



DSF No. 7008

Subject: Rebar Requirements and Diamond Snap-Form ICF System

Date: February 2011

Concrete walls can be classified as either plain concrete or reinforced concrete. The American Concrete Institute (ACI) defines plain concrete as concrete that is either unreinforced or contains less reinforcement than the minimum amount specified in the code for reinforced concrete. Reinforced concrete is defined as concrete reinforced with no less than the minimum amount required by the code, and designed on the same assumption that the two materials act together in resisting force. ACI also states that reinforcement shall be accurately placed, adequately supported and be secured against displacement at the time of the concrete pour, within tolerances of the code.

In typical reinforced concrete walls, the horizontal and vertical rebar is secured against displacement by wire tying the rebar and by the use of spacers. When building with the DSF ICF System these methods of securing the rebar are not necessary. The Diamond Snap-Tie has a rebar cradle into which the horizontal reinforcement is placed. This secures the rebar in place. The positioning of the rebar cradle also ensures that the concrete cover is a minimum of 1 1/2 inches. Vertical rebar is captured between the webs of several Diamond Snap-Ties. The friction developed from placement of the vertical rebar keeps it in place when the concrete is poured.

When designing reinforcement for the DSF ICF System, it is most efficient to keep the spacing of the horizontal and vertical reinforcing to multiples of 12 inches, since the Diamond Snap-Ties are spaced at 12 inches on center in each direction. This spacing of reinforcing will allow the Diamond Snap-Ties to secure the rebar against any displacement and not require any time consuming wire tying of the rebar.

Diamond Snap-Form is manufactured by Big Sky Insulations, Inc.

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