

EXTERIOR USE OF FIRE-RETARDANT-TREATED-WOOD

When FRTW products are used in areas where the material is exposed to weather or high humidity, it must be treated with special non-leaching chemicals.

An accelerated weathering test (ASTM D2898) exposes FRTW to regular wetting and drying cycles to represent actual long-term outdoor conditions. FRTW must still achieve a flame-spread rating of 25 after undergoing this accelerated weathering procedure in order to qualify for exterior use.

These requirements apply to products used, for example, as exterior grade fire-retardant treated plywood siding over wood studs in exterior walls of noncombustible buildings and FRTW decorative cladding (shakes) on the exterior of noncombustible buildings.