External Fire Rated Walls - Timber & Steel

When MgO Corp Board (CMA-CM40009) sheets are attached to the outside of the wall, the wall takes on the fire rating of the sheet. A 10mm external sheet gives up to a 90 minute fire rating. A 12mm sheet gives a 120 minute fire rating and a 14mm sheet gives a 180 minute fire rating. There are a number of points to observe:

- The walls will require 14kg/m³ of fibre glass insulation at a minimum of 70mm thick for 60 minute ratings, and minimum 90mm thick for 90 minute and 120 minute ratings.
- Follow the fixing details described on the timber and steel wall installation brochures.
- External cladding of fire rated walls require particular attention to sealing all gaps, especially at internal and external corners.
- MgO Corp recommends the use of back blocking to all joints with the same thickness of MgO Corp ResCom Wall Board. By placing a 150mm width strip of MgO Corp board glued with an appropriate fire rated or structural polyurethane adhesive. To be applied in full length minimum 4mm beads to all stud and noggings then screwed into place to allow adhesion. This will help eliminate any thermal breaches and give additional protection to the frame.
- Place back blocks over the face of studs/beams/noggings by gluing and screwing in place prior to installation of the wall boards.
- Since all fibre batt insulation loses its effectiveness when wet, ensure drainage is provided to remove condensation from the cavity. It is good practice to install the cladding on battens so the air movement helps to prevent moisture build up.

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