

SYSTEM OF VERTICALLY INSTALLED ARCHITECTURAL PANELS

Objectives

Provide guidance to installers to minimize or eliminate the risk of panels warping under the impact of thermal expansion caused by sunlight and large variations in outside temperature.

IMPORTANT STEPS

1. Check the straightness and alignment of the panel supporting structures (girts). Misalignment can result in the panel being installed with flexural pre-stressing on the exterior facing, causing oil canning after or during installation.
2. There must be ½" of panel clearance around each building opening to accommodate thermal expansion. This space must be filled with spray polyurethane-foam insulation.
3. Place a strip of ½"-thick polyethylene to the base of a vertically installed panel to act as a thermal-expansion joint. One-half-inch clearance must be left at the top and filled with insulation.
4. In the case of Norex and Noroc panels, drill a ½" hole through the exterior facings (and only through these facings) of the panels where the screws must be inserted to allow for expansion.
5. See reference: Screw and girt selection guide NAI-IC-10.10