

# Panel Care Instructions

## Timber Faced Products

### PACKAGING

The completed pack of Hemsec SIPs panels are wrapped in polythene to protect against the weather. They are supported by a number of polystyrene bearers to keep the pack elevated from the floor, allowing forklift access and minimising subsequent dirt and possible damage.

### UNLOADING

Suitable plant or equipment should be made available for the safe unloading of packs of panels. Packs should be unloaded following the guidelines below.

- Lift only one pack at a time.
- Lift pack in the middle ensuring the unloading area is clear and level.
- All pack edges are vulnerable at time of unloading and extra care should be taken.

### STORAGE

For short-term storage, panels can be stored outside, off the ground as long as the protective polythene sheet is unbroken.

Open packs should be stored internally or a protective polythene sheet should be replaced. Packs should be stored as close to the build as possible without relocation leading to possible handling damage.

### HANDLING

Care should be taken when handling Hemsec SIPs panels to prevent damage. Sufficient manpower and/or mechanical lifting devices must be used to prevent damage to the panels during handling.

### CUTTING OF HEMSEC SIPS PANELS

The bonding characteristics of any sandwich panel can be adversely affected by the use of inappropriate cutting equipment.

### MOISTURE INGRESS ON SITE

Hemsec SIPs is a robust product manufactured from high quality materials. As a timber based product it will absorb moisture in a site situation however, the moisture ingress during construction is not detrimental to the product.

Measures to limit the amount of moisture ingress on site are advisable and we recommend the following;

- a. When Hemsec SIPs are flat stacked ready for use keep them under cover.
- b. Once Hemsec SIPs are installed apply the breather membrane as soon as practically possible.

Moisture content can be monitored using a moisture meter on site. Moisture levels up to 20% are acceptable.

Moisture levels above 20% are acceptable for short periods.

Variations in moisture content will not damage the components of Hemsec SIPs during the course of a typical site installation.

Any concerns regarding moisture levels in the Hemsec SIPs should be relayed to the nominated contractor installing the product.

### ON SITE ALTERATIONS

All minor on site alterations may be undertaken by a competent contractor with sufficient product knowledge ensuring they follow the design of the build.

Any major alterations must be structurally designed by a structural engineer prior to execution by the contractor.

### PENETRATIONS

Any penetrations over 300mm square or diameter must be designed and executed by a competent contractor. Smaller penetrations can be formed without design but should be executed by a competent contractor.

### HEALTH & SAFETY

Please refer to our COSHH sheet available on [our website](#) for further information.