

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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PRODUCT EVALUATION EC-50

Effective December 1, 2003

*The following product has been evaluated for compliance with the wind loads specified in the **International Residential Code (IRC)** and the **International Building Code (IBC)**. This product shall be subject to reevaluation 3 years after the effective date.*

This product evaluation is not an endorsement of this product or a recommendation that this product be used. The Texas Department of Insurance has not authorized the use of any information contained in the product evaluation for advertising, or other commercial or promotional purpose.

This product evaluation is intended for use by those individuals who are following the design wind load criteria in Chapter 3 of the IRC and Section 1609 of the IBC. The design loads determined for the building or structure shall not exceed the design load rating specified for the products shown in the limitations section of this product evaluation. This product evaluation does not relieve a Texas licensed engineer of his responsibilities as outlined in the Texas Insurance Code, the Texas Administrative Code, and the Texas Engineering Practice Act.

Novabrik Veneer Siding products manufactured by

Novabrik International Inc.
8138 Metropolitan East Blvd.
Montreal, Quebec
Canada H1K 1A1
Telephone: (800) 265-2522

SCP (Southwest Concrete Product)
2088 FM 949
Alleyton, Texas 78935
Telephone: (888) 464-9341

are acceptable for use in designated catastrophe areas along the Texas Gulf Coast when installed in accordance with manufacturers installation instructions and this product evaluation.

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

The Novabrik is a nonstructural, mortarless brick veneer siding that is mechanically attached to the structural framing of buildings. The units interlock with the unit below and are fastened to the wall every fourth course. The Novabrik measures a nominal 8 inches in width by 6 inches high and averages approximately 2.5 inches thick. The unit has an exposure of 3 inches. The units have a nominal weight of 4.3 lbs and wall coverage of 6.1 bricks per square foot. The units are cast concrete that complies with Grade NII ASTM C 55 and C 140 except as follows: the compressive strength is 3500 psi and the water absorption rate is 6%.

LIMITATIONS

Design Pressure Rating: - 90 psf

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

General Requirements:

Novabrik shall be installed in accordance with the Novabrik installation guide and this product evaluation report. For wood stud wall framing, the wood stud walls shall be a minimum 2 x 4 Southern Pine stud grade lumber spaced 16 inches on center. The wood stud walls shall be sheathed with a minimum of nominal $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick wood structural panel sheathing.

Buildings utilizing Novabrik shall be designed by a Texas licensed professional engineer. A set of design plans, sealed by a Texas licensed professional engineer, shall be submitted to the Texas Department of

Insurance for review prior to commencement of construction. A WPI-2D, Building Design Compliance, form sealed by the Texas licensed professional engineer who designed the structure shall be submitted with the design plans. The Texas Department of Insurance can make no inspections until the design plans have been reviewed and accepted. The design drawings shall reflect the appropriate wind load standards and wind speed relating to the building specifications adopted by the Commissioner of Insurance. The calculations must verify that the structural framing, lintels, connectors and fasteners supporting the Novabrik veneer are capable of resisting the wind loads in the building code standards adopted by the Texas Department of Insurance.

General Installation Instructions (wood stud wall framing):

A 1" x 6" pressure treated baseboard shall be applied horizontally along the bottom of the wood stud wall with #8 x 3" long bugle head 305 stainless steel self-drilling wood screws spaced 8 inches on center along the top and bottom of the baseboard. A layer of 15 pound felt or other approved moisture protection barriers per Chapter 7 of the International Residential Code and Chapter 14 of the International Building Code shall be applied over the solid sheathing and baseboard.

A Nova starter PVC starter strip is leveled and attached to the baseboard using #8 x 3" long bugle head 305 stainless steel self-drilling wood screws spaced 10 inches on center. Vertical 1" x 3" furring strips are attached through the wall sheathing into the wall studs using #8 x 3" long bugle head 305 stainless steel self-drilling wood screws spaced 10 inches on center. The furring strips shall be a minimum of Southern Yellow Pine No. 2 grade or better. The base course of Novabriks are placed on the starter strip and attached to the baseboard with two (2) #8 x 3" long bugle head 305 stainless steel self-drilling wood screws in each brick. After the base course is installed, four courses are stacked and leveled with each course staggered from the course below. The fourth course is attached to the furring strips with one (1) #8 x 3" long bugle head 305 stainless steel self-drilling wood screws in each brick where the furring strips occur.

Where framing around openings occur, header reinforcement shall be installed in accordance with the reinforcement header requirements on Novabrik installation guide on sheet 2.1.3. Please note that the guidance is limited to openings up to 8 feet in width.

If non-structural materials (such as foam or fiberboard) are used on the exterior side of the wall, then the length of the fasteners used to secure the Novabrik to the framing shall be increased by the thickness of the non-structural material.

Note: The manufacturer's installation instructions shall be available on the job site during installation. All fasteners shall be corrosion resistant as specified in the International Residential Code (IRC) and the International Building Code (IBC).