

SELF-FURRING LATH

IR 25-4

References: 2001 California Building Code (CBC), Table 25A-B
2007 CBC, Section 2510

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Discipline: Structural

This Interpretation of Regulations (IR) is intended for use by the Division of the State Architect (DSA) staff, and as a resource for design professionals, to promote more uniform statewide criteria for plan review and construction inspection of projects within the jurisdiction of DSA, which include State of California public elementary and secondary schools (grades K-12), community colleges, and state-owned or state-leased essential services buildings. This IR indicates an acceptable method for achieving compliance with applicable codes and regulations, although other methods proposed by design professionals may be considered by DSA.

This IR is reviewed on a regular basis and is subject to revision at any time. Please check the DSA web site for currently effective IR's. Only IR's listed in the document at <http://www.dsa.dgs.ca.gov/Pubs/default.htm> (click on "DSA Interpretation of Regulations Manual") at the time of plan submittal to DSA are considered applicable.

Purpose: The purpose of this Interpretation of Regulations (IR) is to clarify DSA acceptance of self-furring wire lath used as reinforcement for cement plaster.

1. General: Lath for plaster shall be furred out a minimum of 1/4 inch when installed over a solid surface such as plywood. The use of self-furring lath is subject to a satisfactory jobsite demonstration of the lath installation for each project, with approval by the project architect and enforcement agency.

2. Background: Many types of self-furring lath have depressions in the lath that successfully offset the lath 1/4 inch from plywood or other rigid backing, and therefore meet the 1/4 inch offset requirement of ASTM C933-04 Section 5.1.2 (or Table 25A-B of the 2001 CBC). Furring nails are not required. The lath is not offset from the backing at the location where nails or staples hold the lath to the backing/stud.

3. Application: Satisfactory job-site installation is required. The lath should not be pulled so tight that the depressions are straightened resulting in the lath being pressed tight to the backing. Lath must be furred out 1/4 inch over the majority of the wall area; lath within three inches of attachment points may be exempt from minimum furring requirement in order to accommodate fastening to framing. Also, the nails/staples shall **not** be overdriven so as to damage the weather-resistant barrier.