

FRLTM INSTALLATION GUIDE

SAFETY FIRST

When cutting, drilling or machining FRL always wear protective glasses or goggles and a face mask which covers the face and mouth. Itching due to glass fibers may be avoided with the use of clothing protection or barrier creams on exposed skin.

STORAGE CONDITIONS

Panels should be stored indoors on a dry, flat surface, off the floor. Do not stand panels on end. Do not stack other materials on top of the FRL panels. Do not store panels in high temperature or humidity conditions where great swings in temperature or humidity exist.

INSPECTION

Inspect panels for any defects immediately. Do not install panels that are of questionable quality. Panolam Industries will not be responsible for installation or removal costs of unacceptable panels. Please verify color and finish before installing.

PRE-CONDITIONING

Before installing FRL panels remove all outer packaging allowing the panels to acclimate to the installation room in which FRL panels will be installed. Ideally, all components should be conditioned at 70° F to 75° F (21° C to 25° C) and 45 to 50 percent relative humidity for 72 hours prior to assembly.

INSTALLATION CONDITIONS

Installation should not begin until the building is enclosed, permanent heating and cooling equipment are in operation and moisture from plaster, concrete and other materials has dissipated.

TOOLS NEEDED

Use a carbide tip, fine tooth saw blade. Example 10"/80 tooth or higher. A laminate cutting blade is highly recommended to minimize the possibility of chipping the FRLTM when cutting.

Drywall spiral saw with tile cutting bit or router with carbide cutters can be used for small cutouts or trimming. Any holes put into the FRL panel should be oversized. All cutouts should be rounded at the corners to minimize the chance of fracture.

Use a laminate roller to ensure maximum contact between the panels, adhesive, and substrate, and to remove any trapped air between the panels and substrate. When using laminate roller, start at the top corner nearest molding rolling down and out toward the opposite edge without the molding to remove any trapped air and ensure proper adhesion.

Important: When cutting FRL, be sure the saw blade enters the decorative side first (label side down with circular hand saw) to minimize chipping possibility. Be sure to protect the face of the panels from surface damage during cutting operations.

WALL PREPARATION

Wallboard should be dry, even and free from dirt, grime and dust. Level high spots and fill low spots prior to adhering panels. Be sure to remove any dust or debris particles from surface. Where joint compound is used for seam treatments, use quality primer to eliminate “chalkiness”.

Before adhering FRL panels make sure that industry standards for wallboard installation have been followed. It is recommended that screws are spaced every 8” to 10” throughout wallboard. When installing panels vertically this applies to both top and bottom edge.

ADHESIVE

While we recognize that other adhesives will work with FRL, we recommend the use a contact cement free of Hexane. These adhesives are best suited to the variety of applications and conditions in which FRL would be used. Contact adhesive should be applied to both surfaces at 100% coverage. Examples of the types of contact cements are 3M Fast bond30NF and 3M Scotchweld 94CA. Please follow all adhesive manufacturer use and installation instructions.

FRL • Installation Procedure

Be sure to leave a 5/16” spacing between panel edges when installing FRL panels horizontally. **For horizontal installations, 8 ft is the maximum length available.** When installing the panels vertically please leave a 3/16” spacing between panels. In both cases, leave 3/16” spacing between any other adjoining rigid product to allow for normal expansion and contraction of the FRL panel. This applies when using moldings, such as dividers, caps, inside/outside corners, or the use of a commercial grade silicone between panels.

- Starting in a corner, mark plumb line 48 3/16” from corner. The first panel should be set true with the plumb line. FRL panel joints should not align with the base panel joints where possible.
- Install inside corner molding.
- Install division bar and cap molding by sliding it onto the panel. Withdraw the molding 1/8” to allow proper gap. Depending on application this may best be done before adhering FRL panel to wallboard.
- Repeat process working in one direction around the room.
- Immediately remove any adhesive residue. Remove with warm water and non abrasive cotton cloth. If necessary, use a non abrasive, mild detergent. Solvent based adhesives may require the use of acetone or mineral spirits.
- Flexible vinyl floor molding is strongly recommended for bottom of wall. Use of any rigid material for floor molding is not recommended to go over FRL panel.
- Install guidelines are subject to change without notice. Please check FRL website for the latest information (www.panolam.com).

Limited Warranty

Subject to the limitations set forth below, Panolam Industries expressly warrants that our products are reasonably free of defects in material and workmanship, and when properly handled and fabricated will conform, within accepted tolerances, to applicable manufacturing specifications as set forth in our technical brochure. This warranty shall extend to the original buyer for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of shipment of this original buyer. This warranty does not cover damage resulting from accident, misuse, alteration, abuse or lack of reasonable care.

Due to the variety of uses and applications to which this product may be put, and because the manufacturer has no control over the end products fabricated, the warranty set forth above is exclusive and in lieu of all other warranties, express or implied, in fact or by operation of law or otherwise, or arising by course of dealing or performance, custom or usage in the trade, including, without limitation, the implied warranties of fitness for a particular purpose merchantability, and Panolam Industries shall have no obligation or liability to any person or entity in connection with or arising from the furnishing, sale, installation or repair, use or subsequent sale of any product supplied by it.

The buyer's sole and exclusive remedy for any noncompliance with the express warranty set forth above shall be limited to repair or replacement of the defective product, or, in the event that repair or replacement is not feasible, return of the product and refund of the purchase price.

Under no circumstances shall the manufacturer be liable in excess of the purchase price of this product, in either tort or contract or otherwise, for any loss, damage or injury in connection with arising from the purchase, use, or inability to use this product, or for any special, indirect, collateral, incidental, consequential or exemplary damages such as, but not limited to, loss of anticipated profits or other economic loss. Because some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, this limitation may not apply to you.

Retaining all documentation after purchasing laminate will significantly expedite claim resolution.

Panolam **FRL**TM **Fiber
Reinforced
Laminate**

Panolam Industries

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Printed in USA
Patent Pending

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SMPBR000-055 (REV. 8/2009)