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4 **CONSTRUCTION DETAILS**  
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PanelForm is a simple modular permanent formwork system used to create solid structures. The 1200x600mm high impact polystyrene panels easily clip together and are then held in place through the insertion of reinforcement bars or plastic conduits into guide holes within the cavity. Once the system is locked together, concrete is poured into the cavity, vibrated and allowed to set which then completes the process. PanelForm becomes the permanent face of the structure which is water and termite proof. PanelForm is a strong and revolutionary permanent formwork system which has the ability to reduce costs and construction time in today’s highly competitive DIY and building industries.

Applications
PanelForm is a product with an unlimited amount of applications and capabilities and can be used in the construction of:

- Houses
- Retaining Walls
- Water Tanks
- Swimming Pools
- Cellars
- Silos
- Dams
- Industrial & Commercial Structures
- Partitions
- Columns
- Floating Structures
- Tunnels

Anyone using Panel Form will quickly find more applications.

Advantages

Cost Effective:
PanelForm is price competitive and dramatically reduces construction time. This superior building system allows for the elimination of many building trades and use of cranes and delivery trucks leading to a quicker building process and less time lost during construction. Panels are easily and quickly snapped together so preparation is minimal.

Strong:
PanelForm produces a strong, integrated structure that is less susceptible to damage from natural disasters (earthquakes, tornados, cyclones, and hurricanes) compared to conventional building systems.

Adaptable:
PanelForm does not require skilled labour for construction. PanelForm building system is extremely adaptable. Structures do not need to be filled with concrete; other suitable fillings could also include mud, clay, rocks etc. Structural walls can be achieved with a combination of concrete columns and any of these alternative materials. Additionally, buildings can be constructed from boundary to boundary with little or no encroachment into neighbouring properties necessary.

Termite & Vermin Proof:
PanelForm structures are unaffected by termites and resistant to infestation by vermin such as rats and cockroaches.

Water Resistant:
PanelForm is water resistant and certified as a thermal water proofing membrane, Part 1.2.2 of the BCA, so there is no need for an additional water-proofing membrane and other associated protection.

Water Storage:
PanelForm walls and columns have the ability to become rainwater tanks and integrated with passive heating and cooling systems.

Engineering:
There are no special engineering requirements for a PanelForm building system; they are same as the requirements for conventional structures. However, PanelForm does provide some engineering advantages. Since PanelForm structures are fully integrated and all structural components (walls and slabs) are self-supporting, dead weight is eliminated. This means that thinner walls and slabs can be designed. In some cases even footings are not required.

Environmental Sustainability
PanelForm panels have the ability to be moulded from many different materials. This includes recycled plastic and many other recycled mouldable materials. The PanelForm system is also designed to minimise product wastage. All off cuts are recyclable and therefore contributions to landfills are dramatically reduced from PanelForm projects.

Thermal Rating
A thermal rating can be achieved if necessary by inserting a polystyrene insulation insert specifically designed for PanelForm (Image 1.4). This is easily concealed inside the PanelForm wall. Higher thermal ratings are achieved by using a thicker insulation pad.

Fire Rating
A single PanelForm panel meets the UL94 flame class rating of HB (recognised under file number E73656). However if filled with concrete as recommended, the fire rating of the wall becomes that of the value of the concrete.

Food Contact
PanelForm conforms to Australian Standard AS 2070 – 1999 – “Plastics materials for food contact”. For usage in water tanks, cool rooms, butchers shops, abattoirs, etc.
TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Panel Dimensions

Tongue & Groove Joints
Panels are joint flush together with a tongue and groove snap lock system which allows for simple, secure and strong on site assembly. The tongue must be located at the top of the panel for construction. (Image 1.6)

Material Technical Information
Material: STYRON 450
For common grade technical technical information refer to page 7 (STYRON 450). Information is also available for download from:
-Dow Plastics - www.plastics.dow.com or
-PanelForm - www.panelform.com

STYRON 450
STYRON 450 is a very high flow, high impact polystyrene designed for injection moulding applications requiring excellent flow and a uniform surface gloss. e.g. large appliance parts, toys, etc.

Material Technical Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Properties</th>
<th>Mechanical Properties:</th>
<th>Processing Conditions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Value</td>
<td>Unit</td>
<td>Standard ASTM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tensile Strength:</td>
<td>(21 (14) MPa)</td>
<td>D3038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tensile Modulus:</td>
<td>690a MPa</td>
<td>D638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ultimate Elongation:</td>
<td>(56 (46) %)</td>
<td>D3038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flexural Strength ***</td>
<td>(36 (31) MPa)</td>
<td>D790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flexural Modulus:</td>
<td>(1.6 (1.4) GPa)</td>
<td>D790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notched Izod Impact*:</td>
<td>7.1 (6.8) J/m</td>
<td>D2565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermal Properties:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vicat Softening Temperature:</td>
<td>94 °C D1525-0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heat Deflection Temperature:</td>
<td>6 °C D648</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melt Flow Index (200/5):</td>
<td>12 g/10 min D1238</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glow Wire - Pass Temp.:**</td>
<td>550 °C AS 2420</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Absorption:</td>
<td>0.03 - 0.56% D570</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mould Shrinkage:</td>
<td>0.4 - 0.6 % D655</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear Expansion (+10^5):</td>
<td>5 - 8 mm/mm°C D686</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific Gravity:</td>
<td>1.06 D792</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardness:</td>
<td>R D785</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Specimen Thickness: *12.7mm, **3.2mm, ***9.4mm
Note: Values in () are compression moulded data

Food Contact:
Conforms to Australian Standard AS 2070 -1999 - *Plastics materials for food contact use*

UL Recognition:
Recognized under the file number E 73656. It meets the UL94 Flame Class Rating of HB.

All test results were obtained using unpigmented, dried, moulded material.

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2-4 Mephan Street, Maribyrnong, Victoria 3032 * Post Box 51, West Footscray, Victoria 3012
Website: http://www.psa.com.au
DELIVERY AND STORAGE
Panels are packed by stacking 20 panels on a pallet 1250mm x 650 mm in size by 1300 mm high. They are then shrink wrapped for transporting. Each panel weighs 4.5 kg. The weight of the whole pallet totals approximately 100 kg. All panels should be used and painted within 6 months of delivery; otherwise they should be stored without exposure to the elements.

BUILDING DESIGN ASSISTANCE
Further application guides, building sections, details and CAD blocks are provided on the PanelForm web page. PanelForm product development is constantly on-going, as new information is made available, specifications will be provided on our web page; www.panelform.com

WALL THICKNESSES
Standard PanelForm wall thicknesses are 122mm & 162mm. However, thicker walls can be achieved by using steel trench mesh or manufactured spacers to obtain desired width. (Refer to Construction Details & Image 3.2)

SERVICES
During the assembly process, all services (such as electrical, plumbing, mechanical, data and additional conduits) are placed and secured within the wall cavity before concrete or fill is poured.

WET AREAS
When designing for wet areas, PanelForm is water resistant and certified as a thermal water proofing membrane Part 1.2.2 of the BCA. However waterproof silicon must be applied between the 2mm panel joints.

Tiling and alike, may also be applied as a finish to PanelForm. Adhesives and alike can be used as per manufacturers requirements.

CEILINGS & SURFACES
PanelForm panels have the ability to become the finished surface of a ceiling. When forming a concrete floor or roof slab, PanelForm panels are used as the permanent formwork and the smooth face of the panel becomes the finished surface ceiling.

FINISHES
Normal cements, plasters or gap filler may be used (as per manufacturers recommendations) for finishing (painting and filling) internal or external surfaces where desired.

INTERNAL FINISHES
Internal joints may be finished with appropriate adhesives (gap filler or dry wall plastering products) may be used.

Preparation and painting is to be applied as recommended by the manufacturer of the products used. Latex paint may be used to achieve a required finish.

EXTERNAL FINISHES
- 2mm joints exposed, and paint the skin with an exterior latex paint (following manufacturers directions).
- PanelForm may be flushed with Dulux Acra Patch Fine (or alike). To achieve this, a mixing procedure is to be followed as recommended by the product manufacturer. A normal sanding procedure is then to be applied before painting.

TEXTURES
- Roller Textures
- Sprayed Textures
- Trowel Textures: Dulux rendering products or similar, can be used. Preparation and application is to be carried out as per manufacturers details.
**Thermal Rating Report**

**JAMES M FRICKER PTY LTD**

**Report 266a**

**PanelForm Pty Ltd**

---

**THERMAL INSULATION EVALUATION BY CALCULATION**

**R1.6 PANELFORM™ CONCRETE WALL WITH VH EPS**

Elevation for winter, 12°C ambient air temperature, 18°C inside air temperature.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wall Element</th>
<th>Assumed Properties</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outside air film</td>
<td>0.040</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4mm PanelForm™ skin</td>
<td>0.020</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4mm VH Grade expanded polystyrene</td>
<td>1.302</td>
<td>3.4, 4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10mm concrete wythe</td>
<td>0.075</td>
<td>108.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4mm PanelForm™ skin</td>
<td>0.020</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor air film (transparent surface)</td>
<td>0.120</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Calculation:** 266.06

**Corresponding Total Conductance (κₗ): 0.63 W/(m²·K)**

---

**NOTES:**

1. Calculated 16/10/09 9:58
2. Determinations based upon AS/NZS 4659.1:2002/Amnd1, Materials for the thermal insulation of buildings
3. **Ref: 266_A.xls**
4. Assumptions: k=0.0549 W/m·K for 23°C, R adjusted 0.59/W·m²·K as per Clause K3.3
5. **EP8 - expanded polystyrene**
6. **Technical Handbook pages 164-177**
7. This PanelForm™ system comprises concrete cast between PanelForm™ moulds, the outer mould containing VH Grade EPS.
8. **This report may not be reproduced except in full. Results may not be quoted without reference to the assumptions.**
9. Calculated by James Fricker, M/MRAH, M/EAus, OPEng.

---

**CONCLUSION:**

For the above wall arrangement the winter Total R-value per AS4659.1:2002/Amnd1, Clause K3.1 is:

Rₗ = 1.56 m²·K/W for an air temperature difference of 18°C-12°C = 6K

Similarly, the summer Total R-value per AS4659.1:2002/Amnd1, Clause K3.1 is:

Rₗ = 1.50 m²·K/W for an air temperature difference of 36°C-24°C = 12K

---

**CSIRO Report**

“CSIRO proposed an investigation… that would assess the performance of the PanelForm system for its intended purpose.

The PanelForm system is described as a permanent formwork system in that it provides the necessary structure to support wet concrete. Once the concrete has cured, the system permanently remains in place, integrated with the concrete and its reinforcement, to provide and exterior surface to receive the desired finish or may already contain an aesthetic finish included during manufacture.

The investigation and testing were designed to examine the following areas of the PanelForm system.

a. The load capacity of the webs retaining the vertical reinforcement;

b. The flow characteristics of the concrete inside the panel system;

c. The bond characteristics between the Flame Retardant HIPS webs and concrete;

d. Bracing system to support erected system;

e. Effects of using common concrete vibration methods;

f. Surface planeness

g. Compressive strength of specimens taken from the system; and

h. Flexural strength;

Because of the honey-combed structure the PanelForm formwork, concrete with a higher slump similar to block-fill should be used and vibrated properly. The compressive strength of 125mm thick PanelForm concrete was found to be as good as conventional concrete.

PanelForm concept appears to be a simple, yet effective revolutionary formwork system.”

---

**A Brief Report on Performance Assessment of PanelForm Formwork System, 5 October 2004**

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**Thermal Rating Report**

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**DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS**

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**Thermal Rating Report**

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**Thermal Rating Report**

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# CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

## Detail Contents

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</tbody>
</table>

**Typical Finished Wall Cross Section**

- Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer
- PanelForm panel
- PanelForm panel
Wall Connection To Slab With Rebate

Elevation Section

- PanelForm panel
- Vertical steel reinforcement rod as specified by engineer
- Horizontal reinforcement rod as specified by engineer
- 16mm PVC medium duty electrical conduit (used to lock opposing panels together)
- Starter bar as specified by engineer
- Footings and slab to be specified by engineer
- Minimum 30mm rebate

Insulated Connection To Slab With Rebate

Elevation Section

- PanelForm panel
- Vertical steel reinforcement rod as specified by engineer
- Horizontal reinforcement rod as specified by engineer
- 16mm PVC medium duty electrical conduit (used to lock opposing panels together)
- 44mm polystyrene insulation insert
- Starter bar as specified by engineer
- Footings and slab to be specified by engineer
- Minimum 30mm rebate

Footings and slab to be specified by engineer

Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer

Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer

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CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Wall Connection To Existing Slab
Elevation Section

PanelForm panel
Vertical steel reinforcement rod as specified by engineer
Horizontal reinforcement rod as specified by engineer
Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer
16mm PVC medium duty electrical conduit (used to lock opposing panels together)
Starter bar as specified by engineer
To be placed at increments of 200mm to avoid prongs (refer to plan section)
Footings and slab to be specified by engineer

Wall Connection To Slab
Plan Section

PanelForm panel
Starter bar as specified by engineer
Vertical steel reinforcement rod as specified by engineer
Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer
16mm PVC medium duty electrical conduit (used to lock opposing panels together)
Starter bar as specified by engineer
To be placed at increments of 200mm to avoid prongs

Footings and slab to be specified by engineer

Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer

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CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

122mm Wall
Elevation Section

- Vertical steel reinforcement rod as specified by engineer. Refer to 122mm Wall Plan Section
- 16mm PVC medium duty electrical conduit (used to lock opposing panels together)
- Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer

122mm Wall
Plan Section

- Horizontal reinforcement rod as specified by engineer. To be inserted before opposing panel is assembled
- 16mm PVC medium duty electrical conduit (used to lock opposing panels together)
- Vertical steel reinforcement rod as specified by engineer
- Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer
162mm Wall
Elevation Section

PanelForm panel

Vertical steel reinforcement rod as specified by engineer

Horizontal reinforcement rod as specified as engineer. To be inserted before opposing panel is assembled

16mm PVC medium duty electrical conduit (used to lock opposing panels together)

Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer

162mm Wall
Plan Section

PanelForm panel

Vertical steel reinforcement rod as specified by engineer

Horizontal reinforcement rod as specified by engineer. To be inserted before opposing panel is assembled

16mm PVC medium duty electrical conduit (used to lock opposing panels together)

Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer

4mm Skin

4mm Skin
**162mm Insulated Wall**

**Plan Section**

- Vertical steel reinforcement rod as specified by engineer
- Horizontal reinforcement rod as specified by engineer
- 16mm PVC medium duty electrical conduit (used to lock opposing panels together)
- 44mm polystyrene insulation insert
- Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer

**Slab To Wall Connection**

**Elevation Section**

- Starter bar as specified by engineer
- Horizontal reinforcement rod as specified by engineer
- Vertical steel reinforcement rod as specified by engineer
- External panel is to continue up the external face of the wall until final wall height is achieved
- Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer
- Slab to be specified by engineer
- Starter bar (cogged) as per engineers specifications
- 16mm PVC medium duty electrical conduit (used to lock opposing panels together)

Once assembly is complete, wall is to be filled with concrete to be specified by an engineer. Block fill is to be used with a minimum of 150 slump (plasticizer may be added).
**PanelForm**

**PanelForm Panel**

**Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer**

**Trench mesh used as spacer to create custom wall width to be specified by engineer**

**Vertical steel reinforcement rod as specified by engineer**

**16mm PVC medium duty electrical conduit (used to lock opposing panels together)**

---

**Custom Width Wall Elevation Section**

**Custom Width Wall Plan Section**

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CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Corner
Plan Section

- Vertical steel reinforcement rod as specified by engineer
- 16mm PVC medium duty electrical conduit (used to lock opposing panels together)
- Horizontal reinforcement rod as specified by engineer. To be inserted before opposing panel is assembled
- Internal corner to be secured with a steel angle or timber batten and removed once concrete has set

Insulated Corner
Plan Section

- Vertical steel reinforcement rod as specified by engineer
- Reinforcement bar cogged to engineers specifications
- 44mm polystyrene insulation insert
- Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer
- 16mm PVC medium duty electrical conduit (used to lock corner panels together)
- Horizontal reinforcement rod as specified by engineer. To be inserted before opposing panel is assembled
- Internal corner to be secured with a steel angle or timber batten and removed once concrete has set

PanelForm panel
Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer

16mm PVC medium duty electrical conduit (used to lock corner panels together)
**Typical Ezy-Jamb / Door Frame Connection**

**Plan Section**

- Vertical steel reinforcement rod as specified by engineer
- Horizontal reinforcement rod as specified by engineer. To be inserted before opposing panel is assembled
- Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer

Door frame to be fixed and braced as per manufacturers specifications before concrete is poured or once it has set.

**Typical Window Connection**

**Elevation Section**

- 44mm polystyrene insulation insert
- Steel / Aluminium flashing
- Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer

Steel / Aluminium window frames to be fixed as per manufacturers specifications once concrete or fill has set.

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**CONSTRUCTION DETAILS**

**Typical Roof Connection**

**Elevation Section**

1. Structural anchor bolt to be cast into concrete as specified by engineer.
2. 44mm polystyrene insulation insert.
3. PanelForm panel.
4. Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer.

**Typical Truss Connection**

**Elevation Section**

1. Structural anchor bolt to be cast into concrete as specified by engineer.
2. 16mm PVC medium duty electrical conduit (used to lock opposing panels together).
3. Steel truss.
4. PanelForm panel.
5. Horizontal reinforcement to be specified by engineer.
6. Vertical reinforcement rod as specified by engineer.
8. Concrete or fill to be specified by engineer.
DISCLAIMER

Legal Notice

This Technical Manual is intended only to serve as general guidelines for use of PanelForm products and not as a complete treatment of how such products may or should be used. This publication is current only for its date of publication and any person in possession of a copy should check for updates.

PanelForm requires that a person considering to use a PanelForm product first obtain and give primary regard to professional engineering or architectural advice based on particular site conditions, the particular use to be made of the product within a structure, and check for compliance with applicable local laws and codes of practice.

Use of a PanelForm product using different materials or methods than those now recommended, or recommended by professional engineering or architectural advice, may result in product failure under critical conditions.

Any known health risks of our products and how to handle them safely are stated on packaging and/or the documentation accompanying them.

Law requires contractors perform their own risk assessments before undertaking work.

PanelForm AU Pty Ltd is a supplier only; PanelForm AU Pty Ltd does not employ people qualified as accredited or principal certifiers. PanelForm is therefore unable to provide Construction Compliance Certificates or Statements of Compliance.

To acquire skills to become an accredited PanelForm installer, contact PanelForm AU Pty Ltd.

To check for latest developments of the PanelForm system, please access the website at www.panelform.com.
About PanelForm

PanelForm is a simple modular permanent formwork system used to create solid structures. The 1200x600mm high impact polystyrene panels easily clip together and are then held in place through the insertion of reinforcement bars or plastic conduits into guide holes within the cavity. Once the system is locked together, concrete is poured into the cavity, vibrated and allowed to set which then completes the process. PanelForm becomes the permanent face of the structure which is water and termite proof. PanelForm is a strong and revolutionary permanent formwork system which has the ability to reduce costs and construction time in today’s highly competitive DIY and building industries.

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