

### FAQ

**1. Q: Are SAF Panels cured prior to delivery to site?**

A: Panels are cured first for 8 hours in the mold, and then 3 days in a controlled environment (shaded), finally 4 days in an open yard. Panels are ready for shipping 7 to 8 days from casting.

**2. Q: Are SAF Panels load-bearing?**

A: SAF Panels are not load-bearing, however they are self-supporting and can support a typical roof structure (roof truss and cladding) including local dead/live loads (water-tanks, solar panels, etc.).

**3. Q: Are secondary support structures required to provide stiffness and support to the wall?**

A: Secondary supports (tie/bond beams, stiffener columns, and lintels, etc.) are NOT required for SAF Panels walls. In single story dwellings, bracing can be provided for in the roof structure. In multi-story applications, an RC frame or steel structure is required as the main building structure with SAF Panels used as infill walls.

**4. Q: Are SAF Panels suitable for walls between dwellings or for external walls?**

A: Yes. SAF Panels can be used as party walls between dwellings, corridor walls, external walls and internal partitions. Impact tests (both soft and hard body) have been carried out, without any damage to the panels occurring.

**5. Q: What is the average weight of a SAF Panel?**

A: Approximately a 75mm thick SAF Panel is 90kg, a 100mm thick SAF Panel is 115kg, and a 150mm thick SAF Panel is 165kg.

**6. Q: Can doors and windows be fixed into SAF Panels?**

A: Doors and window openings are easily built into the panel wall, or can be cut into the wall after panel erection. A horizontally fixed SAF Panel provides the lintel support for these opening, so no secondary support or a cast lintel is not required. All types of doors and windows can be fixed into the panels, similarly to as in masonry block.

**7. Q: What is the maximum opening width allowed in a SAF Panel wall?**

A: 2.8m wide is the largest opening achievable with a SAF Panel as the panel is the lintel and is restricted to 3m in length.

**8. Q: Is there a proper assembly method, including photographs of the various stages of Construction?**

A: SAF Panels has a full Method Statement outlining in detail the full erection methodology of the system in various applications.

**9. Q: Can a television or kitchen cabinets be hung on a SAF Panel wall?**

A: Yes. Any item can be hung up to 100kg per mechanical fixing (Dependant on the type of fixing).

**10. Q: Is it possible to insert electrical conduits and plumbing into the SAF Panel walls?**

A: Yes. SAF Panels can be cut and channeled/chased easily to install any electrical conduits or plumbing. These can be patched quick and easily as outlined in the SAF Panel Method Statement.

### FAQ - Continued

**11. Q: What time savings are possible with SAF Panels?**

A: PSAF Panel walls can be erected and finished 4 times faster than traditional methods of construction (masonry block), while using less labor. This makes it quick, efficient and economical for the main contractor and installation team. A laborer can install around 10-16m<sup>2</sup> per day, where typical block installation is 3-4m<sup>2</sup> per day.

**12. Q: Can tiles be fixed to SAF Panels?**

A: Yes. Ceramic, stone or other tile materials can be fixed directly to SAF Panels by using tile adhesives manufactured by reputed manufacturers, as per their recommendations.

**13. Q: Is plastering required after SAF Panel Installation?**

A: No wet trades are required for the finishing of SAF Panels. Each panel comes with a smooth surface that when assembled together, taped and jointed correctly, provide a finished surface ready for direct paint application.

**14. Q: What is the maximum self supported height that SAF Panels can be constructed to?**

A: The panels can be constructed up to 6m in height for non-load bearing walls, and up to 4.5m for walls directly supporting a roofing structure.

**15. Q: What is the maximum length/span that SAF Panels can be constructed to?**

A: A maximum length of 9m can be constructed (at a height of 4.5m) without any cross walls or supports. This length reduces the taller the height of the wall required.

**16. Q: What is the life span of a SAF Panel?**

A: SAF Panels are made up of materials which are tried and tested in the construction industry and have been shown to be durable and hard wearing. As such, we are confident that SAF Panels will endure similarly to any other cement based product used in the the industry today.

**17. Q: What is the effect if weather on SAF Panels?**

A: SAF Panels contain cement and are faced with fiber cement board (FCB), which can resist different weather conditions from freezing temperatures of -20 degrees Celsius, to extremely hot temperatures. The panels are also water resistant and when installed and joined correctly, will provide a water tight wall.

**18. Q: What is the composition of a SAF Panel?**

A: SAF Panels are made with Fiber Cement board (FCB) external facings, with a core mixture of cement, expanded polystyrene (EPS), and SAF additives. The panels feature a tongue-and-groove system, with each side face of the panel having either a "male" or "female" profile, which makes the joining of SAF Panels fast, efficient, secure, and highly accurate, while also minimising wastage.

**19. Q: Where are SAF Panels manufactured and can they be produced locally in various countries?**

A: SAF Panels are currently produced in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), however it is possible to set up factories in whichever country requires SAF Panels. Raw materials can be sourced both locally and overseas to provide the most economical solution for our local factories. Factories outside of the UAE are held under a franchise agreement with SAF Panels.