

## Technical Bulletin No. 025

### Water-Resistive Barrier Requirement behind LP® SmartSide® Siding

LP has not required the use of a code approved water-resistive barrier behind LP® SmartSide® Siding except when our lap siding is applied directly to a stud framed wall. As a result, the lack of such a barrier behind panel siding, or behind lap siding that is not applied directly to the framing will not reduce or limit the LP SmartSide limited warranty coverage. Please be aware though that the LP SmartSide limited warranty does not expressly or implicitly cover any part of the wall assembly other than the siding. If water penetrates the wall assembly, LP cannot be held liable for interior damage and will not participate in any remedial costs.

We are changing our position in light of changes to sections R703.1 & R703.2 of the 2006 International Residential Code, which require a barrier be used in all exterior siding cases except over concrete or masonry walls. It goes without saying that the use of a water-resistive barrier is a sound building practice that is intended to provide a second line of defense to exterior moisture that may get behind the siding. Therefore, effective October 15 of 2007, LP will modify its installation instructions to reflect this same requirement. For installations after that date, LP will deny any moisture related warranty claims made on lap or panel siding which are applied without a code approved water-resistive barrier.