STUCCO FUTURES

Welded Wire Lath: A Florida-Compliant Alternative to Diamond Mesh

September 2026

Stucco is a time-honored cladding, valued for design versatility, durability, fire resistance, and thermal efficiency. Where stucco develops a reputation problem, in Florida and elsewhere, the cause is usually a detailing or lath issue, not a material issue: cladding systems don't fail, assemblies do. Structa Wire Mega Lath and Twin Trac2.5 are ICC-ES/IAPMO-recognized, code-approved alternatives to expanded metal (diamond mesh) lath, engineered for better embedment, less cracking, and easier attachment, and supplied in Florida-compliant rolls instead of sheets, reducing the failure points that give stucco a bad name and improving the performance of the finished wall.

Code Standing

- Both products are covered under IAPMO ER-2017, in compliance with the IBC, and recognized as alternatives to expanded metal lath (ASTM C847) and woven wire.
- Comparative testing showed Structa Wire panels exceeding the allowable transverse loading of other code-listed lath. It doesn't just meet the bar, it exceeds it.
- Twin Trac2.5 has a documented pairing in the Sto Powerwall HVHZ (Miami-Dade) system, giving it strong hurricane-zone credibility.
- Structa Wire also holds recognition that its products comply with the Florida Building Code as alternates to other metal laths, under the Florida Building Commission framework.

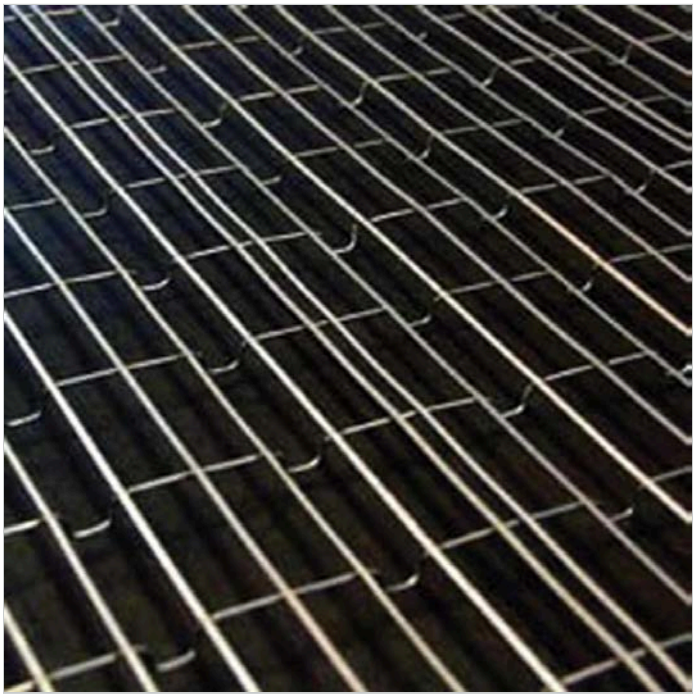
ASTM Codes and CSI Spec Location

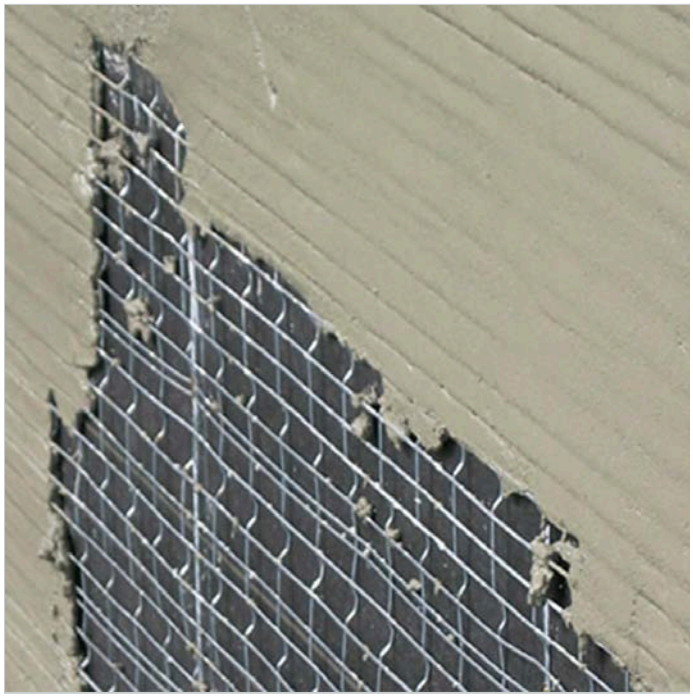
Relevant ASTM standards:

- ASTM C933: Standard Specification for Welded Wire Lath (covers Mega Lath and Twin Trac2.5 directly).
- ASTM C847: Standard Specification for Metal Lath (the expanded metal/diamond mesh comparison standard).
- ASTM C1063: Standard Specification for Installation of Lathing and Furring to Receive Interior and Exterior Portland Cement-Based Plaster.
- ASTM C926: Standard Specification for Application of Portland Cement-Based Plaster.

In a CSI spec, this falls under Division 09 (Finishes), Section 09 22 00 (Supports for Plaster and Gypsum Board), with metal lath under Section 09 22 36 (Lath), subsection 09 22 36.23. ClarkDietrich also offers an AIA-CES continuing education course, “Optimized Lath Selection for Enhanced Stucco Performance” (CD 027), filed under the same CSI 09 22 36 location, a useful leave-behind for architects who want the credit hour alongside the spec language.

Mega Lath

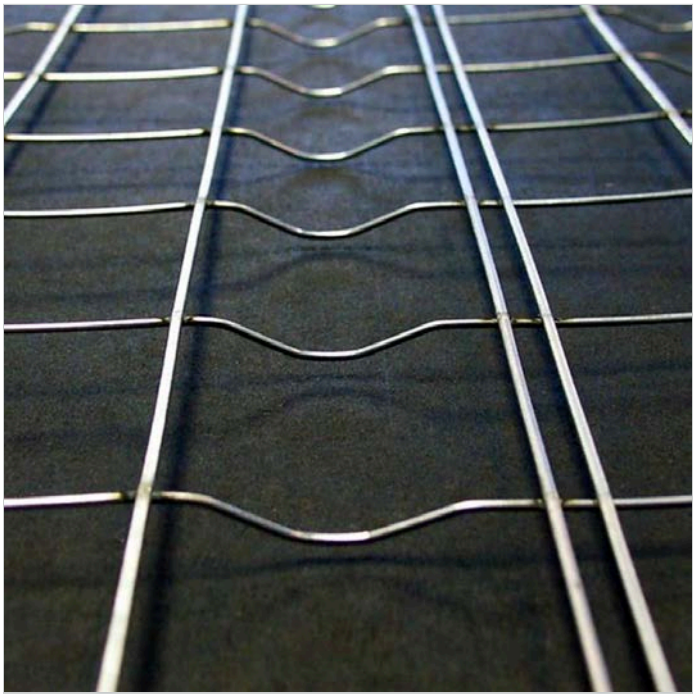


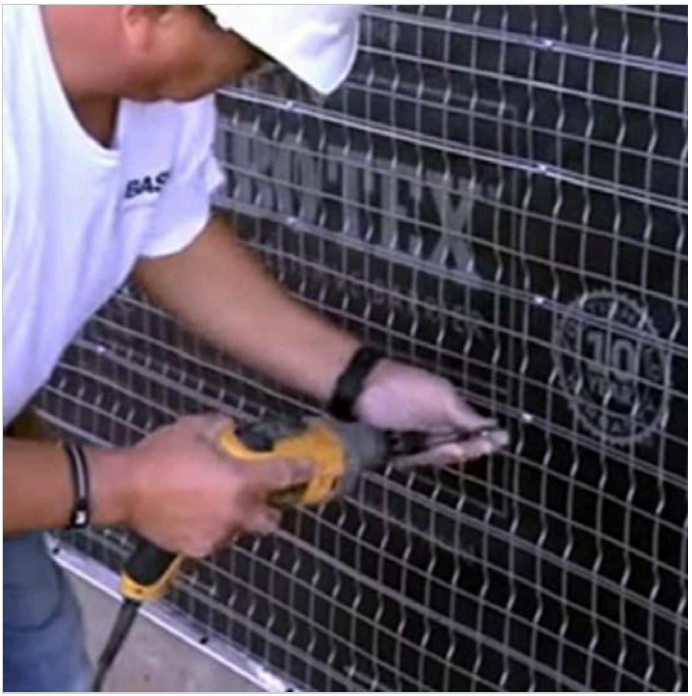


Feature	Benefit
Self-furring, flat-bottomed V-shaped furrs hold a full 3/8" scratch coat	Consistent, full embedment every time, not dependent on installer skill
16ga x 17ga galvanized wire, 11/16" x 1.5" openings	More strength using less metal than sheet lath
Alternative to 3.4 lb/yd^2 diamond mesh; installs 24" o.c. over open framing at 1.95 lb/yd^2	Lighter product, same or better performance
Furr won't puncture the vapor barrier	Protects moisture management from installation damage
Cold-rolled flat wire, reduced curvature memory	Rolls out flat with no sharp edges, easier and safer to install than sheet

Mega Lath does the job of heavier diamond mesh sheet lath, with less material, better embedment, and a roll that's easier to handle on site.

Twin Trac2.5





Feature	Benefit
8 secondary cold-rolled longitudinal wires forming a "track"	Simplifies attachment to both wood and steel studs
8 continuous 3/16" twin wires act like a built-in washer	Faster, more forgiving fastening, less installer guesswork
Flat wire attaching track creates a washer effect	Reduces water leakage at attachment points
Minimum 28 rugged furring points per sq. ft.	Superior, consistent embedment and crack resistance
Unwinds flat, no curvature memory	Easier to manage on scaffolding, less worker fatigue

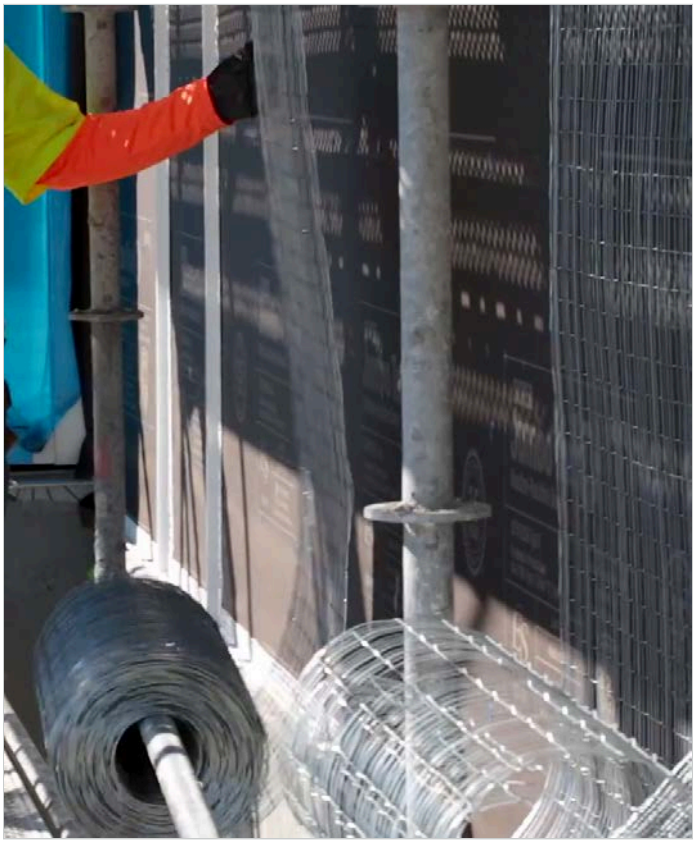
Twin Trac2.5 is built for commercial crews: faster fastening, a tighter seal at every screw, and stronger, more consistent embedment than sheet lath delivers.

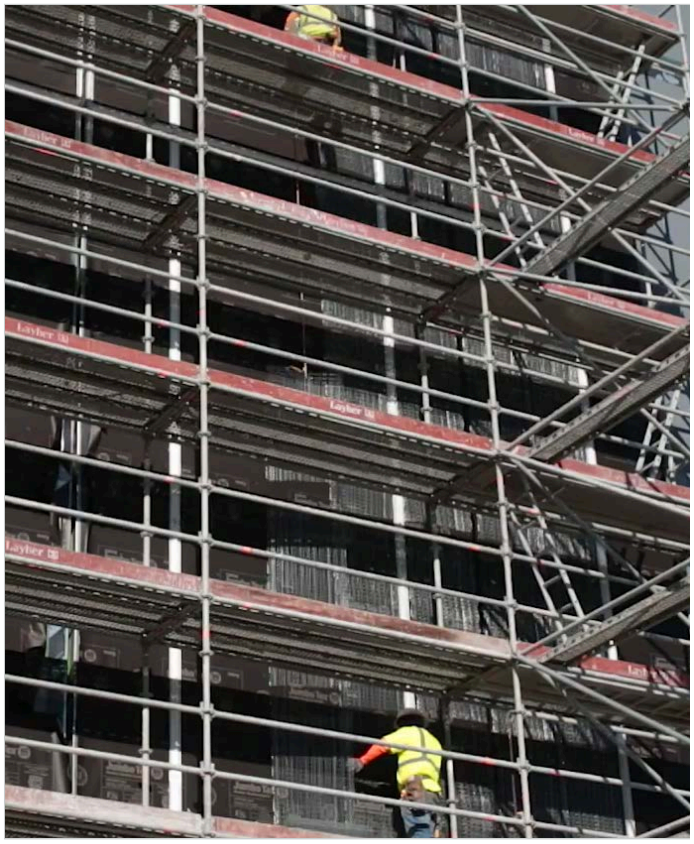
Rolls vs. Sheets

- No vertical seams, and far fewer laps than sheet lath.
- Cuts in the field always land on a framing member, meaning less waste and no wire-tying at horizontal laps.
- Lighter and easier to handle than bulky sheet or woven wire rolls.
- Fastens almost anywhere on the wire, not just at fixed furring points.

The net result is a faster install, less waste, and fewer weak points, which means fewer callbacks.

Case Study: Orlando International Airport (MCO) South Terminal





- A $4.1B expansion with 164,000 sq. ft. of exterior stucco (2019–2021), using Mega Lath as part of ClarkDietrich's Easy Embedment System.
- Mega Lath was the only lath approved to run vertical over horizontal Z-furring in this CI-stucco assembly, solving a real Florida technical install challenge on a major public project.
- Contractor SkyBuilders USA cited faster install and on-site technical support as key wins.

MCO South Terminal stands as proof of performance on one of Florida's largest projects.

For architects: Code-recognized (ER-2017/IBC), Florida-compliant embedment performance with less cracking risk than diamond mesh, verified on a major Florida public project and in HVHZ construction.

For contractors: Faster to install, easier to fasten, and less waste at laps and openings, with the same or better code standing than the diamond mesh they're used to and fewer callbacks.

What do you think?

Let us know at www.clarkdietrich.com/stuccofutures, or on LinkedIn, Instagram, or Facebook #stuccofutures. For technical questions, call 1-800-887-4708.