

Stair Tread Panels Offer Builders a Step in the Right Direction



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National and local home builders alike are utilizing SteadiTred® stair tread panels in their residential building for a number of reasons. From an environmental standpoint, there is less waste as they are manufactured in a controlled environment and shipped to the builder, avoiding the time, cost and waste of on-site cutting of solid lumber.

SteadiTred stair panels are made from long strands of wood produced primarily from Aspen, a fast-growing renewable resource. Blended with durable resins, the strands are formed in a layered construction, running along the panel length on both faces and crosswise at the core. Heat and pressure are then applied to bond the material uniformly and securely to achieve consistent density, strength and stiffness. Formaldehyde emissions are insignificant.

This process creates a greater spanning capability than competitively priced composite materials and more dimensional stability than solid-sawn lumber. This cost-effective choice is easily installed, providing consistent flatness and straightness.

Builders realize there is no need for temporary stairs. The sturdy SteadiTred panels are water resistant so they can be used throughout the construction phase and carpeted in the finishing stage. Additional application guidelines may be appropriate for special installation finishes, including resilient flooring and ceramic tiles. There is no cupping, sagging or warping. The APA Quality-Approved stair tread can be shipped in various lengths or widths for faster construction, or sent in lengths to be cut on-site. Standard dimensions are available 10 1/4 – 12 inches wide, 1 inch thick and 12 feet long. They are available in bullnose or square edges.

Joe Rasmussen, framing contractor manager for Carpentry Construction Corporation – a Minnesota-based supplier of prefabricated floor and wall panels as well as framing and trim labor to national home builders in the 13-county area of the Minneapolis-St. Paul market, said they have assembled stairs using the SteadiTred stair panels for 12 years. “They hold up very well,” Rasmussen added, “with minimal warranty issues.”

SteadiTred panels are custom-manufactured from oriented strand board (OSB) meeting the APA — The Engineered Wood Association’s Sturd-I-Floor® grade and the APA’s additional requirements set out in APA Series Guidelines for Stair Treads. SteadiTred also meets or exceeds product standards and building code requirements, including Product Standard PS 2-10, Performance Standard for Wood based Structural- use Panels, published by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (formerly National Bureau of Standards). SteadiTred meets the 300-pound concentrated static load and 100-pound-per-square-foot



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uniform load requirements specified in model building.

Norbord SteadiTred stair tread panels are carefully packaged to stay free from moisture and contaminants during storage and shipping in order to arrive in the same optimal condition as they left the plant.

Norbord also manufactures multipurpose 7/16" OSB sheathing for stair risers for onsite or manufactured pre-assembled stair systems, reducing waste of material and time.

To view all documents for SteadiTred products please visit Norbord's Product Documents resource page.

Norbord Inc. is an international producer of wood-based panels based in Toronto, Canada with assets of \$1.0 billion and 13 plant locations in the United States, Europe and Canada. Norbord manufactures OSB in the United States, Canada and Europe and MDF, particleboard and furniture in Europe. Norbord has 2,030 employees.

Norbord's technology group of scientists and engineers support their US, Canadian and European operations, contributing to their competitive strength in process and reliability improvement, product development and technology transfer. Norbord's technology staff is often found at various production facilities working as a team with mill personnel.

About the Sponsor

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