



MORRISON HERSHFIELD

SOPREMA / ACS Composite Systems Split Insulated 2x4 Wood Frame Wall Thermal Analysis



Presented to:

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1. INTRODUCTION

Morrison Hershfield (MH) was retained by Soprema Inc. (Soprema) to evaluate the thermal performance of the ACS-S Thermal Clip system for a variety of clip spacings, insulation types, insulation thicknesses, and a variety of backup wall configurations. This report is a summary of the analysis performed for split insulated 2x4 wood frame wall assemblies.

The ACS-S Thermal Clip is made of stainless steel with a 1/2 inch Extreme Pad rigid urethane foam thermal isolator. The girt is attached to the ACS-S Thermal Clip such that the girt is outboard of the exterior insulation, resulting in no girt penetration of the exterior insulation. The ACS-S Thermal Clips were evaluated to determine the clear field U-values and effective R-values for a variety of clip spacings and exterior insulation types.

For all configurations, the smallest ACS-S Thermal Clip was selected for the exterior insulation thickness as shown below in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1: Exterior Insulation Thickness for the ACS-S Thermal Clip System

ACS-S Thermal Clip Size (in)	Exterior Insulation Thickness in (mm)
2	1 (25)
2	2 (50)
3	3 (76)
4	4 (102)
5	5 (127)
6	6 (152)
7	7 (178)
8	8 (203)

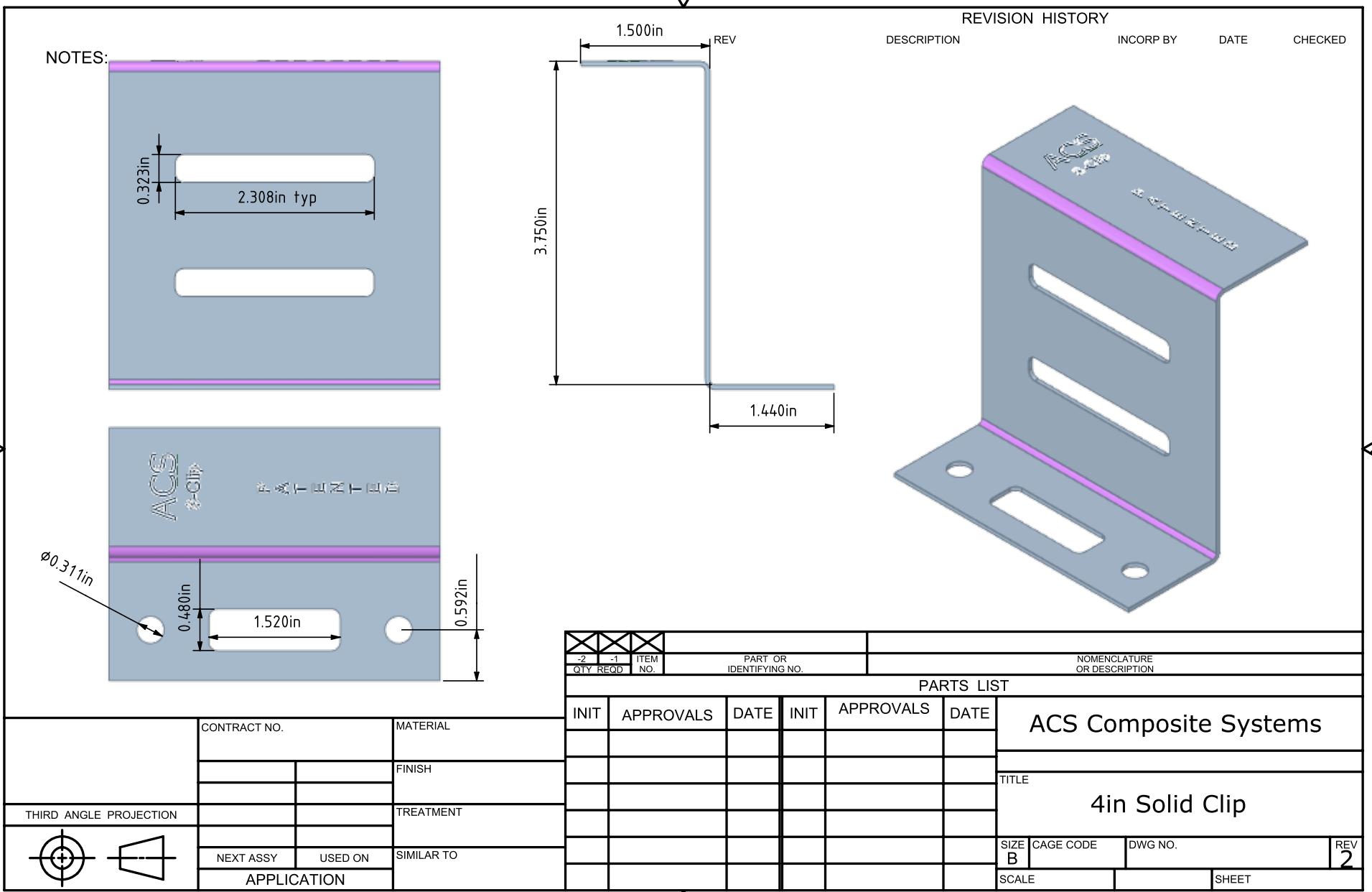
Table 1.2 below summarizes the evaluated wall configurations, and Figure 1.1 illustrates a representative wall assembly using SOPRA-XPS 20 exterior insulation. The geometry of the ACS-S Thermal Clips were based on the drawings provided by ACS Composite Systems Inc. and Soprema, and are provided in Appendix A.

2. MODELLING PROCEDURES

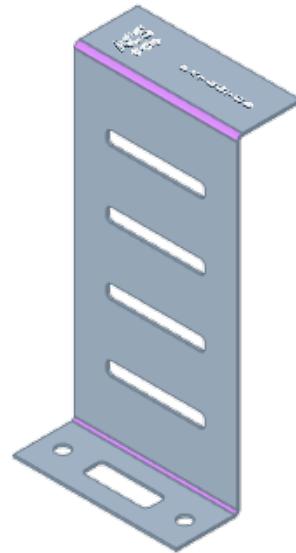
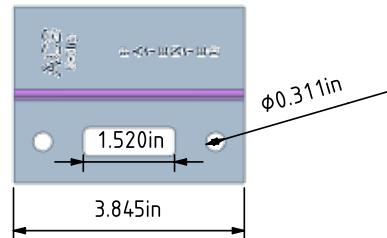
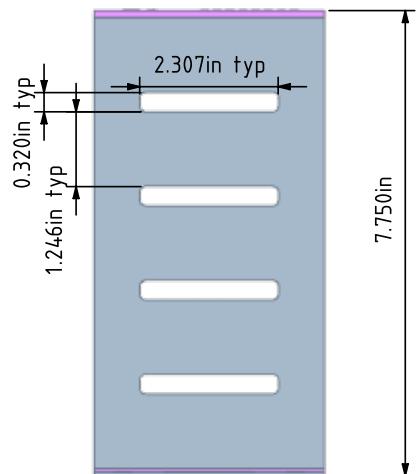
The thermal performance of the different assembly scenarios was evaluated by 3D thermal modelling using the Nx software package from Siemens, which is a general purpose computer aided design (CAD) and finite element analysis (FEA) package. The thermal solver and modelling procedures utilized for this study were extensively calibrated and validated to within +/- 5% of hotbox testing for *ASHRAE Research Project 1365-RP Thermal Performance of Building Envelope Details for Mid- and High-Rise Construction and for the Building Envelope Thermal Bridging Guide*¹. The thermal analysis utilized steady-state conditions, published thermal properties of materials and information provided by Soprema and ACS Composite Systems Inc. Additional assumptions for the thermal analysis are listed in Appendix B. Further assembly information, including dimensions and materials, is provided in Appendix C.

¹ <https://www.bchydro.com/thermalguide>

APPENDIX A: DETAIL DRAWINGS



NOTES:



REVISION HISTORY

DESCRIPTION

INCORP BY

DATE

CHECKED

CONTRACT NO.	MATERIAL	ITEM NO.	PART OR IDENTIFYING NO.		NOMENCLATURE OR DESCRIPTION			
			QTY REQD					
ACS Composite Systems								
8in Solid Clip								
THIRD ANGLE PROJECTION	FINISH							
NEXT ASSY	TREATMENT							
USED ON	SIMILAR TO							
APPLICATION								
			SIZE B	CAGE CODE	DWG NO.	REV 2		
			SCALE			SHEET		

APPENDIX B: MODELLING PARAMETERS AND ASSUMPTIONS

1. GENERAL MODELLING APPROACH

For this report, a steady-state conduction model was used. The following parameters were also assumed:

- Material properties were taken from information provided by Soprema Inc., ACS Composite Systems Inc., and ASHRAE Handbook – Fundamentals for common materials.
- Enclosed air spaces were modelled with an equivalent thermal conductivity of the air that includes the impacts of convection and radiation within the enclosure. Calculations for this equivalent conductivity were based on ISO 10077.
- Interior/exterior air films were taken from Table 10, p. 26.21 of 2017 ASHRAE Handbook – Fundamentals depending on surface orientation. The exterior air films were based on an exterior wind speed of 15 mph.
- In ASHRAE 1365-RP, for rain screen cavity systems, most lightweight claddings have an insignificant impact on the thermal performance other than shielding the insulation from direct wind exposure. The cladding and secondary structure outboard of the clip system were not explicitly modelled, but were incorporated into the exterior film coefficient.
- From the calibration in 1365-RP, contact resistances between materials were modelled and varied between R-0.01 and R-0.2 depending on the materials and interfaces.
- Insulation and other components were considered tight to adjacent interfaces.
- The clear field transmittances included in this analysis include uniform thermal bridges such as studs, clips, and girts.

2. TEMPERATURE INDEX

The temperature index is the ratio of the surface temperature relative to the interior and exterior temperatures. The temperature index has a value between 0 and 1, where 0 is the exterior temperature and 1 is the interior temperature. If T_i is known, Equation 1 can be rearranged for $T_{surface}$. This arrangement allows the modelled surface temperatures to be applicable to any climate.

$$T_i = \frac{T_{surface} - T_{outside}}{T_{inside} - T_{outside}} \quad \text{EQ 1}$$

Note, these indices shown in the temperature profiles for this analysis are for general information only and are not intended to predict in-service surface temperatures subject to transient conditions, variable heating systems, and/ or interior obstructions that restrict heating of the assembly. For full limitations of this modeling approach, see ASHRAE 1365-RP.

3. BOUNDARY CONDITIONS

Table B3.1: Boundary Conditions

Boundary Location	Combined Convective and Radiation Heat Transfer Coefficient BTU/h ft ² °F (W/m ² K)
Exterior Wall Surfaces with Generic Cladding	1.5 (8.3)
Interior Walls	1.5 (8.3)

APPENDIX C: MATERIAL PROPERTIES

APPENDIX D: SIMULATED TEMPERATURE PROFILES

As an example of the thermal profiles of the ACS-S Thermal Clip system with a split insulated 2x4 wood frame wall assembly, the following figures illustrate a typical temperature distribution for the 3 inch ACS-S Thermal Clip with 3 inches of exterior insulation and 16 inches o.c. horizontal and 24 inches o.c. vertical clip spacing. The profiles are presented as a temperature index (between 0 and 1). See Appendix B.2 for more information.

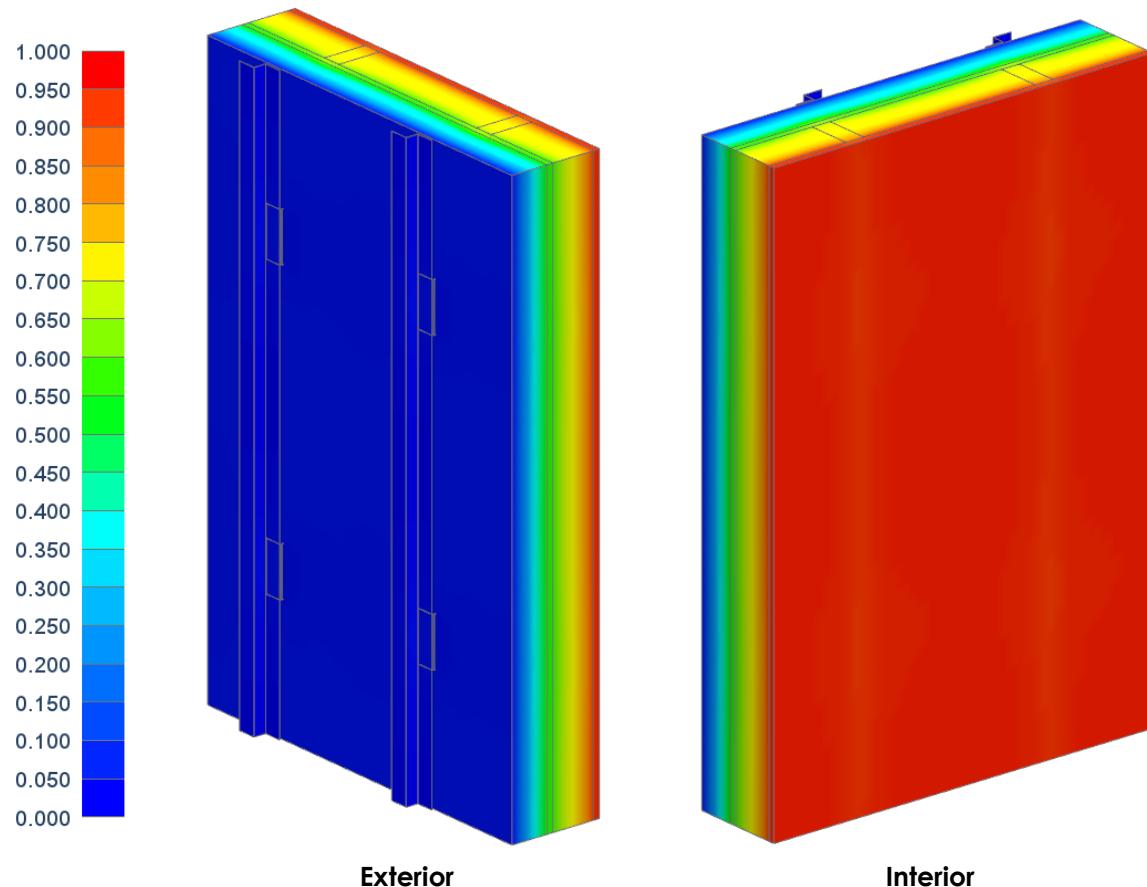


Figure D1: Temperature Profile of ACS-S Thermal Clip with **SOPRA-XPS 20** Exterior Insulation: Split Insulated 2x4 Wood Frame Assembly

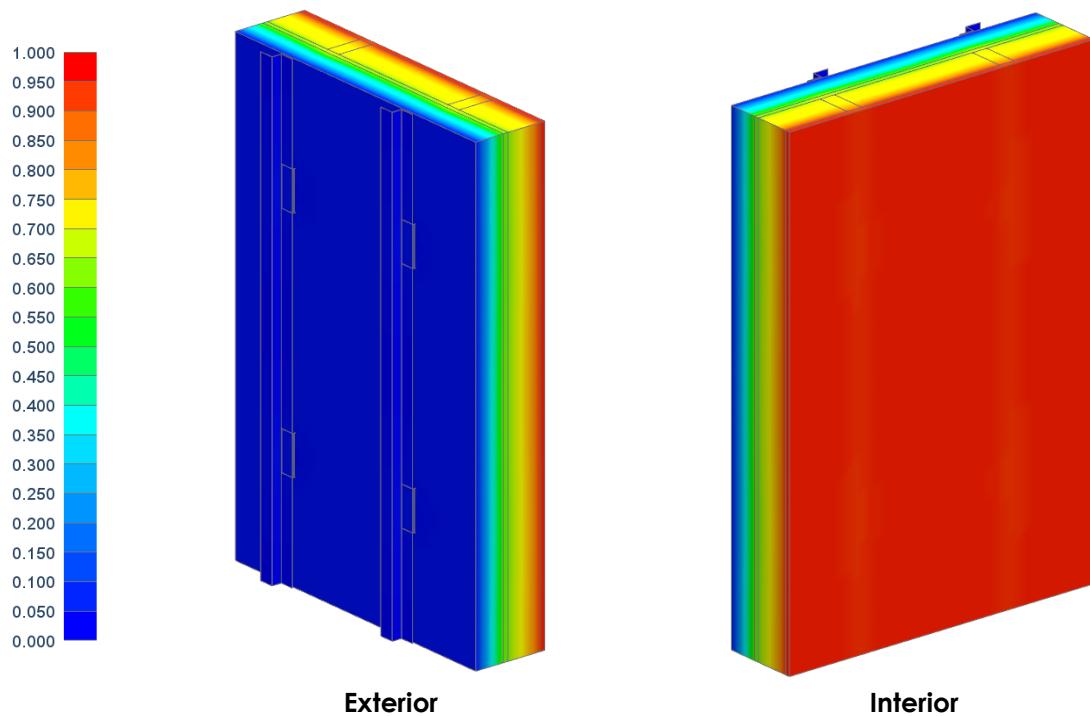


Figure D2: Temperature Profile of ACS-S Thermal Clip with **SOPRA-SPF 202** Exterior Insulation: Split Insulated 2x4 Wood Frame Wall Assembly

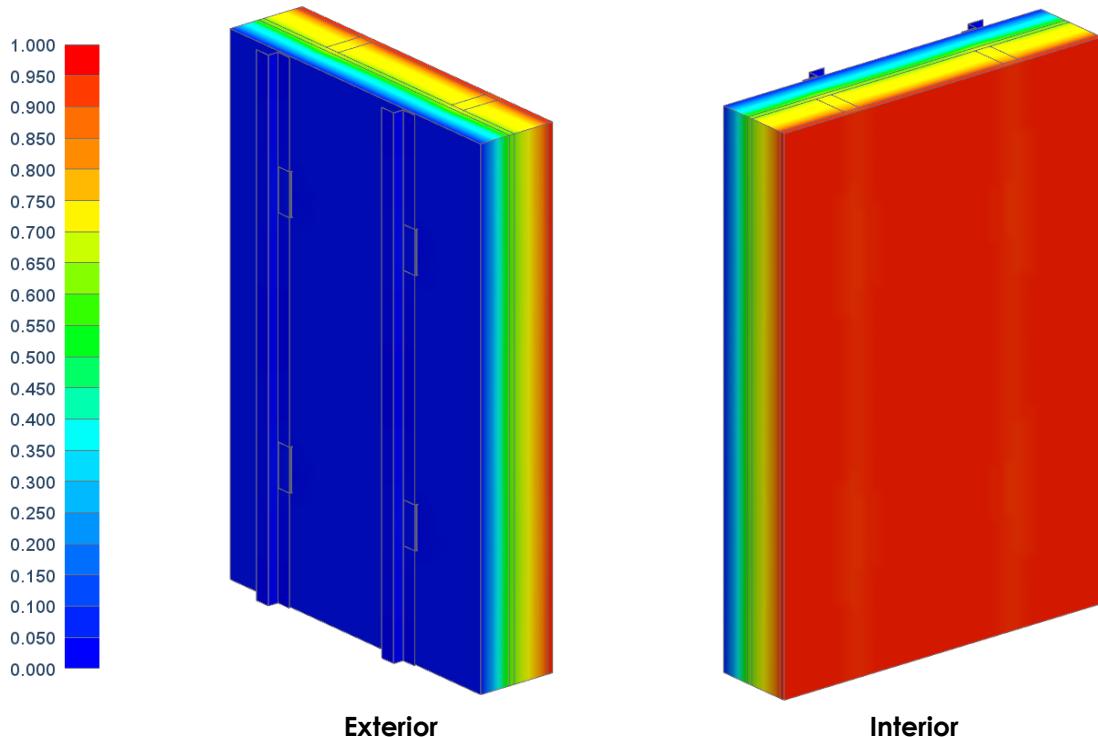


Figure D3: Temperature Profile of ACS-S Thermal Clip with **SOPRA-ISO V PLUS** Exterior Insulation: Split Insulated 2x4 Wood Frame Wall Assembly

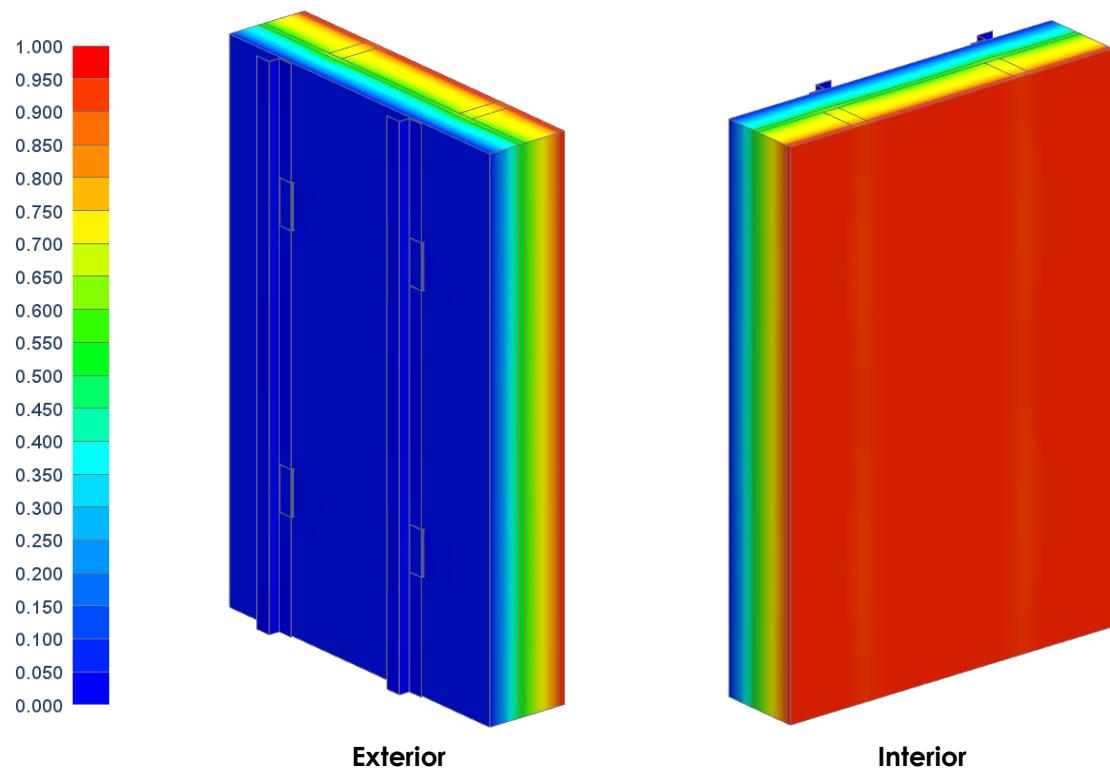


Figure D4: Temperature Profile of ACS-S Thermal Clip with **Mineral Wool** Exterior Insulation: Split Insulated 2x4 Wood Frame Wall Assembly