

Ecoply® Bracing Specification: EP Series

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Carter Holt Harvey® Woodproducts has launched new bracing specifications called the EP bracing series. The EP bracing series simplifies the design and construction of bracing elements using plywood, by itself or in conjunction with GIB® plasterboard.

Historical Ecoply bracing elements (referred to as the SP bracing series in previous versions of Ecoply structural plywood literature) can still be used in bracing designs if desired and can be downloaded from www.ecoply.co.nz/bracing however the new EP bracing series offers the following benefits:

- ◆ Higher bracing performance per metre than existing SP elements
- ◆ Reduced number of element types and simplified naming system
- ◆ Single sided and double sided bracing elements
- ◆ Special EPGs bracing element design for where plywood cladding comes to soffit line within 300mm of top plate
- ◆ High performance bracing element utilising GIB® Standard plasterboard
- ◆ A single type, GIB Handibrac®, hold-down for all bracing elements
- ◆ Direct fix or cavity construction
- ◆ Simplified construction
- ◆ Single page specifications for each bracing element type

Specification No.	Minimum Wall Length	Lining Requirements	BUs/m Wind	BUs/m Earthquake
EP1	0.6 m	7mm Ecoply® or 12mm Shadowclad® one side	130	130
EP2	0.6 m	7mm Ecoply® or 12mm Shadowclad® each side	145	150
EPG	0.4 m	7mm Ecoply® or 12mm Shadowclad® one side and 10mm GIB® Standard plasterboard other side	120	125
	1.2 m		150	150
EPGs	0.4 m	7mm Ecoply® or 12mm Shadowclad® one side* and 10mm GIB® Standard plasterboard other side	100	120
	1.2 m		150	120

* Plywood side of element must be a maximum of 300mm below top plate

More Information

Copies of the specifications and other information can be obtained from www.ecoply.co.nz/bracing

Ecoply® Bracing Systems are designed to meet the requirements of the NZBC and have been tested and analysed using the P21 method referenced in NZS3604:1999 listed as an acceptable solution B1/AS1 Structure. Testing was carried out using Ecoply, Shadowclad and Laserframe MSG8 timber framing manufactured by Carter Holt Harvey Limited trading as Carter Holt Harvey Woodproducts New Zealand, and GIB® products manufactured by Winstone Wallboards Ltd. **Substituting materials may compromise performance of the system.** GIB® and GIB HandiBrac® are registered trade marks of Fletcher Building Holdings Ltd.