

TECHNICAL BULLETIN
Mitsubishi Plastics Composites America Inc.
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Panel Fasteners

When ALPOLIC panels are used in an exterior wall system, they are commonly attached to the extruded aluminum support frame using tapping screws. In this application the screws will be exposed to “humidity near the dew point “at some point in its service life. This creates a corrosive environment for the fastener which requires additional design considerations.

In this application, the tapping screws are required by ICC to be made from an acceptable material as defined in the Aluminum Design Manual. While there are some differences in wording between the 2009 IBC and 2012 IBC, the only acceptable tapping screw materials for exterior use with ALPOLIC panels are:

- A) Aluminum
- B) 300 Series Stainless Steel (austenitic stainless steel)

Other types of screw materials, such as, 400 series stainless steel or coated carbon steel, would result in an IBC code violation and are not to be used.

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