

**Oregon Interpretive Ruling No. 94-21**  
**RECOGNITION OF WOOD STRUCTURAL PANEL PRODUCTS**

**Requested By:** BUILDING CODES STRUCTURES BOARD  
MAY 4, 1994

**REQUEST**

Replace withdrawn PPPI 4025.

**REQUEST FOR RULING**

Recognize the use of oriented strand board, mat-formed and wafer board structural panels in Oregon.

**BACKGROUND**

At the Board's May 4, 1994, meeting the Board considered proposed amendments to the 1993 Edition of the Oregon One and Two Family Dwelling Specialty Code (Dwelling Code) submitted by the Oregon State Home Builders Association (OSHBA) requesting early adoption in Oregon of amendments to the 1992 CABO One and Two Family Dwelling Code incorporating the use of "Wood Structural Panels" which have been approved by the Council of American Building Officials (CABO) Code Change Committee. OSHBA indicated the need for adoption of these proposed amendments was because some building officials have expressed concern about the use of these products that are not specifically identified in the Dwelling Code. The Board felt it would be preferable to allow the use of these products by interpretive ruling rather than early adoption of a significant number of Oregon amendments covering a limited period of time prior (until adoption in Oregon of the 1995 Edition of the CABO One and Two Family Dwelling Code.) The Board requested the proponent work with staff to develop a ruling to serve this purpose.

**FINDINGS**

The definition of "Wood Structural Panel" has been approved for inclusion in the 1995 Edition of the CABO One and Two Family Dwelling Code and the 1994 Edition of the *Uniform Building Code* and reads as follows:  
WOOD STRUCTURAL PANEL is a structural panel product composed primarily of wood, and meeting the requirements of DOC PS 1 or DOC PS 2 (U.B.C. Standard 23-2 or 23-3) listed in Section 5-26.115. Wood structural panels include all-veneer plywood, composite panels containing a combination of veneer and wood-based material, and mat formed panels such as oriented strand board and wafer board.  
DOC PS 1 and U.B.C. Standard 23-2 are titled "Construction and Industrial Plywood." DOC PS-2 and U.B.C. Standard 23-3 are titled "Performance Standard for Wood-Based Structural-Use Panels"

**RULING**

Products manufactured according to Standard DOC PS 2 (U.B.C. Standard 2303) are approved for use in Oregon and may be used as allowed by the standard as sheathing for walls, floors and roofs. Attachment of these panels shall be according to Table No. R-402.3a or Table No. R-402.31 (1) of the Dwelling Code for one- and two-family structures and Table No. 25-Q of the Structural Code for all other structures. Structural wood panels are approved for use as braced panels.

This interpretive ruling is automatically withdrawn upon the effective date of the 1994 *Uniform Building Code* and the 1995 CABO One and Two Family Dwelling Code with appropriate amendments as adopted in Oregon.

(signed August 3, 1994)

John Talbott, Chairman,  
Building Codes Structures Board

The recommendations and findings of the Building Codes Structures Board are accepted and the conclusions are adopted.

(signed August 24, 1994)

Michele J. Patterson for Gary J. Wicks, Administrator  
Building Codes Division