



Development Services Center

SFR-01 Basement Insulation

The Washington State Energy Code requires conditioned basement walls to be insulated to a value of R-21. Some installers are using metal building insulation (MBI) to meet this requirement. As a general rule, MBI is not designed to be stapled to framing members at 16, 24, or 48 inches on center. Such a system would require specific installation instructions from the manufacturer.

One manufacturer has submitted installation instructions for MBI utilizing a “stick-pin” method. In this method, “stick-pins” are glued directly to the foundation wall 24 inches on center each way. The mastic must set up 24 to 48 hours prior to installing the insulation. The insulation is then pressed against the “stick-pins”, flat washers applied where the “stick-pins” penetrate the insulation facing, and a “cap” is friction-fit on the end of the “stick-pin”. This method of application is approved in the City.

Since no basement framing is required for such an installation, there is no need to provide rough-in wiring in such exterior walls. Wiring will be required when future framing is prepared for covering with wall panels.



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