STC Hi-Sabin™ Panel: Frequently-Asked Questions (FAQ’s)

Q: What is the Hi-Sabin Panel made of?
A: Open-cell, low-density, melamine-based foam that has extraordinary sound absorption characteristics and a Class A fire-rating per ASTM E84 with a flame spread index of 5 and smoke-developed index of 0.

Q: Does the Hi-Sabin Panel meet International Building Code (IBC) requirements?
A: Yes. Section 2603.3 requires foam plastic to have a flame spread index of not more than 75 and a smoke-developed index of not more than 450. In addition, panels are tested per UL 94 for flammability of plastic material and demonstrate Class V-0, and for low density foam HF-1. Melamine-based foam is so fire resistive it is used for fire protection in automobile hoods.

Q: How are panels installed?
A: Best acoustical results and economy are achieved with Furred and Separated Type J mounting per ASTM E795 utilizing hot-melt adhesive and foam standoffs for a set of units in a pattern. Panels can also be: Direct Attached Type A onto hard, flat ceilings, concrete or metal deck with hot-melt adhesive; Suspended Type E in a lay-in ceiling suspension system; or Furred Type F-50 with standoffs and adhesive.

Q: What colors are available?
A: The standard colors are White, Light Gray and Medium Gray, integral with the material and consistent throughout.

Q: What configurations are available?
A: All panels currently manufactured are flat-faced or patterned with a corrugated shape.

Q: What sizes are available?
A: Standard sizes include rectangular panels in any combination of thickness at 1”, 1-1/2” or 2” and face dimensions of 12” x 24”, 24” x 24” or 24” x 48”. Flat surface panels are available in any custom size up to 2” thick x 50” x 98”. Patterned panels are available as 24” x 24” by about 1-1/2” thick. Panels may be cut to any custom two-dimensional shape including curves; consult factory.

Q: Are there any limitations?
A: Panels are very soft and subject to abuse. They should be located on upper walls and ceilings that are out of reach. Panels will also expand due to moisture in the air and may sag slightly when used in high-humidity environments such as interior pools.

Revised October 30, 2017 by Paul L. Battaglia, AIA, ASA, INCE