

## Presented by: Fabric Panel Manufacturers Committee

### Subject: Fabric Considerations

The following members of CISCA Panel Manufacturing Committee recommend that you read these Fabric Considerations. By addressing these concerns, you will avoid problems later in the project.

AVL	Conwed	Decoustics
G&S Acoustics	Kinetics	MBI
Sound Seal	Lamvin	

#### **Fabric Performance**

Fabrics with fibers that absorb moisture will bubble on the face of the acoustical panel. These fibers are called hydrophilic. The following are hydrophilic fiber types: Nylon, Rayon, Modal and Lyocell. We recommend not using fabrics with more than 5% of any of these fibers.

#### **Lighting**

Fabric panels with directional cross-lighting from windows or lights can create unwanted shadows and impact appearances. Contact your manufacturer to test fabric for cross-lighting flows.

#### **Acoustical Performance**

Paper backing and acrylic backing have a negative impact on acoustical transparency. Perforations, provided that there is no healing of the perforations, can have a positive effect. Consult your manufacturer.

#### **Repeat Patterns**

If the finish material has a repeat pattern, provide the manufacturer with a detailed description of the pattern and how you want it to repeat horizontally and vertically. Even "random" patterns have repeat. This should be required in the shop drawings.

#### **Fabric Ordering Requirements**

Be aware of possible special fabric minimum order quantities and other special requirements. For example, some special fabric manufacturers require the purchase of up to 20 percent of overrun quantities, or minimum purchase amounts.

**Repair and Replacement**

Consider how much attic stock should be kept on hand for replacing worn or damaged panels. This should be based on actual panel sizes.

**Cross References**

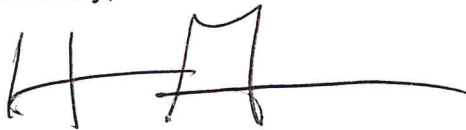
Include the wallcovering cross reference in the specifications so the supplier of the panel finish material can coordinate dye lots, as well as the suitability and acceptability of the fabric by all concerned.

**Customer-Own Material (COM)**

If you require fabrics to be supplied by the customer(s), identify the COM fabric as precisely as possible. Provide the panel manufacturer with all the information needed to develop accurate manufacturing price data. Include vendor source for special fabrics.

We all agree that each of these concerns needs to be addressed before the fabric panel system is delivered to the jobsite.

Sincerely,



Herb Golterman  
President/CISCA Fabric Panel Manufacturers Committee