

EXTERIOR INSULATION FINISH SYSTEMS (EIFS) FOR HOUSING

BUILDING CODE

9.27.13. Exterior Insulation Finish Systems

9.27.13.1. Application

- (1) Except as provided in Sentence (2), this Subsection applies to exterior insulation finish systems that,
 - (a) are covered in the scope of CAN/ULC-S716.1, "Exterior Insulation and Finish System (EIFS)-Materials and Systems", and
 - (b) have a geometrically defined drainage cavity with a minimum cavity depth of 6 mm and an open area equal to not less than 13% of the area of a full size exterior insulation finish system panel.
- (2) Exterior insulation finish systems not describe in sentence (1) and their components shall comply with Article 5.10.3.1.

9.27.13.2. Materials

- (1) The materials used in exterior insulation finish systems shall conform to CAN/ULC-S716.1, "Exterior Insulation and Finishing Systems (EIFS)-Materials and Systems".
- (2) The substrate on which an exterior insulation finish system is installed shall,
 - (a) be compatible with that particular system, and
 - (b) comply with the structural requirements for sheathing materials set out in Section 9.23.

9.27.13.3. Design and Installation

- (1) The design of an exterior insulation finish system shall comply with CAN/ULC-S716.3, "Exterior Insulation and Finishing Systems (EIFS)-Design Application".
- (2) The installation of an exterior insulation finish system shall comply with CAN/ULC-S716.2, "Exterior Insulation and Finishing Systems (EIFS)-Installation of EIFS Components and Water Resistive Barrier".

5.10.3. Exterior Insulation Finish Systems

5.10.3.1. Applicable Standards

- (1) Where exterior insulation finish systems are installed, the systems and their components shall conform to,
 - (a) Article 5.1.4.1. and Sections 5.3 to 5.6., and
 - (b) CAN/ULC-S716.1, "Exterior Insulation and Finish System (EIFS)-Materials and Systems", if the systems are covered in the scope of that standard.

OBJECTIVE.

Most EIFS cladding manufacturers have either a Minister's Ruling, Building Materials Evaluation Commission (BMEC) ruling or a Canadian Construction Materials Centre (CCMC) evaluation for their systems.

In general, these evaluations usually require the installation of these systems to be an inert material like a cementitious panel or glass mat faced gypsum sheathing board. Therefore, EIFS products should not be installed directly over a wood substrate (OSB or plywood sheathing) unless they have been evaluated, by one of the authorities noted above with the product attached directly to OSB or plywood sheathing.

The builder should ensure that they and the EIFS installer have a complete understanding of the product's evaluation report prior to installing the system. The installer must be approved by the manufacturer to install their product. A copy of the evaluation report should be provided to the local municipality as part of the information provided for the permit application.

If the EIFS is not approved to the Building Code reference standard in Sentence 9.27.13.1.(1) and have a drainage cavity as described in Sentence (2), the EIFS must comply with Part 5 of the Building Code.

Each EIFS manufacture has its own approved method of installation. For more information about EIFS products please visit the EIFS Council of Canada website at www.eifscouncil.org

