



## **PANEL HANDLING AND STORAGE GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

Plywood, like any other building product, requires proper handling and storage to prevent damage and assure reliable performance. Despite its cross laminated construction, face veneers, panel edges and panel corners are vulnerable to damage and should always be protected.

Plywood is manufactured at low moisture content and while small changes in moisture content will not appreciably affect its dimensions, large changes should be avoided since they may encourage severe warping, checking of the face veneer with consequent impairment of its qualities as a paint base. It is good practice to store plywood which is to be used for interior finish under conditions that approximate those it will experience in service.

### **Caution**

Tulsa Concrete form panels are edge sealed during manufacturing. However, it is recommended to apply an extra sealing before use and if you have to cut during use, it is necessary that fresh edges be re-sealed to avoid panel damage caused by capillary penetration of humidity.

Use the appropriate form remover (same as recommended, chemical reactive releases from non porous surfaces) before using the panel the first time and then, before each use. It is recommended to use an appropriate remover even if the panel is pre-oiled.

Although cleaning a Tulsa Concrete form panel is much easier and quicker than traditional form materials, it is important to only use fiber spatulas and synthetic materials when cleaning forms to prevent damage to the faces which might occur with metallic tools.

Although Tulsa Concrete form panels are very resistant to the abrasion and impact, as with any highly finished surface, care must be taken during cleaning and use to prevent damage. Always use the appropriate vibrators and techniques to protect panels' surface.

### **Storage**

1. Store plywood panels flat and level preferably under a roof.
2. The top panel in the stack should be weighted down to minimize warpage from humidity.
3. Keep finish faces inward and cover stacks to protect from bumping and abrasion
4. When stacking, align bunks or pallets vertically to avoid warping of panels
5. Protect panel edges and corners. Panels to be moved by a forklift should be placed on pallets or bunks when received to avoid damage by fork
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With TULSFILM/ STANDARD film, the phenolic film overlaid board, it is recommended the forms are "conditioned" before use, by applying a light wet slurry to the board or a grout wash, prior to the first pour. This should make any localised swelling during the first few uses less noticeable. It is crucial that all exposed edges are sealed with a waterproof sealer and all nail holes / tie - bolt holes are also counter sunk and sealed.

Do not bounce rebar on the face of the board as this will also damage the face and increase the ingress of moisture / localised swelling.

Apply a suitable filling compound or mastic to joints between panels to minimise grout loss.

The use of water proof sealer to be applied twice on all exposed / cut edges and pre drilled tie holes is recommended.

Remember wood is hygroscopic and will swell if exposed to moisture, reducing the performance of the board.

If you follow correct site practice you will get maximum usage out of the panels, if you leave it exposed to the elements, and not seal the edges, then the board will not perform as intended.