

## VERSATEX Installation Guidelines

### Cutting (See Technical Bulletin C-1 for more details)

- VERSATEX can be cut using standard woodworking tools. Conventional carbide-tipped blades designed for cutting wood are preferred. Avoid using fine-tooth metal-cutting blades. For best results use a 32 tooth blade.
- Rough-cut edges are typically caused by excessive friction, poor board support, or worn or improper tooling.

### Drilling (See Technical Bulletin C-1 for more details)

- VERSATEX can be drilled using standard woodworking drill bits. Do not use drill bits made for rigid PVC.
- Avoid frictional heat build-up.
- Remove shavings periodically from a drill hole as necessary to avoid heat build-up.

### Routing/ Milled (See Technical Bulletin C-1 for more details)

- VERSATEX can be routed using standard woodworking router bits. Carbide-tipped router bits are preferred.
- Routing VERSATEX provides a crisp, clean edge due to VERSATEX consistent density.
- To reduce rough texture of routed surface either wipe with acetone or with 220 to 400 grit sand paper.
- Secure VERSATEX to a fixed object before routing.

### Fastening

- Use 12 gage stainless steel fasteners designed for wood trim and siding. Fasteners with thin shanks, bluntpoints, and full round heads are preferred; annular threaded or spiral type nails are also recommended. The fastener must be long enough to penetrate the substrate a minimum of 1 ½".
- If screws are preferred use a #7 stainless steel finishing B/B screw with a painted white head.
- Some galvanized fasteners will rust staining VERSATEX which is why stainless fasteners are preferred.
- Be sure the fastener has sufficient flexural and tensile strength to resist bending.

- Do not use staples, small brads and wire nails. Avoid using fine-threaded wood screws and ring-shank fasteners.
- Use standard nail guns with a pressure setting between 70 psi and 100 psi. The recommended pressure depends on the type of gun, type of nail, ambient temperature, and the substrate. Care should be taken not to over drive the nail into the trim.
- Pre-drilling typically is not required unless large fasteners are used or the product is installed during low temperatures, typically below 40°F. See Technical Bulletin C-2.
- On 4" and 6" trimboard applications, use a minimum of two fasteners for every framing member. VERSATEX Sheet and trimboards 8" and wider require additional fasteners. See Technical Bulletin C-2.
- Install fasteners no more than 2" from the end of each board. See Figure B.

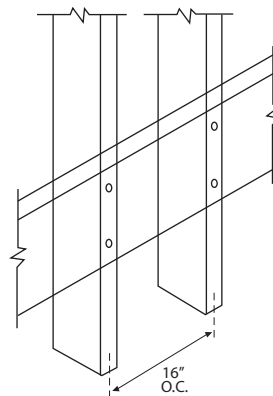


Figure A  
When fastening sheet or trimboards 8" or wider, use more than 2 fasteners per framing member. (See Technical Bulletin C-2)

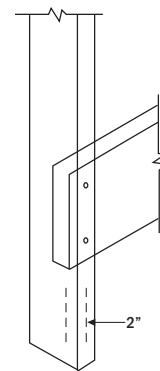


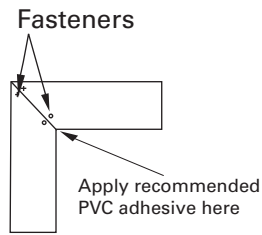
Figure B  
Place fasteners no more than 2" from end of board.

- Fasten VERSATEX onto flat, solid substrates not hollow or uneven surfaces.
- VERSATEX Sheet and Beadboard ½" or thinner are not designed to be ripped and used for trim applications. These products must be glued and mechanically fastened to the substrate.

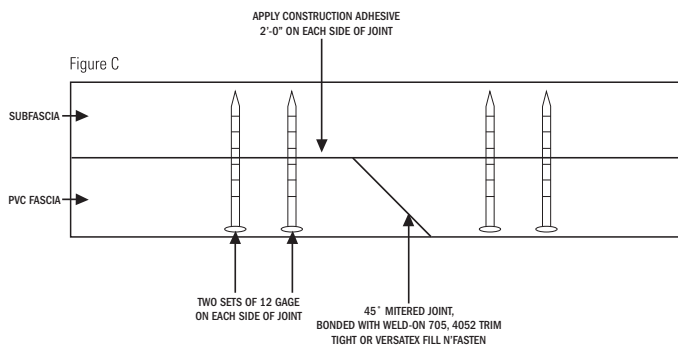
### Bonding

- All bonded surfaces must be smooth, clean, and in contact with each other.

- For adhering VERSATEX to itself, bond joints with PVC cement or cellular PVC adhesives applying the adhesive to only one side of the joint. IPS Weld-On 705 (white), IPS Weld-On 4052 (clear) or VERSATEX Fill n' Fasten (white) are excellent adhesives for this application. See Technical Bulletin No. B-3 for more information on bonding and filling applications.



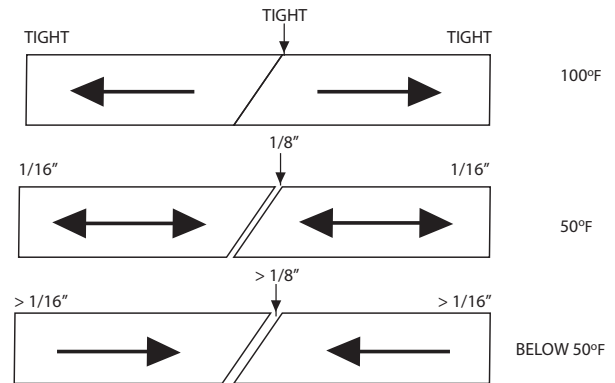
- Remember that some PVC cements cure quickly (2 minutes or less) and have a very limited working time. This may reduce adhesive strength.
- Bonded joints should be secured with fasteners on each side of the joint to allow for proper contact of the boards being glued together.
- Scarf cut joints are recommended. See Figure C.



- For scarf cut joints, double nail on both sides of the joint and reinforce with construction adhesive applied to the backside of the trimboards approximately 2' on each side of joint.
- When bonding VERSATEX to other substrates, consult the adhesive manufacturer to determine a suitable product for your application. VERSATEX's Fill n' Fasten is excellent for bonding VERSATEX Trimboard to metal or fiberglass.
- Adhesives alone are not recommended for securing Versatex to a substrate.
- To reduce joint separation biscuit the joints with a K-20 plastic biscuit and glue using a PVC cement (Weld-On 705, Weld-On 4052 or VERSATEX Fill n' Fasten.)

## Expansion and Contraction

VERSATEX expands and contracts with changes in temperature. Properly fastening and bonding VERSATEX along its entire length will minimize expansion and contraction.



- Use stainless steel nails or screws designed for wood trim and long enough to penetrate the substrate a minimum of 1 1/2". Screws are better for limiting the thermal movement of the trim.
- Allow VERSATEX to acclimate to outside temperature before installing.
- Allow 3/16" space per 18' run of VERSATEX for expansion and contraction. Use a UV resistant acrylic based, polymer based, or polyurethane caulk to fill any gaps between boards for appearance. NPC's solar seal 900 in trimboard white is recommended with VERSATEX.
- Bond joints between pieces of VERSATEX to eliminate separation. Be sure to allow adequate expansion and contraction space at the ends of these long runs. See bonding solutions in Technical Bulletin B-3.
- Product that cannot be face nailed in accordance with our recommended on center spacing will require more room to accommodate expansion.
- Product facing direct sunlight may be susceptible to a larger temperature range.
- You can further restrict product expansion and contraction by decreasing the on center spacing between fasteners to 12" or less and bonding boards to substrate when feasible to do so.
- When utilizing a bevel or shiplap joint, leave a full 3/16" gap when installing on a day where temperatures range from 35°F to 45°F.
- When utilizing a bevel or shiplap joint, leave a gap just large enough to accept a bead of sealant when installing on a day when temperatures range from 80°F to 100°F.
- Scarf cut joints are preferred over butt joints.

## Support Spacing

VERSATEX must not be used in load bearing applications, but it may be used in spanned applications such as soffits and ceilings. When used as a fascia, apply a structural sub fascia first.

## For Soffit Installations

- Use 1" nominal products for spans of 16" to 24". Under no circumstance should the span distance for any VERSATEX product exceed 24".
- When installing VERSATEX Beadboard, orient the beadboard perpendicular to the joints and fasten every 12" O.C. or less.

## For Ceiling Installations

- Use a 1" nominal products or thicker for spans of 16" to 24".
- When using VERSATEX Beadboard or thinner VERSATEX Sheet, fasten every 12" or less O.C. and apply construction adhesive to the underside of the rafters.
- Never span VERSATEX more than 24".
- Decrease span to 12" when installation temperature is below 40°F.
- Before installing VERSATEX Beadboard, be sure the underside of the ceiling joists are true and level. You may want to place a 1/2" or 7/16" sheet of OSB or plywood to the underside of the ceiling joists to reduce or eliminate joist read through.

## Painting

VERSATEX does not require painting for protection. If painting is preferred, follow the guidelines below. See Technical Bulletin Nos. B-1, B-2, B-4 and B-5 for more information on VERSATEX paint specifications and application.

- **IMPORTANT** - Use 100% acrylic latex or 100% acrylic latex with urethane additive paint with a **light reflective value (LRV) equal to or greater than 55 units**. Failure to follow this requirement will void our product warranty.
- Consult Sherwin Williams or Blue River Coating on heat reflective paints in applications where the paint color has an LRV value less than 55 units.
- Paint life is longer when applied to VERSATEX versus wood due to the absence of moisture in our trim.
- To obtain adequate paint adhesion be sure the surface of the VERSATEX Trimboard is clean, dry and free of dirt, loose or peeling paint, mildew, chalk, grease and any other surface contaminants before paint applications.
- Paint can take up to 30 days to fully cure depending on outside temperatures and humidity conditions.
- Follow the paint manufacturer's surface preparation and application recommendations.
- VERSATEX is not liable for paint used on VERSATEX and/or the results of its use.

## Heat Forming/Bending

VERSATEX can be easily formed into a variety of shapes by heat forming or bending. See Technical Bulletin Nos. A-1 and A-2 for more information.

## Moisture

VERSATEX can be installed at or below grade, as it does not absorb moisture. VERSATEX is perfect for use in moisture-prone applications such as garage doorjamb, column wraps, ground contact, masonry contact, hot tub surrounds, and rooflines.

## Molding and Milling

VERSATEX can be molded and milled using standard woodworking equipment. Multi-fluted carbide bits are recommended when molding or milling VERSATEX. Be sure to run test pieces of VERSATEX to achieve the smoothest finish when using woodworking equipment with multiple cutting speeds capabilities. See Technical Bulletin No. C-1 for more information.

## Cleaning

VERSATEX may be cleaned with a mild detergent and water. Products with pumice, such as Soft Scrub®, may be applied with a nylon brush. Use a mild household cleaner and degreaser like Clorox-Cleanup, Spic & Span or Fantastik. For more stubborn stains, use Clorox Outdoors, Denatured Alcohol, Bleach or Mr. Clean Magic Eraser. Test any cleaner on an inconspicuous area before full use.

## Storage and Handling

- Store VERSATEX on a flat level surface as it has a tendency to conform to the surface on which it is stored.
- Handle VERSATEX as you would handle lumber to avoid damage.
- Keep VERSATEX free of dirt and debris. Clean VERSATEX after installation as described above.
- Do not store or place on asphalt or in areas prone to excessive heat build-up.

## Safety

- All machining should be done in a well ventilated area.
- Safety glasses should be worn whenever you are working with VERSATEX.
- When cutting with a powersaw, a dust mask is recommended.

To access the **VERSATEX technical bulletins go to [versatex.com/tech\\_info.php](http://versatex.com/tech_info.php) or contact us at (724) 857.1111.**