

# SÓLAS BUILT-IN FINISHING INFORMATION & PLANNING

## MODELS: Slim-Line Built-In, THIRTY8 Built-In

*To reduce the risk of cracking wall finishes, we recommend installing the optional SÓLAS Cool Zone Technology to reduce wall temperatures.*

**NOTE:** SÓLAS can only offer guidance as to the type of materials that can be safely used during the installation of your fireplace and cannot comment on, or be responsible for, any finishing material's propensity for fading, flaking, discoloring, cracking or chipping due to improper installation and/or thermal expansion. Be sure to consider a materials propensity to "off-gas" when hot as this may cause discomfort for the end user.

**NOTE:** For a Minimal "Clean" look, we recommend using materials that have been tested for specific high heat applications and are designed not to crack or chip such as Promat and Skamol products. Any other materials used to achieve this same look might not perform as intended and are likely to discolor, crack and/or chip.

### FINISHING SUGGESTIONS:

When using any of the options below be sure to extend the non-combustible board as far beyond the non-combustible zone as is feasible to avoid cracking due to the differential expansion of materials.

Standard gypsum board may be used beyond the perimeter of the non-combustible zone however it is preferable not to change materials to help avoid cracking. Ensure that all compound, mortar, and/or silicone adhesives are rated for high-temperature applications and have fully cured before using the fireplace to help reduce the possibility of cracking as a result of thermal expansion.

#### • Tile and Stone Veneer Products:

Install a minimum of ½" non-combustible cement board then apply tile or stone with mortar following instructions from the finishing material company. Pre-drill cement board with oversized holes and do not over-tighten screws to avoid cracking due to heat expansion.

#### • Natural Stone, Marble or Granite Type Products:

Install a minimum of ½" non-combustible cement board then apply tile or stone with mortar following instructions from the finishing material company. Pre-drill cement board with oversized holes and do not over-tighten screws to avoid cracking due to heat expansion.

### **ATTENTION: Follow non-combustible clearance zone requirements when installing finishing materials.**

All materials including adhesives and compounds used within areas marked as non-combustible zones are required to be rated for minimum of 500°F. It is normal for the exposed surfaces around the fireplace viewing area to be hot to touch. Refer to material data sheets, do not use finishing materials with additives such as but not limited to polymers, epoxy or resins.

**ATTENTION:** Research all materials used in the installation of your fireplace to insure they meet the non-combustible requirements and are suitable for high temperature environments, marketing terms such as "Fire Rated", "Fire Proof" or "Fire Resistant" do not mean a material is classified as non-combustible and is suitable for high temperature environments.

### Additional tips to help avoid cracking;

- Allow materials to dry thoroughly before finishing the wall.
- Always pre-drill cement board with oversized holes and use screws with self-milling head.
- Always use tape over joints.
- Double up studs or use studs "on the flat" to add extra support to the joint. Help control differential movement by applying adhesive on the backside of the wall board joints.
- Use multiple, thinner coats of joint compound and allow to completely dry between coats.
- Ensure all framing materials are dry.
- Introduce heat gradually after finishing the wall to slowly dry any excess moisture.
- Avoid notching tiles or cement board around corners of window opening and instead provide a joint that intersects the corner.
- Take guidance from your authorized fireplace dealer and experienced installer.

Consult installation and operating instructions supplied with your SÓLAS fireplace for complete instructions for the installation and operation of the appliance.