

## Technical Bulletin No. 023

### LP® SmartSide® Vented Soffit and Rain/Snow Intrusion

#### **Wind driven precipitation and factory installed ventilation openings in soffit panels.**

- LP SmartSide soffit panels feature vented sections that meet the specific language in the International Residential Code (IRC) and the International Building Code (IBC) for a minimum opening of 1/16" and a maximum of 1/4". The IRC and IBC then specify the minimum open area required for attic space ventilation based on the plan area of the roof. IRC section R806 states: *"Enclosed attics and enclosed rafter spaces formed where ceilings are applied directly to the underside of roof rafters shall have cross ventilation for each separate space by ventilating openings protected against the entrance of rain or snow."* Typically, this means orienting vented soffits downward or perhaps louvering gable vents so that ordinary rain and snow do not enter the enclosed attic.
- Snow and rain driven by high winds are difficult exposures for a well ventilated attic space and some intrusion is likely. Intrusion does not represent a manufacturing defect.

For addition information please reference <http://thehtrc.com/2011/air-sealing-attic-baffles>