

## Product Evaluation

EC113 | 0920

Engineering Services Program

The following product has been evaluated for compliance with the wind loads specified in the International Residential Code (IRC) and the International Building Code (IBC).

This product evaluation is not an endorsement of this product or a recommendation that this product be used. The Texas Department of Insurance has not authorized the use of any information contained in the product evaluation for advertising, or other commercial or promotional purpose.

This product evaluation is intended for use by those individuals who are following the design wind load criteria in Chapter 3 of the IRC and Section 1609 of the IBC. The design loads determined for the building or structure shall not exceed the design load rating specified for the products shown in the limitations section of this product evaluation. This product evaluation does not relieve a Texas licensed engineer of his responsibilities as outlined in the Texas Insurance Code, the Texas Administrative Code, and the Texas Engineering Practice Act.

For more information, contact TDI Engineering Services Program at (800) 248-6032.

**Evaluation ID:** EC-113

**Effective Date:** September 1, 2020

**Re-evaluation Date:** September 2024

**Product Name:** Max Exterior F-Quality Wall Panel Cladding System

**Manufacturer:** FunderMax North America, Inc.  
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Suite 202  
Charlotte, NC 28273  
(713) 318-5345

### General Description:

The Max Exterior F-Quality Wall Panel Cladding System is used as a nonload-bearing exterior wall covering. The Max Exterior F-Quality Wall Panel Cladding System is an open-jointed exterior wall covering system that allows air to circulate between the wall cladding panels and the exterior surface of the water-resistive barrier. The panels are installed on an extruded aluminum substructure. The wall cladding system must be installed over a water-resistive barrier.

**Substructure:** The system consists of aluminum J-channels and Z-channels that are secured to the wall studs. The channels are manufactured of nominal 1/8" thick, ASTM B317, 6063-T5 or 6063-T6 alloy aluminum. The Z-channels are nominal 4-1/4" wide by 1" deep and are used at the vertical joint locations for the panels. The J-channels are nominal 3" wide by 1" deep and are used along the interior surface of the panels.

**Panels:** The Max Exterior F-Quality wall panels are constructed of high-pressure laminates that consist of core materials made up of kraft paper and resin. The exterior facing consists of melamine and resin. The panels are nominal 3/8" thick. The panels are available in a variety of colors, finishes, sizes, and textures.

**Limitations:**

**Design Pressure:** +80 psf; -50.0 psf

**Wall Bracing:** The Max Exterior F-Quality Wall Panel Cladding System is not to be used to resist lateral loads (must not be used as wall bracing or as a shearwall).

**Installation:**

**General Installation Requirements:**

The Max Exterior F-Quality Wall Panel Cladding System must be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's published installation instructions and this product evaluation report. Where differences occur between the installation instructions and this evaluation report, this evaluation report must be followed. Use corrosion resistant fasteners as specified in the IRC and the IBC.

The Max Exterior F-Quality Wall Panel Cladding System must be installed by qualified installers recognized by FunderMax North America, Inc.

**Wall Framing:** Wall framing must be minimum 16-gauge, 6" steel studs. The steel wall studs are spaced a maximum of 16" on center.

**Wall Sheathing:** The wall studs must be fully sheathed.

**Wall Bracing:** Wall bracing must be installed as required for the structure.

**Water-Resistive Barrier:** Install a minimum of one layer of a water-resistive barrier (WSB) over the wall sheathing in accordance with either the IRC or the IBC. The WRB must be installed as specified in the FunderMax Installation Instructions. Flashing must be installed.

**Installation:**

**Substructure System Installation:** The channels are secured to the wall studs with No. 12 x 2" long self-tapping hex head screws with a rubber grommet and washer. A Texas licensed engineer must determine the spacing of the fasteners used to secure the channels to the wall framing to resist the design wind pressures specified in this evaluation report.

**Panel Installation:** The panels are installed with a nominal gap of 3/8" between panel-to-panel joints. The panels are secured to the channels with No. 12 x 1" self-tapping stainless-steel truss head screws. The fasteners are located approximately 2" from each end of the wall panel with intermediate screws located approximately 32" on center for 4x8 panels and approximately 22" on center for 4 x 4 panels.

**Note:** Keep the manufacturer's installation instructions available on the job site during the installation. Use corrosion resistant fasteners as specified in the IRC and the IBC.