



## *The Equivalency of Timber Product Inspection Panels*

In order to certify panels according to various product standards and the requirements of the model building codes, *Timber Products Inspection* maintains accreditations through the **International Accreditation Services** and the **Standards Council of Canada**.

Panels stamped with *Timber Products Inspection* grade mark are recognized for quality and accepted for use in construction throughout the United States. Panels certified to PS1-09 by *Timber Products Inspection* and other accredited agencies are interchangeable provided that the grade, thickness, and span rating are the same for all panels in a given application.

When structural panels, such as plywood, are used for structural purposes, both the International Building Code (IBC) and the International Residential Code (IRC) require that the product conform to the U.S. Department of Commerce Voluntary Product Standard (PS1- Structural Plywood, DOC PS1). Additionally, the product is identified with the mark of an approved testing and grading agency; architects, engineers, and designers are advised to specify panels by grade or span rating in accordance with DOC PS1.

When building with plywood in the United States, the panels shall meet the requirements of the building codes(s) enforced in your jurisdiction. For the United States, the International Residential Code (IRC) is adopted at the state or local level in 49 states in addition to Washington D.C. and the U.S. Virgin Islands, while the International Building Code (IBC) is adopted at the state or local level in all 50 states in addition to Washington, D.C.

Panels that are marked with Timber Product Inspection's Grade Mark are certified under *Timber Products Inspection certification program for plywood produced to National Institute of Standard and Technology (NIST) "Voluntary Products Standard PS1-09 for Structural Plywood"*. We are an approved inspection agency through the International Accreditation Service (IAS) with recognition of accreditation in report number AA-696.

All third party certification agencies in the United States must certify to the same standards, PS1 for Plywood and PS2-10 for wood based structural-use panels. Panels certified by Timber Products Inspection are equivalent to those certified by other accredited agencies.

This letter can be shared with clients, sales groups, inspectors, or others that are in need of this information. Please feel free to call Timber Products Inspection, 770-922-8000 if you have any questions about panels that are suitable for use in a particular application.

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