

BUILDING CODE REQUIREMENTS

FIRE PROTECTION SOLID CORE BUILDINGS

Building codes require a 15-minute thermal barrier on the interior of most buildings.

EPS "Solid Core" buildings and "Tuffy" buildings have an interior finish rating of 15-minutes, and thus comply with building code requirements. No sprinkler system is required. Check with local building for requirements.

"Solid Core" buildings have a 5/8" or greater thickness of OSB on plywood as the interior of the structural wall panels. 5/8" OSB qualifies as a 15-minute thermal barrier (UL Labs test ASTM E119, 6/20/83).

"Tuffy" buildings have a 5/8" or greater plywood as the interior of structural wall panels. 5/8" plywood qualifies as a 15-minute thermal barrier (US Forest Products Labs report #1257; American Plywood Association Tech note A422).

The expanded polystyrene foam core in EPS panels is rated as a class 1 product per ASTM E84 test -

Flame Spread	25 or less
Smoke Developed	150 or less

A 60-minute finish rating can be achieved by field applying two layers of 1/2" sheetrock to the interior surface of the walls (Southwest Research Project E119, 01-8305-029, 6/85). Check with local building code authorities concerning occupancy requirements.