

# **ALBI DRICLAD: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

## **SUITABLE LOCATIONS**

**1. Can Albi DriClad be used in both interior and exterior locations?**

No, DriClad is designed for interior use.

**2. Can you use Albi DriClad in an interior, unheated space? What about a covered parking garage?**

Yes, Albi DriClad is durable and highly moisture resistant. It is well suited to semi-exposed conditions such as parking garages.

## **APPEARANCE**

**1. What does Albi DriClad look like?**

The boards have a flat surface with minor ridges. They are yellowish beige in color. When installed, DriClad forms a snug protective box around the steel member. The appearance is clean, uniform, and crisp, and offers an attractive alternative to conventional, sprayed fireproofing.

**2. Can DriClad be painted?**

Yes. The DriClad boards can be painted to achieve a desired color. Paint will tend to soak into the board, giving the effect of a colored board, rather than a slick painted surface.

## **FIRE RATINGS, CODES AND APPROVALS**

**1. Why does Albi stress UL ratings?**

Underwriters Laboratories Inc is the undisputed leader in the evaluation of fire resistive construction materials. UL's specialized facilities, fire test experience, rigorous impartiality, and wide acceptance by code officials are unmatched by other testing bodies.

We participate in the UL follow-up service program which is your assurance that the product sold continues to match the product tested.

**2. What is the maximum hourly rating you can achieve?**

Albi DriClad is rated by UL for up to 4 hours.

**3. Does Albi DriClad comply with BOCA, SBCC, ICBO and IBC requirements?**

Yes, all Albi products are designed to meet all relevant local, state and regional building codes, including BOCA, SBCC, ICBO and IBC.

## **STEEL SIZES AND CONFIGURATIONS**

**1. What is the minimum steel size?**

For wide flange columns, the minimum size is W10 x 49, or any steel size with a minimum W/D of .83. For wide flange beams, the minimum size is W 8 x 31, or any steel size with a W/D of .79. For structural pipes and tubes, the minimum A/P is .25.

**2. I need to fireproof steel smaller than the sizes shown in your UL Designs. What do you recommend?**

For steel sizes smaller than what was tested, please contact Albi Manufacturing for assistance.

**3. How do you best fireproof a steel truss?**

It depends on the size of the truss. For a large truss, you treat the component parts as individual pieces of steel, using the column designs. On a steel joist, made of smaller members, you would box the entire assembly with Albi DriClad.

**4. How can I fireproof grease ducts?**

Albi DriClad is ideal for enclosing duct work. It has been tested by the State of Wisconsin for 1 hour protection of a grease duct. In that test, the duct was boxed with DriClad on all sides.

## **ABOUT THE MATERIAL**

**1. Does Albi DriClad contain asbestos?**

No. All Albi products are free of asbestos.

**2. What is DriClad made of?**

Albi DriClad is made by a patented process from molten volcanic rock, which is spun into fine threads, impregnated with a special resin and compressed into semi rigid boards. It is fastened with the patented AlbiScrew™ system.

**3. Is Albi DriClad cost effective compared to spray-on type fireproofing?**

Yes, Albi DriClad is relatively inexpensive. On a material cost basis (depending on the hourly rating) Albi DriClad is comparable in price to low density cementitious fireproofing, and less expensive than medium or high-density spray-on materials.

On an installed basis, it costs slightly more than the low-density cementitious material because of labor required to cut, fit and screw in the boards. Installed cost for DriClad is still lower than for medium density or high density spray-on fireproofing.

In certain circumstances, Albi DriClad is even less expensive than low density spray fireproofing. For example, it requires no heating and minimal building protection in winter. Albi DriClad requires no special steel preparation and it may offer schedule savings in other situations that can make it the low cost alternative.

**4. Will DriClad spall, or crack?**

No. The material will not spall or crack, as the boards are made of spun mineral fibers and resin, with no cementitious component.

**5. Is fungus or bacteria a problem?**

No. DriClad has been tested to ASTM C665 and shows no fungus or bacteria growth. It is chemically inert and highly moisture resistant.

**INSTALLATION OF THE PRODUCT**

**1. What trade applies the Albi DriClad?**

It can be installed by approved Albi applicators, or by contractors accustomed to installing board materials, carpenters, and fireproofing contractors.

**2. Does Albi DriClad require specialized equipment for installation?**

No. Albi DriClad is easily installed with standard tools. The boards are cut with a table saw, knife or hand saw. The boards must be fastened with our patented AlbiScrews™.

**3. Do any weather conditions restrict installation of Albi DriClad?**

One of the advantages of Albi DriClad is that it can be installed year round, in all weather conditions.

**4. Can Albi DriClad sustain partial exposure to the elements while a building is under construction? How long?**

Albi DriClad is quite a forgiving material, and can handle indirect exposure to weather during installation, until the building is closed up. However, it is an interior product. It should not be exposed to direct weathering, or left unprotected for a prolonged time if building completion is delayed.

**CONSIDERING SPECIFYING ALBI DRICLAD**

**1. We are in the process of doing a feasibility study. How can we estimate budget costs for Albi DriClad?**

Albi produces a chart of installed budget costs. You can download a copy from our website, request one from your regional sales manager, or find one in the Albi binder for specifiers.

**2. Where can I get further information about Albi DriClad?**

Our website is [www.albi.com](http://www.albi.com). You can download a guide specification, installation instructions, budget information, product data sheets, and a variety of other literature there.

Our headquarters is:

Albi Manufacturing, division of StanChem Inc., 401 Berlin Street, East Berlin CT 06023. (860)828-0571

For detailed or technical questions you can email our DriClad Product Manager, Mr. Ken Walker. [kwalker@albi.com](mailto:kwalker@albi.com)

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