



## Explaining TECO's Certification Marks

TECO owns several certification marks, many of which are federally registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. These include (but are not limited to) TECO TESTED<sup>®</sup>, FLOOR SPAN<sup>®</sup>, and SHEATHING SPAN<sup>®</sup>.

**What Are Certification Marks?** Certification marks are different from standard trademarks and service marks because they are not used to identify the source of the owner's goods and services. Instead, certification marks are used to certify the quality, regional origin, or other origin of third-party goods. When consumers see a certification mark on a product or in connection with services, they can assume the goods or services meet the standards of safety or quality that have been clearly established and advertised by the certifier.

**What do TECO Certification Marks Signify?** TECO's certification marks signify that various engineered wood products (EWP), such as plywood, OSB, MDF, LVL, and glued laminated timbers, meet TECO's quality and performance standards. That way, when builders, code officials, and others in the building design and construction communities see the TECO TESTED<sup>®</sup>, FLOOR SPAN<sup>®</sup>, or SHEATHING SPAN<sup>®</sup> designations on a product, they know that those products meet TECO's performance requirements.

**Who Can Use TECO's Certification Marks?** Only TECO clients who have applied for certification and have obtained certification after testing may use TECO's certification marks. TECO has strict limitations on how its certification marks may be used. These limitations include (but are not limited to):

- **Control:** TECO exercises control of the use of its marks so that only certification clients in good standing are authorized to use TECO's certification marks. Prior to using TECO certification marks, certification clients must also enter into a written license agreement which governs their use of the certification marks.
- **Certification Only:** The only authorized use of TECO's certification marks is to certify the products that TECO certification clients manufacture that are in compliance with the applicable performance standards and TECO's certification requirements. TECO itself cannot and does not produce or market any of the products it certifies.
- **Uniform Application:** TECO offers certification fairly and evenly to all manufacturers who meet the standards and conditions that TECO has established for certification. Further, TECO does not discriminate or refuse to certify manufacturers that meet these standards and conditions.
- **Use of the Marks:** TECO's certification marks are used so they clearly inform consumers of the product characteristics that are certified, and used so that the marks are physically applied to the certified products themselves, via a grade stamp or other means.

**NOTE:** See TECH TIP "[TECO PS 1 and PS 2 Gradestamp Explanation](#)" to see how these marks are displayed, and an explanation of all of the information contained in TECO gradestamps.

Use of the TECO certification marks is prohibited unless TECO has first tested, approved and certified the product at issue and has licensed the product manufacturer to use the certification mark. Any unauthorized use of TECO's registered certification marks is prohibited and a violation of US trademark law.

**Examples of TECO Certification Marks.** Here are examples of TECO's distinctive, registered certification marks:

FLOOR SPAN®

SHEATHING SPAN®



**Certification Mark:** TECO TESTED®

The TECO TESTED® certification mark certifies that TECO certification clients manufacturing products bearing the mark meets one or more of the following standards:

- Oriented strand board (OSB) — PS 2 (U.S.) and CSA O325 (Canada)
- Rim Board — ANSI/APA PRR-410
- Plywood — PS 1 (U.S.)
- Wood Panel Siding — ANSI/APA PRP-210
- Glulam — CSA O177/O122 (Canada)
- Particleboard — ANSI A208.1 (U.S.)
- Medium-density fiberboard (MDF) — ANSI A208.2 (U.S.)

**Certification Marks:** FLOOR SPAN® and SHEATHING SPAN®

The FLOOR SPAN® and SHEATHING SPAN® certification marks certify that TECO certification clients manufacturing plywood or OSB bearing the mark meets one or more of the following standards:

- Oriented strand board (OSB) — PS 2 (U.S.) and CSA O325 (Canada)
- Plywood — PS 1 (U.S.)

TECO's certification requirements vary depending on the specific product being manufactured and certified. For more information on the certification process and standards for each TECO certification mark, please contact TECO.