

## **B.1 PREPARATION AND PLANNING**

This manual has been prepared under the assumption that you have a basic knowledge of conventional construction methods, techniques, and terminology. Advance planning and preparation during all phases of the construction process are key factors to your success. In order to get a good start on your PolySteel project, there are some basic steps you should take that will help you get off on the right foot. Estimating the materials you will need to complete the PolySteel portion of your project, having the proper tools and supplies in hand, and an understanding of the terminology and techniques that are unique to our product, you will be better able to handle the on-the-job requirements that come with any PolySteel construction project.

**CAUTION:** If you are initially working with a set of plans designed for a framed wall that is not as thick as a PolySteel wall, you should consult with your PolySteel Dealer, or designer, to ensure that you take into account the additional wall thickness and square footage that will be added to the structure you intend to build. Generally speaking, you will push the outside walls of the plans to the exterior by the amount of the additional wall thickness PolySteel provides over the original material specified for example, for plans calling for 2x4 framed walls [i.e., 3-1/2" thick], you would add 7-1/2" to the thickness of the walls for 6" PolySteel forms, which are 11" wide).

## **B.2 ESTIMATING BASIC MATERIALS**

Some of the materials and supplies you will need for your project are unique to the installation of PolySteel Forms. The dimensions and layout of your plans will help determine the number of forms you need, the amount of adhesives or clips to put them together, the rough opening forming material, rebar, and concrete. Your PolySteel Dealer may have a computer program or worksheet to help in this process, however, the following worksheet and formulas should guide you in the basics of this process. In addition to the forms, concrete, rebar, and VBuck included in the Basic Material Estimating Worksheet that follows, your estimating process might also include:

<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Estimated Quantity</u></b>
Foam2Foam Adhesive	Approximately 1 can per 70 forms
Carolina Clippers	Two clips per form
Framing Lumber	If VBuck is not used, you may need treated or felt-wrapped lumber to build your window bucks per Section C.9.3 in the Manual
Rebar Saddles	As required by design
Electrical Zip Ties	As required
1-1/2" PVC Pipe	One 1-1/2" ring for each vertical rebar dowel

Be sure to consult with your PolySteel Distributor or Dealer for any other items you may need.