



**Fiberglass Fabricators, Incorporated**

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# Installation and Maintenance Manual

## **FRP Flat Covers**

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- **Unloading**
- **Storage**
- **Installation**

*NOTE: Be sure to completely read and understand the following unloading, storage, and installation instructions before proceeding. Contents are subject to change without notice or obligation.*

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# 1 Receiving, Inspection and Storage

## 1.1 Introduction

Fiberglass Fabricators, Inc. FRP Flat Covers have been manufactured utilizing the finest resins and fabrics to provide many years of trouble free use. Great care has been taken to prepare the FRP Flat Covers and associated parts for shipment, storage and field assembly.

Please take a few minutes to read these inspection, handling and storage instructions completely before unpacking the shipment.

## 1.2 General Shipping Information

1. In general, FRP cover panels and beams are shipped strapped directly to a flatbed truck unless other arrangements have been made. Sometimes this strapping becomes loose during transit, so care must be taken when unloading. In some cases, larger panels or beams may be delivered; in this case, extra care must be taken because of the additional weight.
2. Associated parts such as brackets, hardware, gaskets, etc. are shipped separately in cardboard boxes, on wooden skids or in wooden crates, as appropriate. If any damage to the cartons or crates is noticed, please follow the instructions for damaged goods described later in this manual.
3. In instances where field kits and gel-coat are supplied, they will also be sent in separate cartons. Please be aware that some components in these kits are flammable. Please unpack and store the flammable components in an appropriate storage area upon receipt of shipment. If not included, MSDS sheets can be obtained by contacting Customer Service at (401) 231-3552.

## 1.3 Unloading and Storage

You will receive your Fiberglass Fabricators FRP Flat Covers by a commercial carrier. When unloading, please be careful. This equipment is fragile and special precautions must be taken:

1. Protect the surface of FRP units from cuts, scratches, gouges, abrasions and impacts. Do not use wire slings unless material is fully protected. Use spreader bars when lifting these materials. Do not drag FRP Flat Covers across one another unless separated by a non-scratching spacer.
2. Each crate or box should be unloaded by forklift or crane (in the instance of packages and accessories of small size, it may be possible to unload by hand).
3. Care should be taken that all boxes, crates, etc. are not punctured or crushed while unloading. Observe any shipping label instructions ("This End Up", "Do Not Stack", etc.).

4. Store all FRP panels flat. Keep all FRP materials covered - do not stack or store other building materials on top of unprotected units. Store materials in a dry location, up off the ground, and allow for ventilation.
5. Take inventory of the condition of the equipment and immediately notify the carrier if there is any damage!

## 1.4 Damaged Shipments



### READ BEFORE ACCEPTING DELIVERY

- It is the consignee's responsibility to accept delivery of damaged goods unless permission to refuse delivery has been given by Fiberglass Fabricators, Inc.
- **DO NOT REFUSE DELIVERY** of damaged goods without prior authorization.
- Refusal of delivery may impede recovery for damages.
- **Unauthorized refusal of the shipment will result in a 20% restocking fee.**
- Upon notification of damages by consignee Fiberglass Fabricators, Inc. will contact the shipping company and pursue the appropriate action for filing claims.

## 1.5 Equipment Inspection And Delivery Acceptance

All efforts have been taken at the factory to insure that your equipment arrives safely. However, there may be many fragile components that require careful Inspection to ensure that no damage has occurred during shipment.

- Please refer to the packing list to verify the contents. In some cases, there may be assembly numbers or drawings to identify the shipped parts. If the shipment does not appear to agree with the enclosed documentation, or if there are questions regarding the shipment, please call Customer Service at (401) 231-3552.
- Verify that the number of parcels on the Bill of Lading is the same as the number of parcels received. Inspect all exterior components for visible damage. Report any apparent damages or material shortages to the carrier and make notations on the carrier's copy of the Bill of Lading. ***Specify the type and extent of damage and notify Fiberglass Fabricators, Inc. immediately!***
- **Do not proceed with the installation of damaged equipment without the express written permission of Fiberglass Fabricators, Inc. The customer will assume responsibility for installation of any damaged equipment unless express written permission to proceed with the installation is given by Fiberglass Fabricators, Inc.**

## 1.6 Inspection Checklist

- ☑ Inspect each piece of equipment before accepting delivery. Check for torn cartons, broken skids or saddles.
- ☑ Check the equipment for concealed damage as soon as possible after delivery.
- ☑ In the event of suspected concealed damage, ask the driver to wait while you inspect the equipment. Concealed damage must be reported *within 15 days of receipt of equipment*.
- ☑ If concealed damage is found, stop unpacking the shipment. Do not remove damaged equipment from the receiving location. If possible, take photos of the damage. The owner must provide reasonable evidence that the damage did not occur after delivery.
- ☑ *Notify the carrier of the damage as soon as possible.* Request an immediate joint inspection by the carrier and consignee. A determination of responsibility will be made and the carrier will authorize repairs in the event of admission of fault.
- ☑ *Notify Fiberglass Fabricators, Inc. immediately!*

### NOTE

Fiberglass Fabricators, Inc. will coordinate repairs and/or replacements with the owner and carrier. Do not attempt to repair or replace any equipment without the express written permission of Fiberglass Fabricators, Inc.

## 1.7 Long-Term Storage

- If the FRP Flat Covers are to be stored outside, they should be stored on dry level ground away from direct sunlight, if possible. The FRP Flat Covers should be covered and well ventilated to minimize excessive heat under cover. If the FRP Flat Covers are to be stored inside, they should be slightly elevated off the floor surface with an ample number of supports, and well ventilated.
- FRP Flat Covers should be nested inside each other on the floor or ground in lots of (9) nine. This amount allows the FRP Flat Covers to support themselves from tipping over.
- Field kits (when provided) contain both resins and catalysts. Both items require special storage considerations:
- Resins should be stored in an approved flammables cabinet.
- Resins should be stored at room temperature. If they are allowed to freeze, they must be discarded.
- Resins have a shelf life of approximately three months, after that their performance will degrade rapidly.
- The catalyst must be stored separately from the resin.

- Catalysts are strong oxidizers, and special care must be taken in their handling.
- The fiberglass cloth must be kept dry. If it becomes damp or wet, it will be unusable.

## **1.8 Warranty**

- 1.8.1 A general warranty of the fabricated flat cover for materials and workmanship shall be for a minimum of one (1) year after installation with a maximum of eighteen (18) months from date of shipment.

## 2 Installation Instructions

### **2.1 Instructions for the Installation of FRP Flat Covers**

#### **NOTE**

Installation procedure is job specific, please refer to the enclosed drawings for installation instructions.

### **2.2 Cleaning**

1. Clean products as required with soap and water. Use with a soft bristled brush, such as you would use to wash your vehicle.
2. Clean spills or stains that will not respond to soap and water with common solvents. Solvents such as acetone may remove the polyester gel-coat coating. Use solvents sparingly and only when absolutely necessary. Use all appropriate and necessary precautions and protections when using solvents.

### **2.3 Summary**

We hope that the drawings already provided for the FRP Flat Covers will assist you during installation. The installation of FRP Flat Covers, while challenging, can be a straightforward process if carefully planned in advance. Again, please remember that Fiberglass Fabricators, Inc. is always ready to provide advice for any questions or problems that you may have.

### **2.4 For More Information or Replacement Parts**

Contact:  
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