



Dear Valued Customer

We understand that adopting new products like Trim-Tex ButtBoard can sometimes raise questions about compliance with industry standards and codes, especially when it involves floating butt joints between studs. We'd like to provide clarity and evidence to support its use, ensuring confidence in your projects and addressing any concerns you or your local inspectors may have.

The Gypsum Association (GA) and the International Building Code (IBC) provide clear allowances for the installation method ButtBoard facilitates. Specifically, GA-216 (Application and Finishing of Gypsum Panel Products) and ASTM C840 (Standard Specification for Application and Finishing of Gypsum Board), which are referenced by the IBC in Chapter 25, permit drywall edges to "float" at butt joints as long as they are properly supported by framing or suitable backing. ButtBoard, a rigid OSB product designed to span between studs and accept drywall fasteners, qualifies as such backing. It creates a recessed joint that simplifies finishing while maintaining structural integrity, aligning with the intent of these standards.

There is no direct prohibition in GA-216, ASTM C840, or the IBC against floating a butt joint when a product like ButtBoard is used. Both standards allow for "blocking" or "backing" between framing members to support drywall edges, and ButtBoard meets this requirement when installed per Trim-Tex's instructions—securely fastened to adjacent studs with drywall screwed into it at standard intervals (e.g., screws 12 inches on center). This method ensures the drywall is supported as required while offering practical benefits like reduced finishing time and improved joint durability.

Beyond compliance, ButtBoard has been proven effective in the field for decades. Drywall professionals across the industry have adopted it as a reliable solution for floating butt joints, especially in scenarios where aligning every joint with a stud is impractical or framing isn't perfectly straight.

Trim-Tex ButtBoard is a proven, compliant solution designed to make your drywall installation faster, easier, and more effective. We stand behind its use and are committed to supporting you every step of the way.

Should you have further questions or need additional resources, please don't hesitate to contact our customer solutions team at 1-800-874-2333

Keil Zornow
Head of Product Management

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keil Zornow".