



# Installation Guide

## Storage & Handling

- Store the product on a flat level surface, because it tends to conform to the surface on which it is stored for long periods of time at mid to high ambient temperatures.
- Handle the product as you would handle lumber to avoid damage.
- Keep the product free of dirt and debris.

## Expansion & Contraction

- All cellular PVC foam products expand and contract with changes in temperature. This is normal with plastics.
- Expansion and contraction limits are determined by the temperature range in the area where the material is used.
- Always consider the temperature of the material relative to the ambient temperature at the time of installation, to determine how tightly pieces can be butt-joined, or what size of gap should be used to compensate for seasonal thermal expansion and contraction.
- Expansion and contraction mostly affect the length of the board. Fastening the product along its entire length will keep movement to a minimum. Width expansion is so insignificant that it can't be measured.
- Product that receives direct sun exposure may be subject to wider expansion and contraction.
- *Do not install the Tanza product in areas that can exceed 140° because it may soften and change its dimension permanently.*

### On a warm day (75° to 95°)

- Material will become fully expanded.
- If the material storage was at lesser temperatures, leave the product in the sun for an hour or more prior to installation to help achieve full expansion.
- Pieces can then be joined tight, with no gaps. *However, we recommend a small 1/32" gap and the use of an acrylic or a UV resistant caulk to seal the gap.*
- Bevel or shiplap joint for a better looking finish.

### On a moderate day (55° to 75°)

- Material will be partially expanded.
- Allow for some expansion in your installation. The appropriate amount can be determined by considering the ambient temperature relative to the overall temperature range.
- When properly fastened, allow 1/16" to 1/8" gap. To allow material expansion and avoid buckling or binding, bevel or shiplap the joint. For a better appearance, use caulk to fill the gap.

### On a cool day (25° to 55°)

- Material will be mostly contracted.
- Allow for full expansion when the temperature warms to seasonal highs. On average and depending on exposure to the sun, the material will move approximately 1/8" per 12' or 3/16" per 18' length.

Tanza™ Trim is a product made of PVC foam with the appearance and working characteristics of clear, premium lumber but none of the drawbacks. It can be worked just like wood using standard off-the-shelf tools. *Tanza* products may be used as a replacement for wood in all non-load bearing applications. It is an excellent choice for decorative applications including trim, fascia and soffits, window and door surrounds, deck and porch trim, rake board, frieze board, post and column covers, millwork and industrial applications.

- To allow material expansion and avoid buckling or binding, bevel or shiplap the joint. For a better appearance, use caulk to fill the gap.

## Heat Forming/Bending

*Tanza* products can be easily formed into a variety of shapes by heat forming or bending.

## Cutting

- *Tanza* Trim can be cut using standard woodworking saws.
- Carbide-tipped blades designed for cutting wood are preferred. Avoid using fine tooth metal-cutting blades.
- Rough edges are typically caused by excessive friction, poor board support and worn-out or improper tooling.
- Sharp inside corner cuts, such as the base of a dovetail, and scored lines can be easily broken. For best results, a small radius should be maintained to help avoid any stress cracking. Avoid scoring the material.

## Drilling

- *Tanza* products can be drilled using standard woodworking drill bits. Do not use drill bits made for rigid PVC.
- Avoid frictional heat build-up.
- Remove shavings periodically from drill holes to prevent electrostatic build-up in dry climates.

## Routing, Molding & Milling

- *Tanza* products can be routed, molded and milled using standard woodworking equipment.
- Multi-fluted carbide bits are recommended when molding or milling the product.
- Run product test pieces to achieve the smoothest finish when using multiple speeds of woodworking equipment.
- *Tanza* trim is widely used with CNC routers because it provides a crisp, clean edge due to its uniform cell consistency.

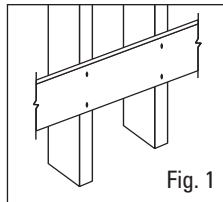
## Fastening

- Proper fastening is a critical element in limiting expansion and contraction. Aggressive nailing patterns, minimum 16" on center, can seriously help restrict seasonal movement of *Tanza* trim.
- If material cannot be face nailed securely, it may require larger end gaps; in some cases double.
- Most expansion problems are the result of inadequate fastening, and can be prevented by adhering to a strict schedule of properly spaced nailing. The rule of thumb for product fastening is the more nails you use to secure it, the less it will move.

- *Tanza* products can be hand nailed, power nailed and screwed just like wood using most common fasteners utilized in securing wood to various substrates. It can also be glued following common practices with excellent results.
- Nails should have sufficient tensile strength in the shaft to resist bending during seasonal movement. Use smooth shank, screw, annular threaded, or spiral type nails that are stainless steel or hot-dipped galvanized, designed for wood trim and siding. Standard nails can rust and will cause staining on the material.
- Do not use staples, small brads, wire nails, fine-threaded wood screws and ring-shank fasteners. Rings on the shank of the nail can create excess frictional heat when penetrating the product creating some melting of the PVC.
- Pre-drilling is not required unless large fasteners are used or the product is installed during low temperatures.
- Use standard nail guns with a pressure setting between 70 psi and 100 psi. The recommended pressure depends on the type of gun, type of nail, ambient temperature, and the substrate to which the product is being fastened to. Do not overdrive nail into the material.

- Use two fasteners for every framing member for trim board applications.

- *Tanza* trim sheets and boards 12" and wider require additional fasteners. [Fig. 1] Install fasteners no more than 2" from the end of each board. Avoid fastening the product over hollow or uneven areas. Fasten the product onto flat, solid substrates.



- 3/8" and 1/2" sheet products are not designed to be ripped and used for trim applications. These profiles must be glued to a substrate and mechanically fastened.

#### Fastening Outdoors in Low Temperature

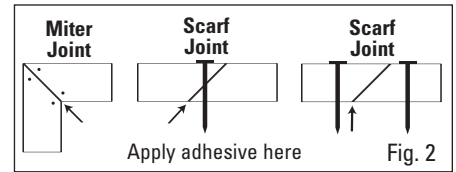
- Impact properties decrease in low temperatures, making the material more susceptible to cracking or shattering.
- Repetitive strikes of a hammer or nail gun in colder weather can cause the PVC to soften or melt; rapid cooling may cause material build up on the nail. If the cooling happens before the nail passes completely through the board into the substrate, the melted PVC can form into an awkward shape that cannot efficiently exit the smooth surface of the board resulting in excess material break-out at the point of impact and possibly some hairline cracking.
- Use of annular threaded nails is not recommended in low temperatures. The friction build-up on the threads can cause some material blow-out on the back of the board.

#### Bonding & Adhesives

- To bond *Tanza* trim to other substrates, various adhesives may be used such as contact cement, epoxy, rubber based and urethane adhesive systems are also acceptable.
- Consult adhesive manufacturer to determine suitability.
- For best results, all surfaces to be glued must be smooth, clean, and in complete contact with each other.

#### To bond *Tanza* trim to *Tanza* trim or other PVC

- PVC pipe cement or other solvent-based adhesives work very well. Use one with a moderate or slow set up time. Plumber's cements generally have a fast set up time and may bond too quickly for detail work.
- Bonded butt-joints should be securely fastened on each side. [Fig. 2]
- Proper ventilation and a clean environment are essential for adequate curing.
- Panels can be laminated face to face but require special attention such as using a wood press and more time for solvent based adhesives to cure properly.



#### Painting

*Tanza* products do not require painting for protection but if painting is preferred to achieve a custom color, note the following:

- Use 100% acrylic latex or 100% acrylic latex with urethane additive paint with a light reflective value (LRV) of 55 or higher.
- Follow the paint manufacturer's recommendations to apply. Solvent-based (MEK, Acetone) paints adhere extremely well to the product but may require more coats to achieve the desired hue.
- No special surface preparations are required prior to painting—just ensure the product surface to be painted is clean, dry, and free of dirt, loose or peeling paint, mildew, chalk, grease and any other surface contaminants before paint application.
- The main reason for paint failure on wood is moisture cycling. Since *Tanza* trim absorbs no moisture, paints last longer on *Tanza* products than wood.
- Avoid using darker colors in areas exposed to direct sunlight.

#### Care & Cleaning

*Tanza* products will become dirty just like any other products exposed to atmospheric conditions. Generally, your *Tanza* trim products can be cleaned using an ordinary garden hose. If this does not do the job satisfactorily, then we suggest the following:

- Trim may be cleaned with a factory-approved cleaner after installation. Semi abrasive products, such as Soft Scrub® cleanser, may be applied with a stiff but pliant nylon brush. Denatured alcohol also works fairly well on the flat non-exposed surface.
- **CAUTION:** Do not use or mix sodium hypochlorite with other household chemicals or with products containing ammonia. Doing so will release hazardous gases.



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