

## Installation Guidelines

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### Storage & Handling

- Store the IQ<sup>m</sup> product on a **flat** level surface. Product may conform to the surface on which it is stored for long periods of time, especially at mid to high ambient temperatures.
- In order to protect the product finish, keep the protective film on IQ<sup>m</sup> product until ready for installation.
- IQ<sup>m</sup> products have a product density that is comparable to pine wood and should be handled in a similar fashion to avoid damage.
- Do not store product on asphalt and/or concrete surfaces as radiant heat may cause the product to conform to the surface it is stored on.

### Standard Tools Needed

- Hammer or nail gun
- Power or hand drill
- Power saw with a carbide-topped blade or a hand saw

### Cutting

- IQ<sup>m</sup> products can be cut using standard woodworking saws.
- Carbide-tipped blades designed for cutting wood are preferred. Avoid using fine tooth metal-cutting blades.
- Avoid scoring or scratching the exposed or finished surface of the IQ<sup>m</sup> product.
- When cutting with a circular saw, place finished side facing downward.

### Drilling

- IQ<sup>m</sup> products can be drilled using standard woodworking drill bits.
- Remove shavings periodically from a drill hole as necessary to avoid heat build-up.
- Avoid frictional heat build-up.

### Routing

- IQ<sup>m</sup> products cannot be routed. Routing will degrade the ASA cap which provide enhanced weathering and fade resistance.

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### Fastening

- Always fasten IQ<sup>m</sup> trim boards and corners onto flat, solid underlying substrates.
- IQ<sup>m</sup> products can be hand nailed, power nailed and screwed just like wood using most common fasteners utilized in securing wood to various substrates. **DO NOT USE MILLED FACED HAMMERS FOR DRIVING NAILS INTO TRIM.** Take care not to over torque when using screw fasteners.
- Hand nailing is the recommended method for fastening. If using a standard nail gun, the recommended pressure setting is between 70 psi and 90 psi. (**Note:** Pressure setting may vary by manufacturer and fastener type.)
- Do not overdrive nail into the material.
- For adequate hold to the substrate, fasteners should extend at least 1 1/2" beyond the thickness of the trim board being fastened.
- We recommend a high-quality fastener, such as stainless steel or hot-dipped galvanized.
- Recommended fastener spacing is 16" on center. Install fastener at least 1 1/4" in from the "J" channel's outer edge and at least 3/4" in from the flush edge.
- Use two fasteners per location/framing member on all IQ<sup>m</sup> boards.
- Use one fastener on each side of IQ<sup>m</sup> corner pieces, 1 1/4" from the J-channel's outer edge. This will prevent the corner from moving on the wall.
- Avoid direct impact to the J-Channel feature with hammer or nail gun during installation. This will weaken or break out the section impacted by the blow.
- Install fasteners no more than 2" from the end of each board.

### Expansion & Contraction

- IQ<sup>m</sup> expands and contracts with changes in temperature. Fastening the product along its entire length will keep movement to a minimum--width expansion is minimal.
- Allow product to acclimate to outside temperature for a minimum of 24 hours prior to installing.
- When properly fastened, allow 1/8" per 12' 6" of IQ<sup>m</sup> product for expansion and contraction. Use a UV resistant acrylic based, polymer based or polyurethane caulk to fill any gaps between boards for appearance.
- Joints between pieces of IQ<sup>m</sup> should be glued to eliminate joint separation. See bonding instructions for more information.
- *Do not install this product in areas that can exceed 140° ambient temperature because it may soften and change its dimension permanently.*

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### Heat Forming/Bending

- Do not heat form or bend the IQ<sup>m</sup> product. Heat forming or bending will void the warranty.

### J-Channel and Aqua-Flex™ Water Management

- Ensure that the Aqua-Flex is flush (not folded) against the underlying substrate.
- Caulking or taping is optional but not necessary between the trim board and underlying substrate.
- **Note: The Aqua-Flex does not replace standard window or siding flashing requirements. Windows should be flashed in accordance with the window manufacturer's guidelines and local building codes prior to installing the IQ<sup>m</sup> product.**
- Miter joining for window and doors surrounds ensures proper visual appearance of the J-Channel in conjunction with siding products and the water diversion function of the Water Management feature.
- Avoid direct impact to the J-Channel feature with hammer or nail gun during installation. This will weaken or break out the section impacted by the blow.

### Fastening Outdoors in Low Temperature

- Impact properties decrease in low temperatures, making the material more susceptible to cracking or shattering. For best results do not install IQ<sup>m</sup> products in temperatures below 32° F.
- Pre-drilling is recommended to avoid hairline cracking and possible "blow-out of materials" at temperatures below 40° F.
- Repetitive strikes of a hammer or nail gun in colder weather might cause the PVC to lose its structural integrity. Exit points may exhibit "blow-out" of material affected by the impact.
- Use of annular threaded nails is not recommended in low temperatures (32° F). The friction build-up on the threads can cause some material blow-out on the back of the board.

### Bonding & Adhesives

- To bond this product to other substrates, various adhesives may be used such as contact cement, epoxy, rubber based and urethane adhesive systems are also acceptable.
- Adhesive should be specified for use with PVC products. Use adhesive in accordance with the manufacturer instructions.
- For best results, all surfaces to be glued must be smooth, clean, and in complete contact with each other.
- Bonded joints should be secured with fasteners on each side of the joint to allow for adequate bonding time.
- Clean caulk or adhesive residue from the finish side of all IQ<sup>m</sup> boards.

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### To bond this product to itself

- For aesthetics, fit and proper function of the incorporated features of this product miter joints are to be used for window and door surrounds.
- Clear or color matched caulking adhesive is recommended between joints.
- Clean caulk or adhesive residue from the finish side of all IQ<sup>m</sup> board that has squeezed out of any joint.

### Painting

- Painting the IQ<sup>m</sup> product is not recommended. Painting IQ<sup>m</sup> compromises the ASA cap, which offers superior weathering and fade resistance.
- Painting the IQ<sup>m</sup> product will affect the warranty.

### Installation with Stone, Brick or other Masonry Unit

For ease of installation with masonry type cladding, IQ<sup>m</sup> can be installed with the flat edge toward masonry cladding. The channel side of the IQ<sup>m</sup> product will be facing toward the window or door unit. The resulting butt joint between the IQ<sup>m</sup> product and masonry cladding should be caulked to ensure acceptable appearance. Window or door openings must be flashed according to the window or door manufacturer's installation instructions.

### Care & Cleaning

- IQ<sup>m</sup> can be cleaned using a mild detergent and water.
- Do not use cleaning products that have an abrasive scrubbing agent.
- Do not use any products that are bleach or ammonia based.