

# Installation Guide

## FRL® Wall Protection Panels



Before beginning installation PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS AND CAREFULLY INSPECT ALL MATERIALS. If defects are found or materials are questionable, it is the purchaser's and/or installer's responsibility to notify Panolam Customer Service Team at 877-726-6526. To maintain the warranty on this product, the installation instructions below must be followed unless prior approval is obtained in writing from Panolam.

*Deviations from these instructions shall be at the risk of the installers.*

### SAFETY

Safety first when cutting, drilling or machining FRL. Always wear protective glasses or goggles and a face mask covering the face and mouth. Use clothing protection or barrier creams to reduce itching from glass fibers.

### INSPECTION

Inspect panels for any defects immediately. The "A" face of the panel has the FRL sticker. Do not install panels of questionable quality. Panolam Industries will not be responsible for installation or removal costs of unacceptable panels.

### 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 panels.
- Do not store panels in high temperature or humidity conditions where great swings in temperature or humidity exist.

### PRE-CONDITIONING

Before installing panels, remove all outer packaging (bands, plastic wrap and corner guards.) Leave the top sheet covered and allow panels to acclimate in a controlled space similar to installation site. (See picture A)

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.

Leave the sheet of paper between panels to help panels acclimate to the site conditions more quickly. (See picture B)

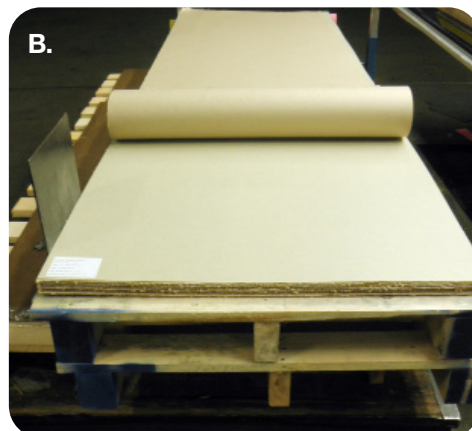


### MATERIALS

- Tape measure
- Chalk line
- Level
- Safety glasses, mask and gloves
- Circular saw, variable speed router, table saw (To cut the panels to size)
- Carbide tip blades or bits 40 tooth on 7 1/4" blade, 80 tooth or higher on 10" solid surface or high quality laminate blades work well (Use diamond tip if there is a high volume of cuts.)
- Drill
- Caulk gun
- Molding trim for panels and/or silicone.
- Adhesive Franklin #4319 advance polymer construction adhesive/or approved contact glue
- Trowel specified for the polymer adhesive. V-notched 3/16" x 1/4" deep x 11/16 c.c. as specified by Franklin
- Solvent recommended to clean adhesive from panel face
- Laminate roller

### SUGGESTED TOOLS

- Suction cups for positioning the panel
- Miter box for cutting moldings
- Pin nail gun to attach molding to the wall
- Drywall screws for supporting the panel while the glue sets
- Painters tape for silicone seams



## 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.

## WALL PREPARATION

- Wallboard should be dry, even and free from dirt, grime and dust.
- Level high spots and fill low spots prior to bonding panels.
- Where joint compound is used, use a quality primer to eliminate “chalkiness.”
- Before adhering FRL panels, confirm that industry standards for wallboard installation have been followed (minimum level 3 finished drywall required).
- FRL panels should not be installed directly over cement block, concrete, brick, ceramic tile, green and/or blue board gypsum products.

## INSTALLATION

**Franklin #4319 Titebond GREENchoice™ Advanced Polymer Panel Adhesive is the approved adhesive for use with FRL Wall Protection Panels.**

1. The “A” side is identified by the factory label and should be facing the interior space.
2. Inside cutouts for electrical outlets, etc., should have a minimum radius of 1/8” (3 mm) and be filed smooth.
3. Dry-fitting” FRL panels is recommended prior to application of adhesive. In applications where silicone caulking is used in lieu of molding between the panels or as end caps, some amount of trimming may be required. FRL’s squareness tolerance meets or exceeds NEMA standards, however, as in most building materials, trimming may be required based on application area and squareness of other materials that had been installed prior
4. When fasteners are required, it is first advisable to drill an oversized hole through the laminate.
5. When applying the #4319 polymer to the back of FRL, you must take the glue to the edge of the panel.
6. Apply in a cross hatch method. Use suction cups to carry the panel to the wall to keep hands and panel face clear of adhesive and to fit panel into molding.
7. Starting in the corner, mark a plumb line 48 3/16”. Set first panel to the plumb line. FRL panel joints should not align with the base panel joints where possible.



Use crosshatch method close to edge as shown in image above.



Use suction cup to fix panel.

8. Once panel is in place, pull slip sheet. Apply hand pressure to the panel. Roll with a D-handle laminate roller working from center out to edges to ensure that air is removed and adhesion has begun.
9. Remove any adhesive (before it dries) from the panel face using mineral spirits or alcohol. Support the weight of the panel with a drywall screw or finishing nail every 16"-24" under the panel until the glue has set. Remove these prior to adhering rubber base molding.
10. Repeat process working in one direction around the room.



Roll with D-handle laminate roller.

## SPACING

- Be sure to leave a 3/16" spacing between panel edges when installing panels horizontally.
  - When installing the panels vertically, leave a 1/8" spacing between any other adjoining rigid product to allow for normal expansion and contraction. This applies when using moldings, such as division bars, caps, inside outside corners, or use of commercial grade 100% silicon between the panels.
11. When the FRL sheet has been bonded, run a thin bead of silicon in the molding groove and snap in the top cover piece in center of panel working to edges to force out any trapped air and begin the chemical cross linking of contact glue. Remove any glue on the face of the panel.

## ADHESIVE

Panolam Surface Systems has approved **Franklin #4319 Titebond GREENchoice™ Advanced Polymer Panel Adhesive**. This trowelable mastic allows for repositioning of panels and meets Green Seal GS-36, LEED, SCAQMD, CARB and NAHB Green Building specifications.



Hexane free contact glue is also approved. Contact adhesives should be applied 100% to both surfaces. Follow all adhesive manufacturer's use and installation instructions.





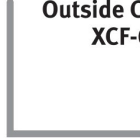

**NOTE:** If you have contact glue you are considering, forward the MSDS sheet to our Territory Area Manager for review by our technical department.

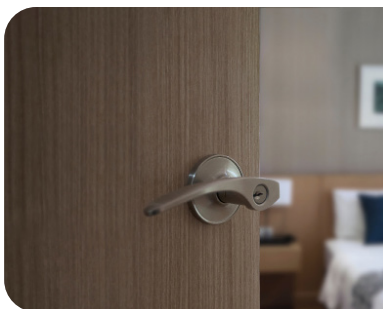
When using contact glue, apply adhesive 100% to both the wall and back of the FRL. The slip sheets between the FRL can be used between the panel and wall while fitting the panel into the molding. Suction cups are helpful in this process.

## MOLDING AND DIVISION BARS

Panolam stocks anodized aluminum in 10' lengths for use with our panels. These moldings are 2-piece to allow visual inspection of joint spacing.

12. Install division bar and cap by sliding into the panel allowing an 1/8" proper gap. Do this before adhering panel to the wallboard.
13. Prior to applying the top piece of any moldings a thin bead of silicone should be applied to the slot of the bottom molding to create a secure bond of the top molding.
14. **Flexible vinyl or rubber base molding is the only type approved to bond to the face of FRL.** Low moisture glue is required to bond vinyl/ rubber cove base to panel (Franklin #4319 polymer or flexible polyurethane mastics).  
The use of any rigid material for base molding is not warranted to go over a FRL panel.

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| <b>Division Bar Kit<br/>XDB-0000</b><br>   | <b>Inside Corner Kit<br/>XIC-0000</b><br>  | <b>Outside Corner Kit<br/>XCR-0000</b><br> |
| <b>One Piece<br/>Flat Division Bar<br/>XFB-0000</b><br>  | <b>Outside Corner Flat<br/>XCF-0000</b><br> | <b>Standard End Cap<br/>XSC-0000</b><br>   |
| <p><i>All parts available in 10ft lengths only. Available in anodized aluminum only<br/>See website for more details <a href="http://www.panolam.com">www.panolam.com</a></i></p> |   |   |



## DOOR LAMINATION

FRL is available for door applications in both 0.075 inch thickness and 0.062 inch (sanded back for door applications only) thickness. For this application, we recommend use of hexane free contact glue using manufacturer's instructions. Apply pressure to entire panel face with laminate type roller, removing trapped air and ensure proper adhesion between surfaces.