

# ITP Soft Type Backer Rod

TECHNICAL  
DATA FORM  
104

## Bi Cellular, Non-gassing Polyethylene foam Backer Rod

### Basic Use

ITP Soft Type Backer Rod is a soft, grey, pliable, non-gassing backup material inserted into an expansion joint to:

- Control sealant depth
- Create a backstop to allow proper sealant tooling
- Ensure sealant adhesion to joint surfaces only
- And yield a proper bond break between backup material and sealant.

### Specific Uses

Particularly suited for specialty applications where standard backer rods are not appropriate. Ideal in irregular joint applications particularly where self-leveling, flowable sealants are employed. Also recommended with sealants where bubbling concerns are critical. May also be used in place of most standard backer rod applications (see illustration below)

### Composition and Materials

ITP Soft Type Backer Rod is an extruded round, closed cell, low density polyethylene foam materials with a skin-like outer texture. It is highly flexible and compressible for installation. Available in stock grey and white in larger diameters. Other colours available on a custom basis.

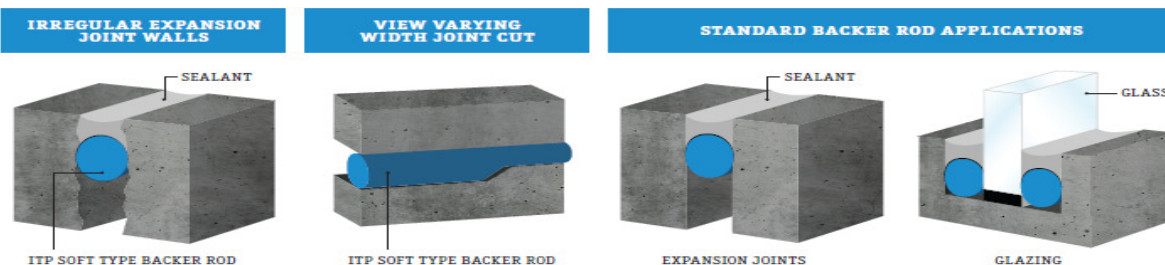
### Compatibility

ITP Soft Type Backer Rod is compatible with butyl, polysulfide, acrylic polyurethane, silicone and most other cold applied sealants

Table 1: Stock Sizes Available

Diameter	Shipping Format	Feet per Carton	Metric Diameter	Meters per Carton
3/8"	1 Spool	2100	9 mm	640
5/8"	2 Spools	1550	15 mm	472
7/8"	1 Spool	850	22 mm	259
1-1/8"	1 Spool	500	29mm	152
1-1/2"	6' Lengths	396	38 mm	121
2"	6' Lengths	228	50 mm	70
2-1/2"	6' Lengths	144	63 mm	44
3"	6' Lengths	102	76 mm	31
4"	6' Lengths	48	101mm	15

- Rectangular cartons with convenient hand holes for carrying, are ideal for warehousing and handling
- UPS and most other express services will accept all cartons for reshipment
- Truckload quantities furnished on pallets and may be warehoused 2 pallets high to maximize space



## Technical Data

ITP Soft Type Backer Rod is chemically inert and will resist oil, gasoline and most other solvents. This material will not stain or adhere to sealant materials and is non-exuding. (Refer to Table 2 for typical physical properties). **Type B per ASTM C1330**

## Installation

Joint or opening must be clean, dry and free of obstructions. Using Table 3, select proper rod diameter and cut to length or use directly from spool. With a blunt instrument or roller, uniformly install rod at the level recommended by the sealant manufacturer, specifier or architect involved. Generally, the depth of the joint after the backer rod is installed is one half the width. Very large or very small joint vary in terms of depth to width ratio. Avoid puncturing, stretching or over compression.

## Purchasing & Pricing

ITP Soft Type Backer Rod is widely available throughout the United States and Canada. Please contact us anytime for a Distributor in your area.

## Technical Assistance

ITP has qualified representatives available to assist users of the various Backer Rod materials referenced herein. Please contact your local distributor or ITP should assistance be required.

**Table 2: Physical Property Analysis**

Property	Value	Test Method
Density (nominal)	1.8-2.5 lbs/cu.ft	ASTM D1622
Outgassing (#of bubbles)	<1	ASTM C1253
Compression Deflection @ 25%	5 PSI	ASTM D5249
Water Absorption	0.03 gm/cc	<sup>2</sup> ASTM C1016
Compression Recovery, % min	>95	ASTM D5249
Tensile Strength psi (kPa)	43.4 (299)	D3575
Temperature Range	-90°F to 210°F	-
Classification	Type 3	ASTM D5249

<sup>2</sup> Procedure B

**Table 3: Standard Backer Rod Size to Joint Width**

Joint Width	Diameter
3/16" - 1/4"	3/8"
3/8" - 1/2"	5/8"
1/2" - 3/4"	7/8"
3/4" - 7/8"	1-1/8"
7/8" x 1-1/4"	1-1/2"
1-1/4" - 1-1/2"	2"
1-1/2" - 2"	2-1/2"
2" - 2-1/2"	3"
2-1/2" - 3"	4"

**Table 4: Carton Sizes & Weights**

Rod Diameter	Weight / Carton	Carton Measurement
3/8" 9mm	6 lbs 2.7 kgs	18" x 18" x 15" 457mm x 457mm x 381mm
5/8" to 1-1/8" 15mm to 29mm	11 lbs 5 kgs	18" x 18" x 30" 457mm x 457mm x 762mm
1-1/2" to 4" 38mm to 101mm	14 lbs 6.4 kgs	17" x 10" x 74" 432mm x 254mm x 1880mm

## Other ITP Backup Materials

Standard Closed Cell Polyethylene Foam Backer Rod  
Tundra Foam Open Cell in black  
Hot Rod XL (Hot Pour) Closed Cell Backer Rod  
Bagged Backer Rod Standard and Soft Type  
Pony Paks Spool-less boxes of Standard and Soft Type Backer Rods

Also available from Industrial Thermo Polymers

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