



## **IDENTIFICATION OF GYPSUM BOARD (GA-1000-12)**

Gypsum board is the name for a family of sheet products consisting of a noncombustible core primarily of gypsum with a paper surfacing or facing. Examples of gypsum board products may be identified by reviewing Gypsum Association publication, *GA-223, Gypsum Panel Products Types, Uses, Sizes, and Standards*.

Contemporary model building codes enforced throughout the United States and Canada require gypsum board to be manufactured to *ASTM C1396, Standard Specification for Gypsum Board*. Specification C1396 is referenced in the *International Building Code, International Residential Code, the NFPA 5000: Building Construction and Safety Code, and the National Building Code of Canada*.

By reference, ASTM C1396 mandates that gypsum board is to be marked in accordance with *ASTM C1264, Standard Specification for Sampling, Inspection, Rejection, Certification, Packaging, Marking, Shipping, Handling, and Storage of Gypsum Panel Products*. Specification C1264 requires each panel or package of panels to be legibly marked with specific information, including, but not limited to, the product thickness, the name of the producer or supplier, and the ASTM product standard. The required information is most often printed on the bundling tape that binds two individual panels into a single shipping package.

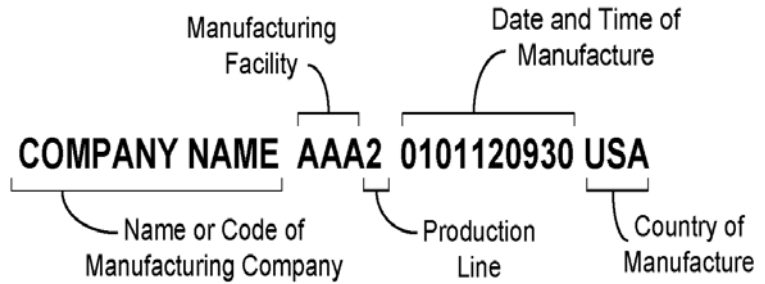
In 2011, Specification C1264 was modified to require each individual sheet of gypsum board manufactured to comply with Specification C1396 to have the following information legibly printed on the back surface of each board, parallel to the bound edge of the board:

- The name of the manufacturing company or a unique alpha code identifying the name of the manufacturing company. The decision to print the name of the company or to create and use a unique code is at the discretion of the company.
- A code identifying the manufacturing facility and, where applicable in a multi-line facility, the production line.
- A code identifying the date and time of manufacture.
- The country of manufacture as designated by the three letter code in ISO 3166-1.

The information does not have to be printed along both bound edges of the board. The printing may incorporate any legible size character or font. Additional information may be added at the discretion of the manufacturer.

A sample code might appear as follows:

The three letter country identification code is the current alpha-3 code as published in *ISO 3166-1, Codes for the representation of names of countries and their sub-divisions – Part 1: Country codes*. A copy of the standard is available from International Organization for Standardization (ISO), Geneva, Switzerland. [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org)



To facilitate identification, a truncated version of the codes listed in the standard appears below. The list displays the origin code for the countries that regularly or occasionally provide gypsum board in or export to the United States. Additional information on country of origin codes may be obtained from the ISO 3166-1 standard or by contacting the Gypsum Association.

The requirement mandating the labeling of each individual panel applies to all gypsum board manufactured to the ASTM C1396 standard with the exception of board that is packaged as single, unbound panels in multi-panel units. These units are typically packaged to meet specific contractual requirements, most often to satisfy manufacturing requirements established by the manufacturer or modular housing industry, and as such cannot legibly be labeled as individual units. As a result, the standard permits multi-panel units to be labeled as a palletized packaging unit.

ISO Alpha-3 Code	ISO Country Name (English)
BEL	Belgium
BRA	Brazil
CAN	Canada
CHN	China
COL	Colombia
DEU	Germany
DNK	Denmark
HON	Honduras
ITA	Italy
MEX	Mexico
USA	United States of America

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