Interior Drywall Sheathing Winter Construction

11-15-2012

Pepper's policy regarding installing and taping interior drywall in the winter months is consistent with the Contract Documents, National Gypsum Association, manufacturer's recommendations, and ASTM C840 – whichever is stricter.

The installation of any ***interior*** gypsum board (*not exterior glass mat products*) shall not take place unless the temperature is no lower and maintained at or above 40°F as per ASTM C840.

In non-temperature controlled environments, Pepper will not install taping compound (finish tape or fire tape) unless the temperature and humidity readings are consistent with the table in GA-236-2000 **AND** GA-220-2006 and maintained.

Make sure that the drying time chart is understood...also, key is that the product must be warm (40˚F & 50˚F prior to installation at least 48 hours).

Since joint compound has moisture remaining in the product, even after curing, 32°F -34°F degrees MUST be maintained after construction, therefore per ASTM C840, the installation temperatures shall be no lower and maintained at or above 40°F throughout construction.

This table should be filled out for each project and posted…review your specifications to complete:

Description	Storage Temp. per *Specs*	Storage Temp. per Industry Standards/ MFR	Pre-Install & Preparation Req. Temp. per *Specs*	Pre-Install and Preparation Temp. per Industry Standards/ MFR	Install Temp. per *Specs*	Install Temp. Industry Standards/ MFR	Post-Install Temp. Req.	Post-Install Temp. Req. per Industry Standards /MFR
Interior Gypsum Board		Protect from water, snow, sunlight		40°F< (48 hours prior)		40°F<	40°F<	40°F<
Gypsum Wall Joints and Adhesive Laminating		Protect from freezing		50°F< (48 hours prior)		50°F-95°F	55°F< until cured	50°F< (48 hours post)

Potential Winter Construction Problems

Precautions are needed on the construction site to avoid potential problems associated with cold and damp weather conditions. Neglecting caution during cold and damp weather can contribute to avoidable problems in gypsum board construction. Joint compound bond failure, delayed shrinkage, beading, nail popping, joint shadowing, and gypsum board sagging occur more often in jobs built in the winter than in any other time of the year, even though the condition may not be visible until after the spring thaw.

Taking the following precautions in the winter, during construction, is usually far less costly than coming back in six months to repair the results.