide® vented soffit.
b. LP® SmartSide® vented soffit has ventilation openings that are 1/8 inch (3 mm).
c. I-Codes require ventilation openings larger than 1/4 inch (6 mm) have screening.

40. Which LP® SmartSide® soffit products are rated to be used as roof sheathing?

a. LP® SmartSide® 76 Series and 190 Series, four foot wide soffits are approved to be used as roof sheathing in open soffit applications.
b. These panels must bear an APA **RATED SHEATHING - CEILING DECK** Trademark with Span Rating. Use within the limitations of the Span Rating.

41. If LP® SmartSide® vented soffit spokes are distorted, will they ever straighten?

a. The spokes within the soffit vents may distort slightly during equilibration with the local environment. This condition is temporary, and spokes should straighten.

TRIM

42. Can LP® SmartSide® trim be installed over the lap siding, rather than abutting it?

a. Yes. LP has an Alternate Outside and Inside Corner Detail that allows trim to be installed over the lap siding in our application instructions.
b. The Preferred Outside and Inside Corner Detail is to butt trim to lap siding.

43. Can LP® SmartSide® trim or fascia be miter cut at corners?

a. No. Do not miter trim ends or edges at corners. All joints must be gapped 3/16 inch (5 mm) to accommodate possible expansion during equilibration.
   1. Exception: 45-degree diagonal cuts or "picture framing" of trim ends around door and window opening is acceptable.

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44. Can LP® SmartSide® trim be used as fascia without a sub-fascia?

a. Yes. Trim may be installed as fascia, without sub-fascia if it is 440 Series or larger and the following specifications are met:
   1. Trim and fascia must be greater than 5 inches (127 mm) wide.
   2. Maximum roof truss or rafter spacing of 24 inches (610 mm) o.c.

45. Can LP® SmartSide® trim be ripped?

a. Ripping trim to make narrower trim is NOT recommended, as it will leave the edge unprotected.
b. If the material is ripped, special care must be taken to seal unprotected edge:
   1. Sealing can be accomplished by applying paint according to the manufacturer's requirements.
   2. Field spray applied coatings on cuts are NOT recommended.
c. The trim will continue to be warranted under the LP® SmartSide® Limited Warranty, although any issue caused by ripping will not be LP's responsibility.

46. Can LP® SmartSide® trim be installed over traditional 3 coat stucco?

a. No. LP® SmartSide® Trim application instructions require, "*TRIM MUST NOT BE IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH MASONRY, CONCRETE, BRICK, STONE, STUCCO, OR MORTAR*." Trim must be separated from the stucco and other masonry materials with an impervious flashing or air gap.

47. Can LP® SmartSide® Trim be installed over fiber cement siding?

a. Yes. LP® SmartSide® trim may be installed over fiber cement siding, if the siding does not affect the ability to correctly install the trim as detailed in LP® SmartSide® Trim application instructions.

48. Can LP® SmartSide® trim be installed over acrylic stucco?

a. Yes. Acrylic stucco, also known as synthetic stucco, is made from acrylic resins and/or polymers that basically resembles paint and is not made from Portland cement and lime like traditional stucco.
b. LP® SmartSide® Trim application instructions require, "*TRIM MUST NOT BE IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH MASONRY, CONCRETE, BRICK, STONE, STUCCO, OR MORTAR*." Acrylic stucco is not meant to be included in that list.

49. Can LP® SmartSide® lap siding or cedar shakes be installed using metal outside corner covers instead of trim?

a. Yes, metal covers are an acceptable outside corner detail that can be used with lap siding or cedar shakes.
b. Provide a 3/16 inch (5 mm) gap at the outside corner, prior to installing the metal corner cover.
c. Metal outside corner cover installation requirements shall be provided by the manufacturer.

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FASTENERS

50. Can LP® SmartSide® siding products be fastened directly to the studs?

a. Maybe. Most, but not all LP® SmartSide® siding products can be attached directly to studs without wall sheathing.
b. Some examples of LP® SmartSide® siding that CANNOT be attached directly to studs and must be attached directly to wood structural panel sheathing are:
    1. Vertical Siding.
    2. Lap Siding Installed Vertically.
    3. Siding and Metal Frame Trim Systems.

51. What type of corrosion resistant fastener is acceptable for use with LP® SmartSide® trim and siding products?

a. Wood Frame Construction: hot-dip galvanized (ASTM A153) or equivalent; capable of preventing rust, stain, and deterioration under normal outdoor environmental conditions for a period of no less than 50 years.
b. Steel Studs or Insulated Concrete Forms (ICF) Assemblies: stainless steel or equivalent fastener; capable of preventing rust, stain, and deterioration under normal outdoor environmental conditions for a period of no less than 50 years.
c. Concrete Masonry Unit (CMU) or Poured Concrete: corrosion resistant capable of preventing rust, stain, and deterioration under normal outdoor environmental conditions for a period of no less than 50 years.
d. The LP® SmartSide® application instructions include fastening specifications.
    1. For additional fastening details refer to APA Product Report PR-N124 or ICC Evaluation Report ESR-1301 for the minimum size and type, as well as the fastening schedule.

52. Can a finish nail be used to install LP® SmartSide® siding?

a. No. The I-Codes and LP® SmartSide® siding application instructions both require minimum attachment requirements that do not include finish or casing nails.

53. Can a finish nail be used to install LP® SmartSide® trim?

a. Maybe. Trim nails may be used in Non-Hurricane-Prone Regions or locations where negative wind loads are NOT a concern with the following cautions:
    1. Do not overdrive or counter sink fastener, nail flush with surface of trim.
    2. Trim nails shall be installed per length, placement, spacing and quantity requirements listed in LP® SmartSide® Trim application instructions.
b. Detachment of trim is not covered by the LP® SmartSide® Limited Warranty whether common, box, or trim nails are used.

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54. Must LP® SmartSide® lap and cedar shake siding be blind nailed?

a. LP® SmartSide® lap and cedar shake siding is recommended to be attached so that the fasteners are "blind-nailed" or hidden under the overlap course.
b. Face nailing is NOT recommended but required in some locations, for example:
    1. Face nailing is required below windows, at the top of wall to soffit intersection, below horizontal frieze boards, and below horizontal band boards, etc.
c. Face nailing is used in limited capacity to flatten buckling issues.
d. Technical Bulletin #017 specifies if the lap or cedar shake siding is face-nailed or the nail heads are exposed:
    1. The exposed nail heads must be sealed to prevent liquid moisture intrusion and water buildup.
    2. The nail heads must be regularly inspected to maintain the proper sealant protection over the nail heads.

PAINTING/FINISHING

55. Can traditional transparent or semi-transparent stain be used on LP® SmartSide® siding products?

a. No. These stains are typically low in solids and provide less protection from UV and other weathering effects.
b. Refer to the LP® SmartSide® trim and siding application instructions for proper finishing information.

56. Can solid stain be used on LP® SmartSide® siding products?

a. Yes. However, these stains are generally lower in solids, so increased maintenance may be required.
b. For best results use exterior-quality 100% acrylic paint, specially formulated for use on wood and engineered wood substrates.

57. Does LP have a repair procedure or recommendation for non-LP Prefinished trim or siding products?

a. Touch-up any damage to the finish of LP® SmartSide® trim or siding products per the Prefinishers specifications.

58. Is it beneficial to prime the back of the LP® SmartSide® trim or siding?

a. No. Back priming has proven to be useful to control tannin staining with some types of solid wood siding, trim, and some composite sidings.
b. LP® SmartSide® trim and siding products are designed to perform without back priming.

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59. Should we caulk at the horizontal overlap of LP® SmartSide® lap siding?

a. No. Refer to the LP® SmartSide® Lap Siding application instructions for proper installation techniques.

60. How much paint do I need to apply and how often do I need to repaint trim & siding?

a. Follow coating (paint) manufacturer's application and maintenance instructions.

61. How long before paint should be applied to LP® SmartSide® products after installation?

a. Apply finish coating (paint) as soon as possible or within 180 days of application.
b. Follow the coating manufacturer's application and maintenance instructions.

62. Do visible nail heads need to be caulked on LP® SmartSide® trim and siding products?

a. If nail heads are snug or flush, they do NOT need caulk.
b. If visible wood fiber, they do NOT need caulk, paint.
c. If countersunk (recessed) more than 1/16 inch, caulk.
    1. The answer above does not apply to LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® trim and siding products.

63. How can I remove labels/stickers that have accidently adhered to the surface of LP® SmartSide® trim and siding products?

a. Using a heat gun, warm up the label until it becomes loose on the surface and slowly remove. With a damp rag, remove any residual adhesive.
b. If using a heat gun is not an option; peel off the sticker by hand or with a plastic scrapper taking special care not to cut into or damage the cedar texture or brushed smooth surfaces. Lightly wipe adhesive residue using a rag and denatured alcohol. Do not excessively scrub surface as it may result in damage.

64. What is the requirement for priming and/or painting field cuts?

a. All wood substrate that is exposed to the weather must be sealed in a manner that prevents moisture intrusion and water accumulation:
    1. Seal ALL exposed cuts of siding and trim. Field spray applied coatings on cuts are NOT recommended.
    2. Sealing can be accomplished by applying a coating (paint) or sealant (caulk) according to their manufacturer's requirements.
    3. Butt joints that are covered with joint molding, sealant, or factory Prefinished end are considered sealed from the weather.

65. Can you paint the foil side of radiant barrier roof sheathing at open rafter tails?

a. No, traditional paint will not adhere long term to foil.
b. Painting the foil on LP® ProStruct® Roof Sheathing with SilverTech® at open rafter tails is NOT recommended.

66. What type of paint is used on LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® trim and siding products?

a. LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® is coated with a 100% acrylic exterior paint.

67. Does the back side of LP® SmartSide® fascia that hangs below the soffit, require paint?

a. No. The back side of the fascia is NOT required to be painted. This location is not considered directly exposed to the weather because it is under an overhang and protected from rain and snow.

1. For aesthetic reasons the owner of the structure may want to paint the back siding of the fascia that hangs below the soffit.

EXPERTFINISH

68. Does LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® Limited Warranty cover hail damage?

a. Refer to LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® Limited Warranty for complete hail damage coverage and exclusion details.

69. Does LP have a repair procedure recommendation for LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® trim and siding products?

a. Touch-up any damage to the finish of trim and siding products per the LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® application instructions.

70. What is the paint sheen of LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® trim and siding products?

a. LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® trim and siding products are coated with a paint that has a satin sheen.

71. Do visible nail heads need to be caulked on LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® trim and siding?

a. No. If nail heads are snug, flush, expose visible wood fiber, or are countersunk (recessed) more than 1/16 inch, recommend painting only.

PRODUCT CODES/STANDARDS

72. What is the fire rating for LP® SmartSide® siding products?

a. LP® SmartSide® siding is a Class C (III) rated product when tested according to ASTM E84. All LP® SmartSide® siding can be used in a 1-hour fire rated assembly when it is installed over 5/8 Type X gypsum, which is consistent with other siding types such as fiber cement siding.

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73. What is a Class C (III) rated siding product?

a. Class C (III) rated siding products meet a Flame Spread Index between 76-200 and a Smoke-Developed Index between 0-450.

74. What is a Flame Spread/Smoke-Developed Index?

a. In the 2021 IBC, Section 803.1.2 Interior wall and ceiling finish materials must be tested in accordance with ASTM E84 or UK 723 and will be classified as either a Class A, Class B, or Class C.

75. Can LP® SmartSide® siding be used in a one-hour fire-rated wall assembly?

a. Yes. LP® SmartSide® lap and panel siding can be used in 1-hour fire rated assemblies when it is installed over 5/8 Type X gypsum, which is consistent with other siding types such as fiber cement siding.

76. Are LP® SmartSide® trim and siding products "green"?

a. The green attributes built into LP trim and siding products today are recognized in green building certification programs around the country, most often in the "Materials & Resource Efficiency" section.
b. LP uses 100% SFI-certified wood, a renewable resource from small diameter, rapidly regenerating trees.
c. LP® SmartSide® trim and siding products are treated with environmentally friendly borates to resist termites and fungal decay.

77. Can LP® SmartSide® siding products be used in high wind areas?

a. Yes. Refer to the LP® SmartSide® APA Product Report PR-N124 or ICC Evaluation Report ESR-1301 for proper fasteners requirements.

78. Does LP® SmartSide® siding products comply with I-Code requirements?

a. Yes. LP® SmartSide® lap and panel siding are covered by APA Product Report PR-N124 and ICC Evaluation Report ESR-1301, both satisfy the requirements of the I-Codes.

79. Can LP® SmartSide® soffit comply with I-Code requirements?

a. Yes. LP® SmartSide® soffit are covered APA Product Report PR-N117 and satisfy the requirements of the I-Codes.

80. Why are LP® SmartSide® product approval reports important?

a. The reports are published by the International Code Council and demonstrate the safe use of the siding.
b. The code reports are useful to engineers, architects, and code officials to ensure siding is used within its design limits.

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81. **Is LP® SmartSide® lap and panel siding permitted for use in California's high fire hazard areas specified in Chapter 7A of the California Building Code?**
    a. LP® SmartSide® lap and panel siding can be used to comply with Chapter 7A, Section 707A.4 Exterior wall assemblies, #4 Wall assemblies that meet the performance criteria in accordance with the test procedures for a 10-minute direct flame contact exposure test set forth in SFM Standard 12-7A-1 when used in wall assembles described in:
        1. CalFire Listing BML #8140-2027:0001 for lap siding, and
        2. CalFire Listing BML #8140-2027:0002 for panel siding.

82. **Is LP® SmartSide® soffit permitted for use in California's high fire hazard areas specified in Chapter 7A of the California Building Code?**
    a. Using LP® SmartSide® soffit with one layer of 5/8 inch Type X gypsum sheathing applied behind the soffit complies with Chapter 7A, Section 707A.6 Enclosed roof eaves and roof eave soffits, option #5.

83. **Is LP® SmartSide® Vertical Siding permitted for use in California's Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Fire Area specified in Chapter 7A of the California Building Code?**
    a. No, LP® SmartSide® Vertical Siding does not have a Cal Fire Building Materials Listing.

84. **Is LP® SmartSide® Nickel Gap Siding permitted for use in California's Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Fire Area specified in Chapter 7A of the California Building Code?**
    a. No, LP® SmartSide® Nickel Gap Siding does not have a Cal Fire Building Materials Listing.

85. **Does LP® SmartSide® siding products meet a Class "A" rating?**
    a. No. LP® SmartSide® lap and panel siding do NOT meet this requirement.

86. **Does LP® SmartSide® siding products have a 1-hr fire resistance rating on the exterior?**
    a. No. LP® SmartSide® lap and panel siding do NOT meet this requirement.

87. **Are LP® SmartSide® siding products an ignition resistant material that comply with Section 503.2 of the International Wildland Urban Interface Code (IWUIC)?**
    a. No. LP® SmartSide® lap and panel siding do NOT meet this requirement.

88. **Does LP® SmartSide® panel siding comply with any of the International Wildland Urban Interface Code (IWUIC) requirements for ignition-resistant building materials?**
    a. LP® SmartSide® panel siding complies with IWUIC Class 3 requirements, but does NOT meet Class 1 or Class 2 requirements.

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89. Are LP® SmartSide® siding products hail resistant?

a. Hail Damage is covered in the LP SmartSide Limited Warranty for hail equal to 1.75 inches (45 mm) or less in diameter.
b. LP® SmartSide® siding products have been tested and qualified by an independent lab according to the acceptance criteria in AC321.
    1. A hard-body impact test is part of that acceptance criteria to represent hail stones, hammer blows, baseballs, or other impacts.

90. Do LP® SmartSide® siding products provide resistance to sound transmission through an exterior wall?

a. Yes. It will differ between lap and panel siding, and thickness is a factor.
b. APA-The Engineered Wood Association and the National Association of Home Builders provide techniques that can decrease the sound transmission through the wall assembly.

91. Are there places in the United States where I cannot use LP® SmartSide® siding?

a. No. LP has no geographic limitations on the use of LP SmartSide siding products in the United States, its territories, or Canada.
b. Always check your local building code for any special restrictions.

92. How do I know LP® SmartSide® siding products are permitted in my state, city, or town?

a. LP® SmartSide® siding products are widely recognized and accepted in North America. Always check with your local building official and local zoning ordinances for any special restrictions.
    1. Siding: Refer your building official to APA Product Report PR-N124 or ICC Evaluation Report ESR-1301.
    2. Soffits: Refer your building official to APA Product Report PR-N117.

93. Are LP® SmartSide® siding products compliant with TSCA Title VI?

a. Yes. LP® SmartSide® siding products are NOT subject to the TSCA Title VI regulation and are NOT included in the Act's labeling requirements for particleboard, medium density fiberboard (MDF), and hardwood (decorative) plywood.

94. Can LP® SmartSide® and LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® products be used in Canada?

a. Yes. Refer to CCMC Listings 11826-L for lap, panel, and vertical siding.

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RETAIL PANELS

95. What is a Retail Panel?

a. LP Multi-Use Panel is sold at Lowes and is currently the only "retail" panel manufactured by LP.
   1. The utility panel is intended for a variety of interior and exterior applications.
   2. The utility panel is NOT intended to be used as siding on commercial, residential, or accessory structures governed by building codes.
   3. The utility panel it available primed only (gray primer).

WARRANTY

96. Are LP® SmartSide® trim and siding products warranted if they are not installed in accordance with the application instructions?

a. Any portion of SmartSide® Trim & Siding that is affected by a failure to follow the applicable Instructions (as defined in the Limited Warranty) is excluded from coverage under the Limited Warranty. The unaffected portion of the product remains covered, pursuant to the terms of the Limited Warranty and unless otherwise excluded.

b. Contact LP's Warranty Department at 888-468-1417 for further information.

97. Will freezing conditions affect the performance of LP® SmartSide® trim and siding?

a. LP® SmartSide® Trim and Siding are resistant to freeze/thaw damage.

98. Can LP® SmartSide® trim and siding be burned as waste?

a. Burning construction site waste may not be your best option.

b. Consult your local authority for approved disposal options of LP® SmartSide® trim and siding products and other construction waste.

99. Can LP® SmartSide® trim and siding products be used in humid climates?

a. Yes. LP® SmartSide® siding products are designed and tested to withstand humid climates.

100. Can LP® SmartSide® trim or siding products be used on interior wall applications with an indoor pool?

a. LP does not have testing to support warranty coverage for this application.

b. Installations not included in LP® SmartSide® application instructions would fall outside the scope of the Limited Warranty.

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101. Are LP® SmartSide® siding products warrantied against fungal decay?

a. The SmartSide® Limited Warranty provides coverage for certain fungal decay experienced by LP® SmartSide® siding products treated using the borate-based SmartGuard® process.

102. Are LP® SmartSide® siding products warrantied against mold?

a. No. LP does not warrant that siding products will remain free from mold.

103. Does LP® SmartSide® Limited Warranty cover hail damage?

a. For a period of 50 years from the date the installation, LP® SmartSide® is warranted from impact damage from hail.
b. Refer to LP® SmartSide® Limited Warranty for complete details.

104. If LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® products are repainted, does the Substrate Limited Warranty remain in effect?

a. Yes, the Substrate Limited Warranty remains in effect when LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® products are repainted.
b. The 15-Year Finish Limited Warranty (paint) would no longer be in effect once the trim or siding products are repainted.

105. Does LP approve the use of a textured 100% acrylic finish coating on LP® SmartSide® Trim, Panel Siding, or Vertical Siding with a cedar texture?

a. The application of a textured acrylic finish coating over these products will not, by itself, void the Limited Warranty, but LP makes no warranties or representations about the compatibility or performance of the coating in conjunction with the products, or the coating itself.
b. You are responsible for checking with the coating manufacturer regarding the proper use and application of the coating and its compatibility with these LP products.

104. Are rainscreen materials and systems suitable for use behind LP® SmartSide® siding products in the United States?

a. The use of rainscreen systems or materials behind SmartSide® Siding will not, by itself, void the Limited Warranty, but LP makes no warranties or representations about the compatibility or performance of such systems or materials when used in conjunction with the Siding.
b. You are responsible for selecting the appropriate systems or materials and ensuring their compatibility with the Siding, and their proper installation and integration with the Siding and other components of the building envelope.
c. LP will not be liable for any aspect of the rainscreen systems or materials, including, without limitation, their impact on the appearance or performance of the Siding.

105. Is LP® SmartSide® "Smooth Finish" and "Brushed Smooth" trim and soffit interchangeable?

a. Yes, although they are different PID numbers, **NEITHER have an eggshell finish**, so both can be used on the same structure without aesthetic concerns.
b. "Smooth Finish" trim and soffit are labeled "SM" on the unit tag. All smooth trim and soffit manufactured after July 1st, 2023 will be labeled as "BRSM" for "Brushed Smooth" and manufactured at LP's Hayward, WI plant.
c. Each unit cover has a 4 inch x 10 inch orange label that reads, "SMOOTH FINISH", and after July 1st, 2023 the label will read, "BRUSHED SMOOTH". The label is applied for quick and easy identification of the products texture.

106. Is LP® SmartSide® "Smooth Finish" and "Brushed Smooth" lap, panel, and vertical siding interchangeable?

a. Yes, although they are different PID numbers, **BOTH have an eggshell finish**, so both can be used on the same structure without aesthetic concerns.
b. "Smooth Finish" lap, panel, and vertical siding are labeled "SM" on the unit tag. All smooth lap, panel, and vertical siding manufactured after July 1st, 2023 will be labeled as "BRSM" for "Brushed Smooth" and manufactured at LP's Hayward, WI plant.
c. Each unit cover has a 4 inch x 10 inch orange label that reads, "SMOOTH FINISH", and after July 1st, 2023 the label will read, "BRUSHED SMOOTH". The label is applied for quick and easy identification of the products texture.

107. Are LP® SmartSide® non-vented Soffits still warrantied if after-market vents are installed?

a. Any portion of SmartSide® Soffit that is affected by an after-market vent is excluded from coverage under the Limited Warranty. The unaffected portion of the product remains covered, pursuant to the terms of the Limited Warranty and unless otherwise excluded.
b. Contact LP's Warranty Department at 888-468-1417 for further information.