

**SECTION 12 3600  
COUNTERTOPS**

**PART 1 GENERAL**

**1.01 SECTION INCLUDES**

- A. Countertops for architectural cabinet work.
- B. Countertops for manufactured casework.
- C. Wall-hung counters and vanity tops.
- D. Sinks molded into countertops.

**1.02 RELATED REQUIREMENTS**

- A. Section 06 4100 - Architectural Wood Casework.

**1.03 REFERENCE STANDARDS**

- A. AWI/AWMAC/WI (AWS) - Architectural Woodwork Standards; 2014.
- B. ISFA 2-01 - Classification and Standards for Solid Surfacing Material; 2013.
- C. NEMA LD 3 - High-Pressure Decorative Laminates; 2005.
- D. PS 1 - Structural Plywood; 2009.

**1.04 SUBMITTALS**

- A. See Section 01 3000 - Administrative Requirements, for submittal procedures.
- B. Product Data: Manufacturer's data sheets on each product to be used, including:
  - 1. Preparation instructions and recommendations.
  - 2. Storage and handling requirements and recommendations.
  - 3. Specimen warranty.
- C. Shop Drawings: Complete details of materials and installation; combine with shop drawings of cabinets and casework specified in other sections.
- D. Test Reports: Chemical resistance testing, showing compliance with specified requirements.

**1.05 DELIVERY, STORAGE, AND HANDLING**

- A. Store products in manufacturer's unopened packaging until ready for installation.
- B. Store and dispose of solvent-based materials, and materials used with solvent-based materials, in accordance with requirements of local authorities having jurisdiction.

**1.06 FIELD CONDITIONS**

- A. Maintain environmental conditions (temperature, humidity, and ventilation) within limits recommended by manufacturer for optimum results. Do not install products under environmental conditions outside manufacturer's absolute limits.

**PART 2 PRODUCTS**

**2.01 COUNTERTOPS**

- A. Plastic Laminate Countertops: High-pressure decorative laminate (HPDL) sheet bonded to substrate.
  - 1. Laminate Sheet: NEMA LD 3, Grade HGS, 0.048 inch nominal thickness.
    - a. Manufacturers:
      - 1) Formica Corporation: [www.formica.com](http://www.formica.com).
      - 2) Wilsonart: [www.wilsonart.com](http://www.wilsonart.com).
    - b. Finish: Matte or suede, gloss rating of 5 to 20.
    - c. Surface Color and Pattern: Wilsonart Mystique Dawn 4762-60.
  - 2. Exposed Edge Treatment: 3 mm Molded PVC edge with T-spline, sized to completely cover edge of panel.
    - a. Color: Charter Industries Smoke .
    - b. Only install at edge of counters, doors, and shelves.

3. Back and End Splashes: Same material, same construction.
- B. Solid Surfacing Countertops: Solid surfacing sheet or plastic resin casting over continuous substrate.
  1. Flat Sheet Thickness: 1/2 inch, minimum.
  2. Solid Surfacing Sheet and Plastic Resin Castings: Complying with ISFA 2-01 and NEMA LD 3; acrylic or polyester resin, mineral filler, and pigments; homogenous, non-porous and capable of being worked and repaired using standard woodworking tools; no surface coating; color and pattern consistent throughout thickness.
    - a. Manufacturers:
      - 1) Dupont: [www.corian.com](http://www.corian.com).
      - 2) Formica Corporation: [www.formica.com](http://www.formica.com).
      - 3) Hanwha
    - b. Finish on Exposed Surfaces: Matte, gloss rating of 5 to 20.
    - c. Color and Pattern: Creme Graniti 386.
  3. Other Components Thickness: 1/2 inch, minimum.
  4. Exposed Edge Treatment: Built up to minimum 1-1/4 inch thick; square edge with eased edge.
  5. Back and End Splashes: Same sheet material, square top with eased edge; minimum 4 inches high.
  6. Splash Guards: Same sheet material, radiused top, mill into counter, cove all corners.

## 2.02 ACCESSORY MATERIALS

- A. Plywood for Supporting Substrate: PS 1 Exterior Grade, A-C veneer grade, minimum 5-ply; minimum 3/4 inch thick; join lengths using metal splines.
- B. Adhesives: Chemical resistant waterproof adhesive as recommended by manufacturer of materials being joined.

## 2.03 FABRICATION

- A. Fabricate tops and splashes in the largest sections practicable, with top surface of joints flush.
  1. Join lengths of tops using best method recommended by manufacturer.
  2. Fabricate to overhang fronts and ends of cabinets 1 inch except where top butts against cabinet or wall.
  3. Prepare all cutouts accurately to size; replace tops having improperly dimensioned or unnecessary cutouts or fixture holes.
- B. Provide back/end splash wherever counter edge abuts vertical surface unless otherwise indicated.
  1. Secure to countertop with concealed fasteners and with contact surfaces set in waterproof glue.
  2. Height: 4 inches, unless otherwise indicated.
- C. Solid Surfacing: Fabricate tops up to 144 inches long in one piece; join pieces with adhesive sealant in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations and instructions.
- D. Wall-Mounted Counters: Provide skirts, aprons, brackets, and braces as indicated on drawings, finished to match.

## PART 3 EXECUTION

### 3.01 EXAMINATION

- A. Do not begin installation until substrates have been properly prepared.
- B. If substrate preparation is the responsibility of another installer, notify Architect of unsatisfactory preparation before proceeding.
- C. Verify that wall surfaces have been finished and mechanical and electrical services and outlets are installed in proper locations.

### 3.02 PREPARATION

- A. Clean surfaces thoroughly prior to installation.

- B. Prepare surfaces using the methods recommended by the manufacturer for achieving the best result for the substrate under the project conditions.

### **3.03 INSTALLATION**

- A. Securely attach countertops to cabinets using concealed fasteners. Make flat surfaces level; shim where required.
- B. Attach plastic laminate countertops using screws with minimum penetration into substrate board of 5/8 inch.
- C. Seal joint between back/end splashes and vertical surfaces.

### **3.04 CLEANING**

- A. Clean countertops surfaces thoroughly.

### **3.05 PROTECTION**

- A. Protect installed products until completion of project.
- B. Touch-up, repair or replace damaged products before Date of Substantial Completion.

**END OF SECTION 12 3600**

