



EPS No.1015

Subject: Foam-Control EPS Properties - Shear and Tensile Strength

Date: September 2008

Foam-Control EPS insulation is manufactured in compliance with ASTM C578, "Standard Specification for Rigid, Cellular Polystyrene Thermal Insulation". This standard covers the minimum requirements for flexural strength, compressive strength, and other physical properties of EPS foam. Some engineered systems such as Structural Insulated Panels (SIPs), insulated concrete forms (ICF's) and exterior insulation and finish systems rely on Foam-Control EPS as a key component to resist shear and/or tensile loads.

Foam-Control has conducted extensive tests to determine the shear strength and tensile strength of Foam-Control EPS. Shear strength of Foam-Control EPS was evaluated in accordance with ASTM C273, "Standard Test Method for Shear Properties of Sandwich Core Materials". Tensile strength was evaluated in accordance with ASTM C297, "Standard Test Method for Flatwise Tensile Strength of Sandwich Constructions".

Foam-Control EPS Properties					
Property		ASTM C578			
		Type I	Type VIII	Type II	Type IX
Shear Strength, min. ASTM C273	psi (kPa)	12 (83)	15.5 (107)	18 (124)	24 (166)
Tensile Strength, min. ASTM C297	psi (kPa)	20 (138)	25 (173)	30 (208)	40 (276)

Note: The values are based upon testing Foam-Control EPS at laboratory conditions (72F/50%RH) under short term load durations as specified by the ASTM test methods.



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