

**Installation Notice**

**Side Mounted Hidden Fastening Systems are Not Approved for Use with Fiberon Composite Decking**

**Description**

Recently a number of side mounted hidden fasteners have been introduced and promoted for installation of composite decking boards. Fiberon has reviewed a number of side mounted fastening systems, including Kreg, Camo and HidFast. The common attribute of these systems is that a fastener is driven into the side of the HDPE decking board.

These products, and similar products, are not approved for use with Fiberon HDPE decking products. Fiberon is concerned that these methods of fastening of the deck boards to the framing do not adequately accommodate dimensional changes in the structural framing and the normal thermal expansion and contraction cycling events that occur regularly in composite decking boards. Additionally the insertion of the fastener through a limited cross section of the composite material is of concern. Immediate or future cracking of the decking boards at the point of the fastener insertion may result from this installation methodology.

Fiberon or Phantom branded hidden fasteners are the recommended method for installing Fiberon composite decking. Fiberon and Phantom fasteners are designed for the exact geometry of Fiberon decking board thickness and groove alignment. These fasteners are secured to the joist, with the fastener positioned in the deck board groove to allow for normal thermal expansion and contraction and do not require fastener penetration through the composites material.

Fiberon Phantom fastening systems and approved face fasteners are solely recommended for hidden fastener and face fastening installations of Fiberon composite decking products.

**IMPORTANT:** For any fastener that actually penetrates the board itself, the Fiberon Warranty requires:

- 1" setback from the side of all Fiberon decking boards inserted at a 90° angle.
- 1.5" setback from the end of all Fiberon decking boards inserted at a 90° angle.

These fasteners cannot accommodate our warranty setback requirement. The common attribute of these systems is that a fastener is driven through or into the side of the Fiberon decking board, which measures approximately 1", therefore providing less than half of the setback requirements for fasteners driven through Fiberon decking boards always at an angle less than the required 90° to the surface of the Fiberon decking board

Note that the manufacturer's warranties of these products are limited to their fasteners only and do not include the installation or decking boards. Fiberon and Fiberon Phantom™ hidden fastener systems and approved face fasteners, as listed on our website ([www.fiberondecking.com](http://www.fiberondecking.com)), are designed to accommodate normal dimensional changes without material fracture or change in holding capability and are solely recommended for installation of Fiberon composite decking products.