

**General**

The long-term performance of Nichiha AWP is dependent upon the soundness of its installation, which relies on the framing, sheathing, and weather resistant barrier. Because Nichiha AWP is a rainscreen system, the water-shedding properties of the wall assembly are critical for long-term performance. Given our product warranty is 15 years, making sure the substrate is in great shape prior to installation of AWP is absolutely essential. Therefore, extra care must be taken for any projects involving retrofits to existing structures. Please refer to *Framing & Sheathing Requirements* in the AWP Install Guides. Existing walls that do not meet these requirements may not be suitable for AWP.

**Brick and Thin Brick:** Because the mortar supporting the brick may not be able to also support the added weight of furring and AWP and resist wind loads, it is best to remove existing brick in order to install AWP over clean substrate in keeping with installation guide requirements.

**EIFS and Stucco:** Since the condition of the framing and sheathing under EIFS or stucco may not be easily verified, and due to the difficulty and uncertainty of adding a furring (anchored into the framing) over the existing surface, the EIFS or stucco *must* be removed. The sheathing and/or WRB can then be replaced if necessary, enabling exterior envelope waterproofing best practices and standard AWP installation.

**PEMBs**

Existing Pre-Engineered Metal Buildings (PEMBs) may not be suitable for AWP as new construction is designed with our panels in mind. As such, the deflection criteria, metal panel gauge, etc, are tailored to account for AWP. Existing buildings with unknown or mismatching criteria will not successfully accommodate AWP.

*Installation over these surfaces is strongly discouraged and is done at the customer's own risk.*