

104 YEARS OF INNOVATION
Product Introductions and Systems Technology Breakthroughs
Developed by United States Gypsum Company
1902 - 2006

During the past 104 years, United States Gypsum Company revolutionized how homes and commercial buildings are designed and built. The company not only invented an unrivaled line of wall, ceiling and flooring products, but also led the way in the development of tested assembly designs that maximized the value and use of those products.

U.S. Gypsum didn't just invent gypsum wallboard as we know it today, it developed the joint finishing products that made the board practical for use in residential construction. The company also introduced the first fire-rated gypsum panel and created the first steel-framed drywall assembly to meet commercial building codes.

Likewise, U.S. Gypsum didn't just manufacture gypsum plasters, it developed advanced plaster system technologies that provided solutions for high-security applications, high-abuse environments and high-end, designer upgrades.

U.S. Gypsum transformed wet-area tile construction through the development of its DUROCK[®] Brand Cement Board panels, fasteners and joint treatment system. Similarly, the company's recently introduced family of gypsum fiber panels is redefining the performance parameters for exteriors sheathings, floor underlayments and abuse-resistant walls.

- more -

104 YEARS OF INNOVATION / PAGE 2

And these innovations represent only a few highlights of the company's century of innovation. Following is a chronological timeline of these and some of the other major construction advancements that U.S. Gypsum Company has pioneered.

1902 – United States Gypsum Company Founded

The company was formed in Chicago when 18 independent gypsum mining, calcining, mixing and specialty products companies choose to consolidate operations to improve manufacturing efficiencies and enhance product development.

1903 – PYROBAR[®] Gypsum Partition Tile Introduced

The first non-combustible gypsum tile was developed for use as a plaster base.

1909 – Sackett Plaster Board Company Purchased

With the purchase of the Sackett Plaster Board Company, U.S. Gypsum Company positioned itself as the leader in gypsum wall technologies. Augustine Sackett, founder of the Sackett Plaster Board Company, invented Sackett Board in 1894. The product, which consisted of alternating layers of gypsum and wool felt, was promoted as the “logical successor to wood and metal lath.” It was the early forerunner of modern drywall.

1910 – Folded-Edge Plaster Board

U.S. Gypsum developed a way to completely enclose the exposed edges of Sackett Board panels. This advancement made the board more durable and easier to handle, and plaster board soon displaced wood lath as the contractor's choice for plaster construction.

- more -

104 YEARS OF INNOVATION / PAGE 3

1915 – ADAMANT[®] Board

The fire-resistant properties of U.S. Gypsum's ADAMANT Board (a variation on Sackett Board) made it a popular choice for barracks construction during World War I.

1917 – SHEETROCK[®] Brand Gypsum Panels

The first gypsum panel comprised an all-gypsum core with paper facings on both sides.

1922 – GYPLAP[®] Sheathing

The first gypsum panel designed for use under exterior sidings.

1924 – USG Joint Cement

The first compound designed for finishing the joints between gypsum panels.

1925 – Cloth Mesh Tape

The first joint tape to seal gypsum board seams.

1928 – ROCKLATH[®] Plaster Base

A larger (16- by 48-inches) plaster base that was easier to handle and install than the smaller Sackett and ADAMANT boards.

1929 – ACOUSTONE[®] Ceiling Panels

The first mineral fiber ceiling tile.

1932 – Foil-backed SHEETROCK[®] Brand Gypsum Panels

The foil backing enabled drywall panels to serve as vapor retarders.

104 YEARS OF INNOVATION / PAGE 4

1937 – PERF-A-TAPE[®] Joint Reinforcements

The first perforated drywall tape helped speed installation.

1940 – Beveled-Edge SHEETROCK[®] Brand Panels

The first drywall panel with recessed edges allowed for smoother joint finishing.

1949 – PYROFILL[®] Gypsum Concrete

A revolutionary poured gypsum concrete roof deck.

1953 – SHEETROCK[®] Ready-Mixed Joint Compound

A huge innovation that made drywall finishing faster and easier.

1956 – SHEETROCK[®] Brand Gypsum Panels, FIRECODE[®] Core

U.S. Gypsum developed the first true Type X wallboard.

1960 – Drywall System for Metal-Framed Construction

Until this time, drywall was only used on residential construction. U.S. Gypsum developed a complete system that enabled drywall to be used on steel-framed commercial buildings.

1961 – Resilient Channel Attachment System

This advancement improved the sound performance of gypsum board walls.

1961 – AURATONE[®] Ceiling Panels

U.S. Gypsum developed a breakthrough technology to create economical ceiling panels with a consistent texture.

104 YEARS OF INNOVATION / PAGE 5

1963 – Water-Resistant SHEETROCK® Brand Gypsum Panels

This innovation made gypsum board practical for use in high-humidity areas.

1963 – Setting-Type Joint Compound

Another key joint compound innovation that enabled faster setting times and higher productivity.

1969 – USG® Brand Cavity Shaft Wall System

The first gypsum-based system for enclosing elevator and stair shafts. This system was used on many of the world's tallest buildings, including the Sears Tower in Chicago and the Petronis Towers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

1973 – Light-Gauge Steel Framing

Another advancement that reduced costs and increased productivity.

1978 – DIAMOND® Veneer Plaster

The first veneer plaster system enabled home and building owners to capture the monolithic look of plaster with reduced material and labor costs.

1982 – SHEETROCK® Brand Lightweight All Purpose Joint Compound (PLUS 3™)

A lighter-weight joint compound that required one less coat over metal corners.

1983 – DUROCK® Brand Cement Board

Ideal for kitchens and baths, this tile backer panel that has become the world's best-selling cement board panel.

104 YEARS OF INNOVATION / PAGE 6

1988 – SHEETROCK® Brand First Coat

A high-solids prime coat that eliminated drywall decorating problems such as joint banding and photographing.

1991 – SHEETROCK® Brand Gypsum Panels, ULTRACODE® Core

A labor-saving innovation that reduced the number of drywall layers required for fire-rated construction.

1992 – FIRECODE® Firestopping Compound

An economical firestopping material that enabled drywall contractors to quickly seal through-penetrations in gypsum board walls.

1993 – SHEETROCK® Brand Drywall Repair Kit

The kit included everything do-it-yourselfers needed to complete any drywall repair.

2000 – FIBEROCK® Brand Gypsum Fiber Panels

These panels provided superior performance and handling characteristics for exterior sheathing, floor underlayment and wall substrate applications.

2002 – SHEETROCK® Brand TUFF-HIDE™ Primer-Surfacer

A high-build spray that enables contractors to achieve a top-quality (Level 5) gypsum board finish faster and more economically.

- more -

104 YEARS OF INNOVATION / PAGE 7

2002 – SHEETROCK® Brand Gypsum Liner Panels – Enhanced

A high-performance panel that integrates seamlessly with existing USG cavity shaft wall and area separation wall systems.

2003 – SHEETROCK® Brand HUMITEK™ Gypsum Panels

A moisture- and mold-resistant gypsum panel line for interior areas that is installed and finished in a traditional manner.

2003 – FIBEROCK® Brand AQUA-TOUGH™ Interior Panels

Designed to provide outstanding resistance to abuse, these interior wall panels offer superior protection from moisture and mold, and are approved for use in wet areas.

2005 – SECUROCK™ Brand Roof Board

This distinctive roof cover board for low-slope commercial roofing applications offers unmatched bond strength, resists moisture and mold, and is extremely durable.

2006 – Light-Gauge Steel Framing Systems

Designed to give residential and commercial builders a competitive edge, these systems can be incorporated into projects individually or as a complete engineered framing system, and include both wall and floor panels, as well as roof trusses.

2006 – SHEETROCK™ Finishing Tools

A revolutionary new family of drywall finishing tools is introduced to meet the growing need of drywall finishers.

2006 – SHEETROCK® Brand Lightweight All Purpose Joint Compound PLUS 3™ with Dust

Control

An innovative joint compound that binds up fine residue during sanding to form heavier particles that tend to fall to the floor instead of clouding the air, thereby reducing airborne sanding dust for less mess and faster cleanup.

###