



NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Division of Code Enforcement and Administration

Phone : (518) 474-4073
www.dos.state.ny.us

Fax : (518) 486-4487
E-mail: info@dos.state.ny.us

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

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Topic: Allowable spans for wood structural panel roof sheathing

This document is to clarify use of Section R803.2.2, and Table R503.2.1.1(1) for allowable spans and allowable loads for wood structural panel roof sheathing. Section R803.2.2 refers the user to Table R503.2.1.1(1) for allowable spans and loads.

The *Residential Code of New York State*, Table R503.2.1.1 (1), does not provide the user with the allowable loading values at standard spacing intervals utilized in construction practice, i.e., spans of 16" o.c. and 24" o.c. Only the maximum allowable span values, for each dimensional thickness of plywood are provided in the Table. For example, a code user cannot enter the table with a live roof load of 60 psf, with roof truss spacing of 24" o.c. and select appropriate roof sheathing for that application.

Code users are directed to Referenced Standard APA E30-01, American Plywood Association, Engineered Wood Construction Guide, E-30, Table #25, Page #53. This table gives allowable loads at typical construction spacings of 16" and 24" o.c. These changes will be incorporated into the next edition of the *Residential Code of New York State*. Until that time, Reference Standard E-30 is to be utilized for selection of roof and floor plywood sheathing.

APA E30-01, American Plywood Association, Engineered Wood Construction Guide, E-30 indicates that 7/16" OSB for roof sheathing with supports @ 24" o.c. may only be used where the roof live load (design snow load) is 40 psf or less. If the roof live load exceeds 40 psf, alternate roof sheathing must be utilized.

Ronald E. Piester, R.A., Director
Division of Code Enforcement and Administration