

MATERIAL HANDLING FOR PU SANDWICH PANEL

LOADING AND TRANSPORTATION OF PU SANDWICH PANELS:

- When transporting the panels, an appropriate truck type should be used to transport the panels.
- Truck restraints (wedges) should be used while loading the panels on trucks.
- The panels should be arranged evenly.
- There should be ventilation for the panels.
- Panels traveling out of Lagos must be loaded in a covered-bodied truck.

LIFTING OF PU SANDWICH PANELS:

- While carrying the sandwich panel with a forklift, the driver should be cautious to avoid piercing the panels.
- **Manual lifting:** Panels should be carried at the ends and not the sides to maintain balance and prevent the opening of the chromadek sheets.
- **Usage of rope/belt:** The panel must be leveled and not slanted when lifting the panels to prevent it from falling off.

STORAGE OF PU SANDWICH PANELS:

- Panels should be placed on wooden pallets or a level platform.
- Panels should be shielded from harsh weather such as the sun as it will cause a change of color to the panel, the use of tarpaulin should also be used to prevent rain from touching the panels.
- Do not place the panel on a wet floor as it will cause rusting of the chromadek sheets
- Avoid placing an exposure the panels to naked fire as it is flammable

MAINTAINANCE OF PU SANDWICH PANELS:

- Clean the panel with clear water or a mild detergent to get rid of stains
- Repair damaged surfaces or touch-up paint.
- Shield panels from moisture and impact to avoid any damage.

SAFETY PROCEDURE WHILE HANDLING PU SANDWICH PANELS:

- Appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as: - safety boots, safety gloves, coveralls helmets, etc. must be put on always during installation to prevent hazards
- Do not carry nor lift the panels with bare hands.
- While loading the panels on trucks, truck restraints(wedges) should be used to secure and completely immobilize the truck.

INSTALLATION OF PU SANDWICH PANELS:

- When installing panels with the tongue and groove locking system, the male side (tongue) is to be keyed to the female side (groove)
- Panels with camlock system are installed similarly with tongue and groove locks, for proper locking, an Allen key is used to release the hook on the male side of the camlock to the female side.
- After locking the pair of panels, appropriate sealant (e.g. Silicone, Mastic sealant) can be used to improve the appearance and stability of the structure.
- Experienced personnel should be employed for installation.
- Protective films should be taken off after installation.
- The use of appropriate removing solvent (e.g. Diesel) can be used to remove the protective film if it has been on for a long period.