

Solana

Whistler, British Columbia, Canada



Insulspan® SIPs boost energy efficiency of cutting-edge Whistler condos

Rod Nadeau of Innovation Building Group has been designing and building energy-efficient homes for over 25 years. In Whistler, British Columbia, Nadeau undertook his latest project, the 26,000 sq. ft., 20-unit Solana condominium complex.

Designed to be what Nadeau describes as a “home you can actually live in,” Solana features floor-to-ceiling windows with spectacular mountain views and heated garages. Residents enjoy a 4,000 sq. ft. rooftop terrace with a barbecue, outdoor kitchen, and individual garden plots for each unit.

But the building’s defining characteristic is its exceptional interior comfort and low utility bills created by a high performance building envelope. Innovation Building Group selected the Insulspan® Structural Insulating Panel (SIP) System for the exterior walls of the building to reduce thermal bridging and air leakage—two factors that cause heat loss and lead to moisture issues in Whistler’s wet climate.

“We chose Insulspan SIPs for the walls because there is very little thermal bridging, you can pick the R-values, and they have virtually no air leakage,” said Nadeau. “It is one of the best ways to make an energy-efficient building.”



Insulspan SIPs provide continuous expanded polystyrene (EPS) insulation with minimal dimensional lumber studs that create a thermal “bridge” of heat transfer to the exterior. Building with large panels also means better air tightness for even greater energy efficiency, comfort, and indoor air quality.

Insulspan’s design team worked closely with Nadeau to provide engineered drawings that were critical in the design phase and greatly expedited the installation process. All Insulspan products are covered by a CCMC Evaluation Report for easy code approval.

“Insulspan products have been around a long time, they’ve been proven, they’ve been engineered, and they’re easy for the guys to install,” said Nadeau.

“Innovation Building Group brings a high level of experience and knowledge in sustainable construction to this project,” said Insulspan SIPs Sales Manager Dave Stevenson. “The combination of Insulspan SIPs and other technologies has dramatically reduced energy use and helped create a healthy, green building.”

