What is NFPA 285?
NFPA 285 is a test required by the International Building Code (IBC) for non-combustible construction Types I - IV. The below flow chart helps to determine whether a wall assembly requires NFPA 285 testing.

NFPA 285 Requirements

- Non-Combustible Construction Types I – IV (Based on 2015 IBC)
  - Yes → Check next question
  - No → NFPA 285 Not Required

- Is Foam Plastic Insulation in the Exterior Wall Assembly?
  - Yes → NFPA 285 Required
  - No → Check next question

- Is Exterior Cladding Combustible & Installed > 40’ Above Grade
  - Yes → NFPA 285 Required
  - No → Check next question

- Is WRB Combustible & Installed > 40’ Above Grade
  - Yes → NFPA 285 Required
  - No → NFPA 285 Not Required

Information contained in this brochure conforms to the standard detail recommendations and specifications for the installation of Dryvit Systems, Inc. products as of the date of the publication of this document and is presented in good faith. Dryvit Systems, Inc. assumes no liability, expressed or implied, as to the architecture, engineering or workmanship of any project. To ensure that you are using the latest, most complete information, contact Dryvit Systems, Inc.
Podium design utilizes multiple stories of wood framing over a concrete deck and has gained in popularity for Type IIIB construction.* Multiple reasons exist for podium design which can include: speed of construction, design flexibility and reduced environmental impact.

Some fundamental questions arise.

• How to include the use of code compliant continuous insulation (CI) in Type IIIB wood framed construction and meet relevant fire codes?
• Secondly, how will podium construction utilizing CI perform under conditions of fire, as compared to a metal framed structure of similar overall design?

For a definitive answer, Dryvit put Outsulation Plus MD System to the test.

Dryvit tested the Outsulation Plus MD System at an independent laboratory to verify compliance with ASTM E 119 and NFPA 285. The results were positive in both cases.

• ASTM E 119 fire resistance: The addition of the Outsulation Plus MD System will not reduce the fire resistance rating of any previously established load bearing, wood, fire-resistant rated wall assembly having a minimum 2-hour fire resistance rating. Both interior and exterior exposures were tested.

Outsulation by Dryvit Benefits

Dryvit Outsulation systems provide an array of other important benefits:

• Outsulation systems have been proven to compress the construction schedule when compared to other claddings.
• Outsulation systems are cost effective solutions for all building types with the best durability in the industry.
• Dryvit's exciting coatings and finishes provide the great look of traditional stone, brick, metal panels, and more, but are far more versatile, economical and time-saving choices.

Dryvit tested the Outsulation Plus MD System with Backstop® NT and AquaFlash® (air/water-resistive barrier) and 4" EPS.

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Confidently choose the Outsulation System or Outsulation Plus MD System for your podium construction projects

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**Outsulation by Dryvit Benefits**

- NFPA 285: the Outsulation Plus MD System complies with the requirements of NFPA 285 when installed over a wall constructed of wood studs.

Dryvit is the first and only EIFS manufacturer to prove compliance with ASTM E 119 for load bearing wood framed wall assemblies. Contact Dryvit Systems, Inc. for more information.

Not only does the Outsulation Plus MD System meet fire safety requirements, it brings significant benefits to the construction process.

- How to include the use of code compliant continuous insulation (CI) in Type IIIB wood framed construction and meet relevant fire codes?
- Secondly, how will podium construction utilizing CI perform under conditions of fire, as compared to a metal framed structure of similar overall design?

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* 2012 IBC Chapter 6, 602.3 Type III: Type IIIB construction is that type of construction in which the exterior walls are of noncombustible materials and the interior building elements are of any material permitted by this code. Fire retardant treated wood framing complying with section 2303.2 shall be permitted within exterior wall assemblies of a 2-hour rating or less.
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**NFPA 285 Requirements**

1. **Non-Combustible Construction Types I – IV (Based on 2015 IBC)**
   - **YES**
   - **NO**

2. Is Foam Plastic Insulation in the Exterior Wall Assembly?
   - **YES**
   - **NO**

3. Is Exterior Cladding Combustible & Installed > 40’ Above Grade
   - **YES**
   - **NO**

4. Is WRB Combustible & Installed > 40’ Above Grade
   - **YES**
   - **NO**

**PODIUM DESIGN AND CONTINUOUS INSULATION (CI) - THE PERFECT, FULLY TESTED COMBINATION**

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