

MR-MANUFACTURER

United States Gypsum Company has been a leader in construction materials and building systems for 90 years.

PP-PRODUCT PRESENTATION

In 1988 federal law mandated the metric system as the preferred system of measurement in the United States. Executive Order 12770, *Metric Usage in Federal Government Programs*, signed in 1990, requires all agencies to establish milestones and timetables for conversion. These changes will have an impact on all U.S. Gypsum Company products.

What Is changing?

Many building materials, systems and documents used in federal construction will be affected by the change to metric.

Drawings -- Units will change from feet and inches to millimeters; scales from inch-to-foot fractions (i.e., 1/4"=1') to true ratios (i.e., 1:20). Drawings are not to be dual dimensioned, in order to avoid dimensional conflict and errors.

Specifications -- Will require metric linear dimensions, areas and volumes.

Construction Products -- Most won't change in size but will be "soft-converted" or relabeled in metric dimensions.

Framing -- Stud spacing will change from 16" to 400 mm and 24" to 600 mm. Wood studs will likely keep their nominal name, or be relabeled nom. 50 x 100 mm or a more exact size.

Drywall, Plywood and Rigid Insulation -- Width will change from 4'0" to 1200 mm. Length will change from 8'0" to 2400 mm, 10'0" to 3000 mm. Actual product thickness will not change since it would affect assembly ratings.

Batt Insulation -- Width will change from nom. 16" and 24" to nom. 400 and 600 mm, or no change -- just more of a friction fit.

Ceiling Systems -- Grids and lay-in ceiling tile, air diffusers and lighting fixtures will change from 2' x 2' to 600 x 600 mm and from 2' x 4' to 600 x 1200 mm. Grid profiles, tile thickness, air diffuser capacities and fluorescent tubes will not change.

Raised Access Floor Systems -- Will change from 2' x 2' to 600 x 600 mm. Support systems will not change.

U.S. Gypsum Company Metric Policy

U.S. Gypsum Co. supports the intent of the metric conversion program. We have manufactured metric size products for export for many years on a special order basis, and we will make every reasonable effort to make metric products available to the federal market on a special order basis. Metric width and length SHEETROCK® brand Gypsum Panel products and metric length DUROCK® Cement Board products will be available from designated manufacturing plants throughout the United States. Certain minimum order quantities and up-charges may apply, as determined by local market conditions.

Our bag and pail products, including SHEETROCK joint treatment products, spray textures, gypsum plasters and other products already carry soft metric designations for size and/or weight.

IMPORTANT: Our basic product line will remain unchanged -- standard foot/inch/pound products previously available from U.S. Gypsum Co. will still be readily available. The addition of metric length/width products will allow us to supply all job requirements, whether standard or metric.

U.S. Gypsum Company will offer assistance to construction professionals with regard to design, specification and installation issues involving our metric products, just as we always have with our standard products.

For metric changes in board dimensions, see the tables provided in this screen.

TS-TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Check our current printed literature for more information on product sizing and availability. Order catalog *SA-100 Construction Selector* by calling (800) USG-4YOU (874-4968).

Information on specific metric product availability in your market area may be obtained from U.S. Gypsum Company sales or customer service representatives through your local sales offices or order centers. (For locations, see Showcase screen "Product and System Information.")

Technical Marketing Managers are familiar with the metric changes and may be contacted for assistance with product design or selection information. Contact them through local or area sales offices.

Questions regarding products such as ceilings, demountable walls, raised access floors, and mineral wool insulation should be directed to USG Interiors, Inc. Export information is available from USG International, Ltd., at (312) 606-4000.

More information on this conversion process will be available in the coming months.