Technical Bulletin No. 0045

LP® SmartSide® Prefinished Smooth Finish Strand Siding Products Trim

Smooth Finish Strand Substrate Lap Siding and Trim have a different surface texture than Cedar Texture Strand Substrate Siding Products (e.g. lap, panel, trim, soffit, & vertical siding).

- A smooth finish requires more diligence of moisture management during the coating process.
- Any liquid water or water vapor that remains on the primed surface before coating, or that has not dissipated during the curing process, or is trapped on the prefinished surface during storage is more likely to affect paint sheen than cedar texture siding products.

For best results:

- It is critical that the substrate be dry before painting, **failing to do so will result in sheen variation** in the Prefinished Smooth Finish Strand Substrate Siding Products.
- Upon acceptance of delivery, siding product units should be stored inside, any siding products with visible moisture should be dried (e.g. oven or air) prior to coating.
- Siding products should be preheated prior to coating to minimum surface temperature as required by the specified paint manufacturer.
- Siding products need an adequate time for paint to cure (*paint is cured when all of the solvent has left the solid paint layer, leaving only the coating on the siding product substrate*) prior to packaging. Exposing prefinished smooth strand products to moisture before the paint is cured, **will result in sheen variation**.
- Prior to packaging prefinished siding products, cool to 90°F or, or as specified by the paint manufacturer.
- Seasonally, differences in the siding temperature and ambient air temperatures can produce condensation within a unit, especially if stored outside.
- Prefinished units must be packaged in a manner to eliminate liquid water or water vapor from entering and/or being trapped in units.
- Prefinished units should be stored inside until ready for jobsite delivery.

Prefinishers:

- LP recognizes there are multiple Prefinish processes and encourages each Prefinisher to evaluate their equipment and/or process capabilities to effectively manage liquid water and water vapor

Job site recommendation:

- Prefinished units should be stored off the ground on a flat well-drained surface
- Store units under a shroud or waterproof covering

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Date Created: 06-01-04
Last Revision: 09-01-26



- When the waterproof covering is removed, cut all unit banding
- Keep Prefinished siding clean and dry
- Inspect prior to installation
- Do not install individual siding boards that have visible Prefinish defects

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Date Created: 09-17-19
Last Revision: 09-01-26

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