

## METALITE 8000 ACM RAINSCREEN SYSTEM – NFPA 285 COMPLIANCE

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### ACM PANELS AND FIRE TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR EXTERIOR WALLS

With a wide range of manufacturers and countless products contributing to the composition of exterior wall assemblies, achieving compliance is a complex challenge. A straightforward approach is to opt for fire-resistant core metal wall panels that have been tested to meet NFPA 285 standards.

Per the International Building Code (IBC) for Construction Types I-IV, metal composite material (MCM) clad buildings greater than 40 ft tall must have a fire-resistant facade in compliance with NFPA 285 testing. This fire test measures the flame propagation of combustible materials in an entire wall assembly, so swapping out any components in a validated system requires re-testing or an engineering judgment before installation can take place. Note that other building elements may trigger the NFPA 285 requirement, even for Construction Types I-IV building 40 feet or shorter, so always check with local code officials to confirm the necessary tests and compliance for your build.

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### ACM PANELS FOR FIRE-RESISTANCE

Ensuring compliance with fire testing standards starts with selecting the right metal wall panel fabricator. A reliable fabricator will offer a fully tested system, enforce strict quality control measures, use only approved and tested components, and meticulously label each panel while ensuring thorough traceability of the entire system.

Dryvit's [Metalite® 8000 system](#) is an Aluminum Composite Material (ACM) rainscreen panel which, when installed over an approved weather resistant barrier, acts as a certified moisture management system for the exterior building envelope. Manufactured in a controlled factory environment, this system begins with an ACM panel featuring a fire-resistant core. Our rigorous process is guided by the standards outlined in our Factory Audit Manual (FAM). This ensures that every component used during system fabrication is precisely integrated into the panels.

The result is an exterior wall system that adheres strictly to the requirements of ESL-1316, our evaluation listing report through ICC-ES that certifies successful NFPA 285 fire testing for the system. The combination of FAM and ESL-1316 deliver unparalleled compliance and reliability. Metalite 8000 fire-rated panels are engineered for easy installation with minimal additional components, which reduces the architectural details and trade interfaces for a simpler design and construction process.



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### WIDER WALL COMPONENT COVERAGE PROVIDED BY ESL-1316

Since NFPA 285 compliant wall assemblies can vary significantly, Metalite 8000 can provide a wider net of wall components that can be used while still maintaining compliance. The ESL-1316 evaluation listing report for Metalite 8000 was recently updated in 2025 to include expanded component options that can be considered within exterior wall assemblies. What this means for projects: a greater range of exterior substrates, exterior insulations, Tremco-provided WRB's, and all 4 MCM panel suppliers that support Metalite 8000 fabrication can now be considered for exterior wall assemblies. While engineering judgments can be used to further broaden the net of component coverage as projects require it, ESL-1316 offers easy and fast NFPA 285 compliance coverage over a wider range of wall assembly components than ever before. Scan the QR code below for more information on ESL-1316.



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### ACHIEVING NFPA 285 COMPLIANCE WITH EASE

Modern ACM systems like Metalite 8000 provide the fire-resistance and time-savings of a modern approach for streamlined NFPA 285 compliance. With comprehensive testing, proven installation methods and technical support from Dryvit, Metalite 8000 offers comprehensive coverage for NFPA 285 compliance as validated by ICC-ES. When these elements come together with high-quality wall panels and experienced teams, NFPA 285 compliance becomes a manageable part of the design/build process. [Contact Dryvit](#) to see how we can help deliver fire-resistance to your commercial construction projects.

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