

## Technical Bulletin - Evaluating Building Product Performance



When diagnosing common complaints associated with building products in construction applications, it is important to understand that building materials whether wood, metal, plastic, mineral or composite will behave predictably and understandably in response to the conditions to which they have been subjected.

The most important points in analyzing jobsite issues are to evaluate them with an open mind, and not to jump to conclusions. When evaluating any building material it is important to gather data and make observations to determine the conditions a building material was subjected to. It is important to look at site conditions, application, product selection, design, installation, finishing, fastening, sealing, coating, jobsite storage and handling, as well as environmental conditions. With this comprehensive data, an understanding of how to correct the problem can be developed that will minimize associated damage and determine a course of action. Only through a thorough evaluation can we determine whether there are issues with materials, workmanship, installation, or site conditions.

Typically poor material performance is not associated with the materials themselves, but with improper material specification, application or installation. This underscores the importance of securing and evaluating Best Practices and Technical Bulletins for any materials or products prior to their installation.