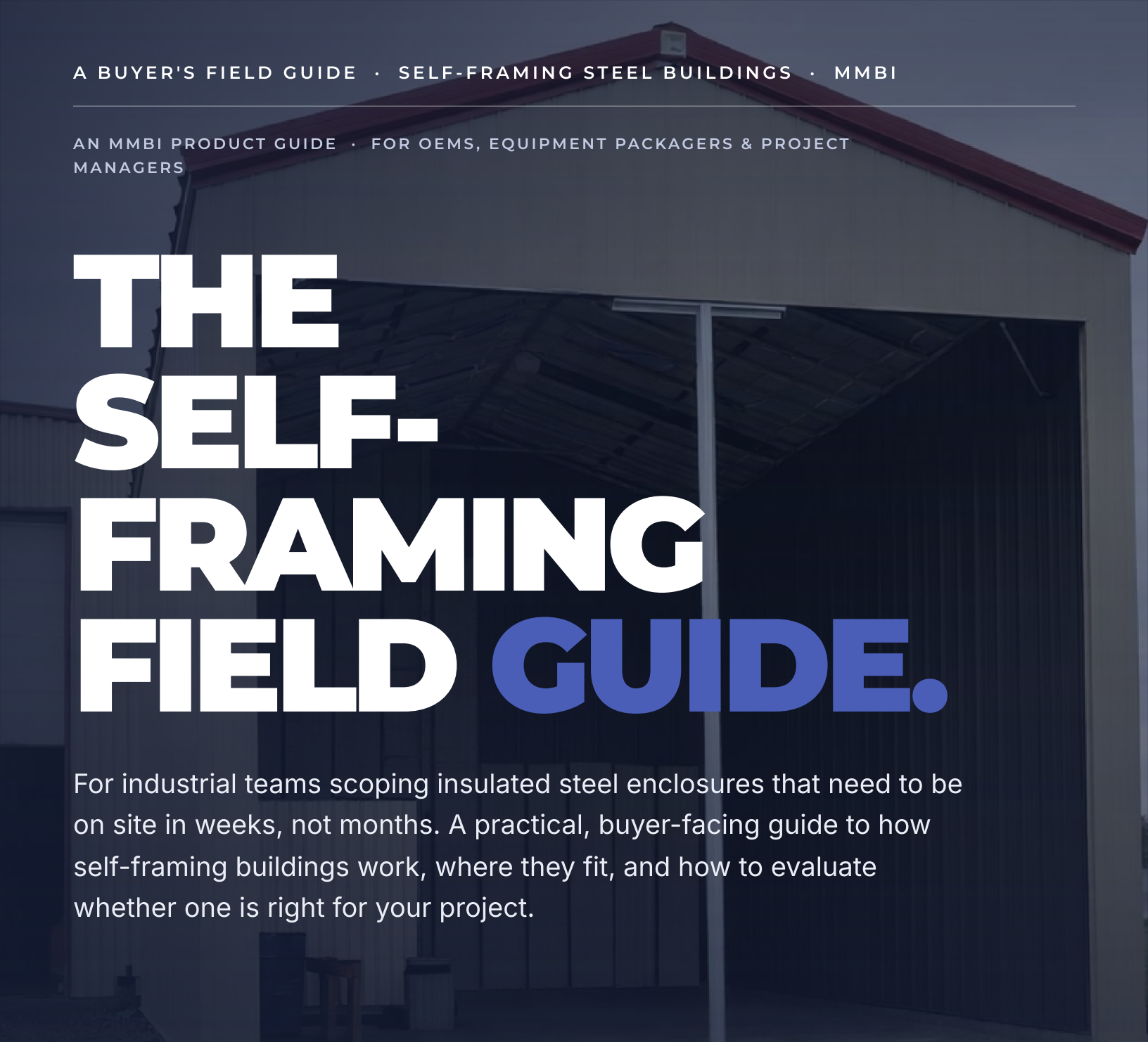
AN MMBI PRODUCT GUIDE · FOR OEMS, EQUIPMENT PACKAGERS & PROJECT MANAGERS



THE SELF-FRAMING FIELD GUIDE.

For industrial teams scoping insulated steel enclosures that need to be on site in weeks, not months. A practical, buyer-facing guide to how self-framing buildings work, where they fit, and how to evaluate whether one is right for your project.

METALEX METAL BUILDINGS INC.

Where it fits · The decision · What to send us

ONE PANEL SYSTEM. NO SEPARATE SKELETON. FASTER ENCLOSURE.

A self-framing building doesn't have a structural skeleton with cladding attached to it. The ribbed steel panels are the structure. That changes what the building is, what it can do, and where it should — and shouldn't — be used. This guide walks you through the decision.

A BUYER'S GUIDE · NOT A BROCHURE

WHAT THIS GUIDE IS FOR.

You're scoping an industrial building and trying to decide what to build, how to procure it, and how fast it can be on site. This guide is written for that decision.

IT'S FOR YOU IF YOU'RE

- An OEM or equipment packager wrapping a skid, compressor, or process module
- An EPC or procurement lead assembling a building package for an industrial site
- A project manager sequencing a remote-site build with constrained labour
- An industrial owner or operator scoping an equipment shelter or service building
- An engineer specifying envelope, eave height, and structural reinforcement
- A contractor evaluating self-framing against a PEMB or stick-built alternative

WHAT YOU'LL GET OUT OF IT

- A plain-language definition of what a self-framing building actually is
- The structural mechanism — how panels carry load without a skeleton
- Defensible width and eave-height limits, by panel gauge and snow load
- A decision matrix: self-framing vs. rigid frame, factor by factor
- Real per-square-foot pricing drawn from 294 historical Metalex quotes (CAD)
- The shortest possible list of what to send us to get a budget direction back

HOW TO USE IT

READ COVER-TO-COVER
OR SKIP TO "IS IT RIGHT FOR YOU" — P.05
OR THE COMPARISON — P.14

CONTENTS

IN THIS GUIDE.

Inside the Shop · Stettler. Metalex's self-framing panels are roll-formed in our CSA A660 / A277 certified facility. Every panel is cut, trimmed, staged, and shipped from the same Stettler operation where the project is coordinated.

THE POINT OF THIS GUIDE

"Understanding the right building system for your application — many industrial buildings are over-built for the job at hand."

— Metalex Metal Buildings Inc. · Stettler, AB

SELF-QUALIFYING CHECKLIST · DO ANY OF THESE SOUND LIKE YOU?

IS IT RIGHT FOR YOUR PROJECT?

Self-framing isn't the right system for every job. It's the right system for a specific kind of job. If three or more of these conditions describe what you're trying to build, this guide is going to be useful to you.

- ✓ You need an insulated **clear-span industrial enclosure** in the 12–36′ width range — equipment shelter, MCC house, pump building, control house.
- ✓ Your schedule favours a building that can be **manufactured in weeks and erected in days.**
- ✓ **CSA A660 / A277 certified** manufacturer, with engineered/stamped drawings available where required by the project scope.
- ✓ You're comparing self-framing against a **rigid frame PEMB, a stick-built shop, or a sea-can** — and you want a straight comparison before you commit.
- ✓ You're an **OEM or equipment packager** wrapping a skid that ships to multiple Western Canadian sites and need a repeatable building drawing.
- ✓ Eave height runs under 24′ and the building **doesn't carry overhead crane or monorail loads**.
- ✓ You want a building that **looks finished, performs thermally, and is designed for long-term industrial use** when properly specified, installed, and maintained.
- ✓ The building must be **delivered, erected, and commissioned with fewer trades on site** — one supplier, one envelope, one drawing.

INSIGHT

THE RIGHT SYSTEM IS THE SMALLEST ONE THAT STILL DOES THE JOB. SELF-FRAMING WINS WHEN YOU DON'T NEED A FRAME.

— WHY WE WROTE THIS GUIDE

INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS GET OVER-BUILT FOR THE JOB AT HAND.

Six trades, four weeks site construction, and a PEMB frame for a 24′ × 40′ equipment shelter most operators will use for decades. There is a leaner, faster, more repeatable way — when it fits. The rest of this guide helps determine if it is.

→ SEE WHERE IT FITS · P.07
→ SEE WHERE IT DOESN'T · P.19

PRIMER · THE STEEL-BUILDING STACK

WHERE SELF-FRAMING FITS IN THE STACK.

Before defining a self-framing building, it helps to understand the broader landscape it sits within. The category lives inside a larger family of steel building systems, each appropriate for a different combination of span, load, and program.

TIER A	**CONVENTIONAL STRUCTURAL STEEL**	Engineer-of-record designs the structural system and issues drawings to a fabricator. Highest flexibility for unusual geometries, heavy equipment loads, and complex interfaces — and the highest engineering and coordination overhead.
TIER B	**STEEL BUILDING SYSTEMS · PEMB**	Manufacturer-designed, manufacturer-fabricated integrated systems. The manufacturer holds responsibility for the structural design under a controlled quality program — **CSA A660** — and the building is supplied as a complete package. **Self-framing is a sub-type of this category; rigid frame is another.**
TIER C	**LIGHT-GAUGE & FABRIC STRUCTURES**	Cold-formed light-gauge framing, fabric-covered structures, and modular or skid-mounted enclosures sit at the lighter end of the spectrum. Appropriate for low-spec or temporary applications.

THE POINT

Self-framing and rigid frame sit in the **same tier** — both are CSA A660-certified pre-engineered systems. They differ in *how* they carry load. That difference dictates which one is right for your project.

THE MECHANISM · HOW IT CARRIES LOAD

WHAT MAKES A SELF-FRAMING BUILDING DIFFERENT.

In a conventional steel building or a rigid frame PEMB, the structural skeleton — columns, rafters, braced bays — carries the loads. Cladding is attached afterward, but it doesn't contribute to structural capacity. The skeleton does the work; the cladding keeps the weather out.

In a self-framing building, **there is no separate skeleton.** The wall and roof panels interlock, fasten together, and collectively carry and distribute loads through stressed-skin or diaphragm action — the panels *and* their fastening patterns form a rigid load-bearing shell.

THE DEFINING PRINCIPLE

THERE IS NO SEPARATE SKELETON. THE PANELS ARE THE STRUCTURE.

THREE CONSEQUENCES

01 · FEWER PARTS

Panels do double duty as structure and envelope. No columns to ship, no rafters to bolt, no braced bays to brace. Fewer parts on the truck, fewer parts to install.

02 · FASTER ERECTION

Most self-framing buildings can be erected in 2–5 days once the foundation, skid, or timber base is ready and square. A rigid frame in the same footprint takes longer.

03 · TIGHTER LIMITS

There's no skeleton to up-spec, so the system has defined structural limits — by gauge, by snow load, by eave height. Beyond those limits, rigid frame is the right call. We map them on the next several pages.

04 · HIGHER INSTALL PRECISION

The panels *are* the structure. Screw torque, panel junctions, and how panels are notched at openings are not cosmetic decisions — they are structural ones.

THE RIB · CROSS-SECTION · ONE PANEL

ONE RIB. ASYMMETRIC. INTERLOCKING.

Each panel is roll-formed from 22-gauge steel into an asymmetric profile — a small end and a big end that nest into a composite double-rib member.

FIG-1 PANEL CROSS-SECTION · 20" COVERAGE · 22 GA

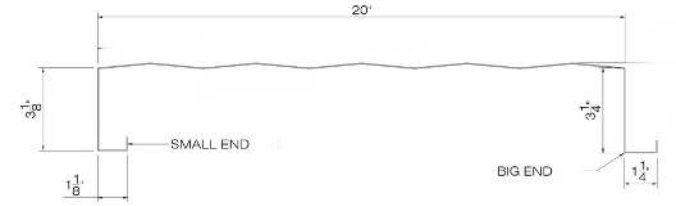


FIG-2 TWO PANELS · SMALL END NESTED INTO BIG END

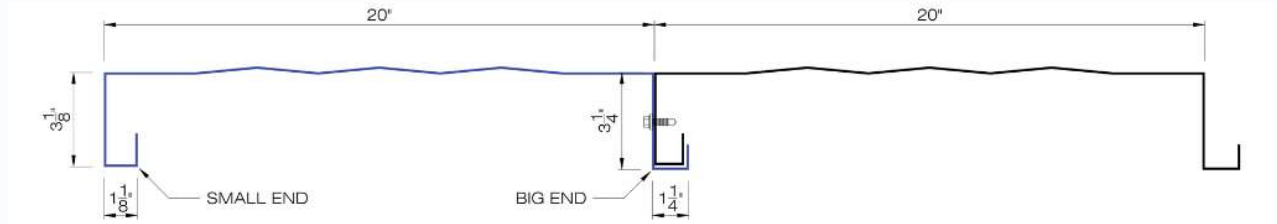


FIG-3 DETAIL · FASTENED INTERLOCK JOINT

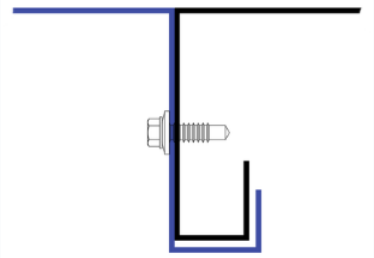
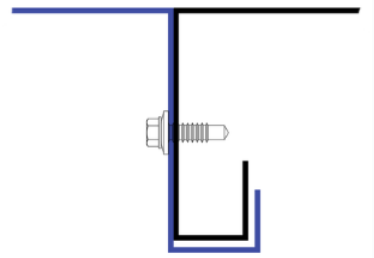


FIG-4 DETAIL · FASTENED WITH RIB STIFFENER



PANEL COVERAGE	GAUGE	STEEL SPEC	YIELD (FY)
20″	22 ga std	ASTM A653	37,000 PSI

FIG-1

Asymmetric rib profile and interlock. Adjacent panels nest the small end of one inside the big end of the next — two thicknesses of 22-ga steel screwed together — forming a composite double-rib member up the full wall height.

REINFORCEMENT · RIB STIFFENERS

REINFORCE WHERE THE LOAD LIVES.

When eave heights require reinforcement, rib stiffeners are inserted inside the composite rib and fastened to it. A rib stiffener is a heavier-gauge steel section — typically 18 or 16-gauge — bent to match the rib profile exactly. It selectively stiffens the structural member without increasing the gauge of the full panel.

The logic is deliberate: adding material to the flat siding surface between ribs adds cost and weight without meaningfully improving structural performance. **The load is in the rib**. Reinforcing where the load actually lives — and only there — is the more efficient solution.

HOW IT SCALES

STANDARD SYSTEM

Up to 16′ eave heights, the panel-and-rib diaphragm carries design loads without supplemental elements. No stiffeners, no additional steel — the panels are the structure.

STIFFENER PROGRESSION

As the height climbs above 16′ to 20′, rib stiffeners are added to every rib, with stiffener gauge dependent on load conditions. Supplemental HSS columns join the assembly with eave heights above 20′. See the progression table on p.12.

NOTE · ERECTION PRECISION

In a rigid frame or pre-engineered building, erection precision means: bolts in the right holes, torqued to spec. In a self-framing system, precision is more demanding. How wall panels meet at junctions, screw torque, screw spacing, and how panels are notched at openings all directly affect structural performance — as well as the final professional look of the build.

Panel quality and the care taken during installation are not cosmetic considerations — in a diaphragm system, they are *structural* ones.

DESIGN LIMITS · WIDTH VS. SNOW LOAD

HOW WIDE CAN YOU SPAN?

Self-framing buildings have defined structural limits — a function of building width, eave height, panel gauge, roof slope, and site-specific snow and wind loads. The table below shows maximum practical width for standard self-framing roof panels at 4:12 slope, by ground snow load.

MAXIMUM PRACTICAL ROOF SPAN · 4:12 SLOPE · BY GAUGE & GROUND SNOW LOAD

GROUND SNOW LOAD	22 GA	20 GA
1.0 kPa — southern AB	36′	38′
2.0 kPa	26′	28′
2.5 kPa — northern AB	24′	26′
3.0 kPa	23′	24′

As widths push past 30′, the tie rod system stabilizing the roof and walls becomes progressively heavier (greater load bearing). Past 34–36′, an HSS truss system is typically required. At that point, the complexity of the self-framing system has increased substantially and a rigid frame building warrants serious consideration.

> RULE OF THUMB
>
> If you're in Northern Alberta and looking at clear spans past 30′, the gauge upgrade alone may not be the cheapest path. **Cost the rigid frame alongside it** before committing.

DESIGN LIMITS · EAVE HEIGHT PROGRESSION

HOW TALL CAN IT GO?

Each step in the table reflects the point where the panel-and-rib diaphragm can no longer carry design loads without additional structural elements. Reinforcement extends the system's range — but adds cost.

EAVE HEIGHT REINFORCEMENT PROGRESSION

EAVE HEIGHT	STRUCTURAL REQUIREMENT
Up to 16′	Standard self-framing system. No supplemental reinforcement required.
16′ – 20′	Rib stiffeners required on **every** wall panel rib.
20′ – 24′	HSS columns required for supplemental support, plus rib stiffeners on all ribs.
> 24′	**Custom design** or **rigid frame** building should be considered.

Table above based on standard 22-gauge panels and applies to wall panels only. Roof rib stiffener requirements are engineer-determined, based on building width and snow load.

WHERE THE ECONOMICS FLIP

BY THE TIME YOU'RE STIFFENING EVERY RIB AND ADDING HSS COLUMNS AND SIGNIFICANT REINFORCEMENT, THE TOTAL INSTALLED COST ON RIGID FRAME MAY BECOME MORE ECONOMICAL.

THE LOAD EXCEPTION · OVERHEAD EQUIPMENT

WHEN THE LOAD EXCEEDS THE SYSTEM.

If the building needs to support **overhead-travelling equipment** — a mobile crane, hoist, or monorail — the loads and connection requirements typically exceed what a self-framing shell can accommodate. A rigid frame structure to support this loading is the right call.

The enclosure can then be clad with self-framing panels (a hybrid approach), standard steel sheeting, or insulated panels. You keep the envelope you want; the frame does the structural work.

THE HYBRID BUILD

Many industrial sites use both systems on the same pad. **A common configuration:** a rigid frame primary building for the main operational and office space, with self-framing buildings attached as **equipment shelter or maintenance shop.**

This is practical and cost-effective when different parts of a site have different requirements — large clear-span operational space alongside smaller, faster, repeatable enclosures for process equipment and instrumentation.

TRIGGER CONDITIONS FOR RIGID FRAME

Eave height consistently above 24′ · Required clear span above 36′ · Overhead crane or monorail loads · Complex footprint geometry · Heavy structural customization.

If you're close to those thresholds, evaluate total installed cost on both systems before committing.

BETWEEN SYSTEMS

"NOT EVERY JOB IS ONE SYSTEM OR THE OTHER. WHEN THE LOAD NEEDS A FRAME BUT THE BUDGET AND SCHEDULE DON'T NEED A FULL ONE, THE HYBRID SPLITS THE DIFFERENCE: RIGID FRAME STRUCTURE, SELF-FRAMING SKIN."

THE DECISION · SELF-FRAMING VS. RIGID FRAME

THE COMPARISON.

The right question isn't "which system is better" — it's "which system fits this project." Factor by factor:

FACTOR	SELF-FRAMING	RIGID FRAME
Primary structure	**Panel diaphragm — no separate skeleton**	Beam-and-column moment frame
Building width	**Up to 36′ (gauge / load dependent)**	Unlimited clear span
Eave height	**Up to 24′ with reinforcement**	No practical limit
Overhead equipment	Not suitable without structural support	Suitable with detailing
Fabrication lead time	**2–4 weeks**	Longer — manufacturer design + fab cycle
Erection time	**2–5 days**	Project-dependent, typically longer
Best fit	Equipment shelters, MCC houses, storage, maintenance shops	Large clear-span, complex loads, crane duty

PICK SELF-FRAMING WHEN

12–36' WIDE, ≤ 24' EAVE, NO CRANE.

You need a fast, repeatable, insulated industrial envelope that can be customized to your needs.

PICK RIGID FRAME WHEN

SPANS > 36', EAVES > 24', OR CRANE LOADS.

You need clear span, vertical reach, or you're hanging significant equipment from the structure. Pair with self-framing cladding if you want the look, with the added strength of a rigid frame.

INSIDE THE ENVELOPE

INTERIOR CONFIGURATION.

A self-framing envelope is just the start. Insulation, liners, and partition walls turn the shell into a working industrial space — and stay within the same drawing package.

INSULATION

- **Fiberglass batt** — R-12 to R-20 walls; roof assemblies achieve R-50+ with deeper cavity systems and insulation clips.
- **Rock wool** — additional fire resistance and sound attenuation, relevant near rotating equipment or where noise control is required.

INTERIOR LINERS

- **Aluminum or steel corrugated** — standard industrial; durable, cleanable.
- **Gypsum board** — fire rating or office-quality finish.
- **Plywood** — utility or light workshop interior.
- **Interlocking PVC** — wash-down applications.

PARTITION WALLS · MULTIPLE ZONES IN ONE ENVELOPE

A self-framing building can be divided into multiple independent spaces using Metalex's partition wall system — **22-gauge C and Z channel framing with interior liner panels on both faces** and a continuous polyethylene vapour barrier sealed at seams. A single envelope can contain separately conditioned or functionally divided spaces without requiring a second building.

> **SELF-FRAMING VS. FOAM PANEL**
>
> An uninsulated self-framing building is more cost-effective than a foam panel building for envelopes up to approximately **12′ wide × 20′ long**. Beyond that, the comparison depends on the thermal specification you actually need. Metalex's foam panel system delivers approximately R-8 per inch of thickness.

THOUSANDS OF METALEX BUILDINGS

WHAT IT ACTUALLY COSTS.

Per-square-foot pricing drawn from **years of historical jobs**, excluding buildings with intricate skids, electrical scopes or highly customized designs. All figures in CAD.

SMALL
100 – 250 FT²

MEDIAN

$127 /ft²

PLANNING RANGE
$87 – $175 / ft²

MEDIUM
251 – 600 FT²

MEDIAN

$92 /ft²

PLANNING RANGE
$63 – $125 / ft²

LARGE
601 – 1,000 FT²

MEDIAN

$78 /ft²

PLANNING RANGE
$60 – $115 / ft²

Smaller is more expensive per ft². Doors, detailing, engineering, and handling don't shrink proportionally with the building — a 12′ × 16′ still needs a standard man door, windows, a roll-up door, a drawing package, and a delivery. **Larger buildings show the strongest economies of scale**, with the 601–1,000 ft² tier sitting around $78/ft² at the median.

At the high end of any range, expect elevated eave heights with reinforcement packages, complex openings or penetrations, multi-piece builds, and/or premium finishes.

PLANNING NOTE

These figures are for **early budgeting orientation only** — not a substitute for a project-specific quote. Scope, configuration, and site requirements affect the final number significantly. Pricing is historical and varies by size, height, openings, snow load, insulation, skid/foundation, doors, HVAC, electrical, freight, erection, site conditions, taxes, and current material pricing.

WHERE THE SYSTEM WINS

TYPICAL APPLICATIONS.

Self-framing buildings are well-suited to industrial and OEM applications where a clear-span enclosure is needed quickly and the building footprint is straightforward.

A · PROCESS

EQUIPMENT & PROCESS ENCLOSURES

Pump buildings, meter station shelters, electrical houses for compressor packages, analyzer shelters.

B · SERVICE

MAINTENANCE & SERVICE BUILDINGS

Field crew shops, fleet maintenance facilities, satellite service locations.

C · LOGISTICS

STORAGE & STAGING STRUCTURES

Equipment laydown buildings, parts storage, covered material staging on industrial sites.

D · SITE SUPPORT

SITE UTILITY BUILDINGS

Contractor staging, telecom & instrumentation, temporary-to-permanent site infrastructure.

THE SPEED ADVANTAGE

In OEM and package applications, the self-framer's speed advantage is particularly relevant. Many self-framing buildings can be manufactured in weeks, not months, and erected in days once drawings, materials, site conditions, and foundation/skid readiness are aligned.

ENGINEERED · MANUFACTURED · ERECTED

SELECTED WORK.

A sample of self-framing enclosures we've engineered, manufactured, and erected across Western Canada — from compressor shelters to field shops. Manufactured under Metalex's applicable CSA-certified quality programs, where required.

FEATURED BUILD

MECHANICAL CONTROL CENTRES
Insulated, fire-rated, aluminum-lined

EQUIPMENT SHELTER
Insulated electrical house enclosure

PROCESS PIPING BUILDING
Insulated with partitioned work space.

EQUIPMENT STORAGE
Erected in 5 days on a prepared concrete base.

COUNTER-POSITIONING · THE HONEST NO

WHEN SELF-FRAMING IS NOT THE ANSWER.

Self-framing is a strong fit for a specific kind of job. It's not a universal answer. Here is what we'll tell you to look at instead — and when — before we waste your time quoting.

IF YOU NEED CLEAR SPANS > 36'

LOOK AT RIGID FRAME

Rigid frame is the right structural answer for wide warehouses and any building carrying significant interior crane or mezzanine loads. Pair with self-framing cladding if you want the look.

IF EAVE HEIGHT > 24'

LOOK AT RIGID FRAME

By the time you're stiffening every rib and adding HSS columns, the system has lost its cost advantage. Cost rigid frame alongside before committing.

IF YOU HAVE CRANE / MONORAIL LOADS

LOOK AT RIGID FRAME

Overhead-travelling equipment loads typically exceed what a panel diaphragm can accommodate. The hybrid build is the right answer — rigid frame structure, self-framing cladding.

IF YOUR FOOTPRINT IS COMPLEX

CONVENTIONAL CONSTRUCTION

Highly irregular geometry, multiple offsets, or unusual interfaces with existing structures fight the panel module. A site-built or conventional structural steel solution is more flexible.

IF YOU NEED IT ON SITE TOMORROW

A SEA-CAN MIGHT BE HONEST

We're faster than site-built. We're not faster than something already in a yard. If you have 2–4 weeks, we can build it properly. If it's tomorrow, a stocked prefab is the right answer.

IF IT'S AN OCCUPIED / PUBLIC BUILDING

CONVENTIONAL CONSTRUCTION

Self-framing shines in industrial, OEM, and equipment-shelter applications. Public assembly occupancies belong in conventional construction with full code-path engagement.

THE POSTURE

THE RIGHT ANSWER IS THE ONE THAT FITS YOUR PROJECT, NOT THE ONE THAT FITS OURS.

ALBERTA, BY DESIGN.

ENGINEERED IN ALBERTA · ERECTED ACROSS WESTERN CANADA & USA

SINCE 2002

CHINOOK WIND UPLIFT

FOOTHILLS & SOUTHERN AB

Self-framing structures designed for the foothills and southern Alberta assume Calgary & Foothills wind exposure unless your site survey says otherwise.

NORTHERN AB SNOW LOAD

2.5 KPA & UP

Northern Alberta snow loads (2.5 kPa+) tighten the width envelope — 22-gauge tops out near 24′ span. Longer than this, the first point would be increasing the steel gauge, followed by considering the addition of structural supports.

A660 + A277

CSA CERTIFIED FACILITY

Manufactured under applicable CSA A660 and/or CSA A277 certified quality programs in our Stettler facility, where required by project scope.

SAFETY & COMPLIANCE

COR · WCB · ISN

MMBI carries COR, WCB Alberta, ISNetworld, Avetta, ComplyWorks, and ACSA standing. Industrial site access pre-quals are typically low-friction.

ENGINEERED

Buildings are engineered to meet site-specific snow and wind loads under the Alberta Building Code (or applicable provincial codes). Engineered drawings stamped by a P.Eng. are available to support permit applications.

FIRST CALL TO CLOSEOUT

THE PROCESS, IN FIVE STAGES.

01

CONCEPT & CONSULTATION

1–3 BUSINESS DAYS

Send us a sketch, a site address, or the equipment you're trying to enclose. We align on scope, conditions, schedule, and snow-load zone.

02

DRAWINGS & ENGINEERING

1–2 WEEKS

Customizations confirmed; drawings developed; structural envelope, openings, gauges, reinforcement & specs finalized. P.Eng. stamped drawings issued where required for permit support.

03

QUOTE & PO

PRICE LOCKED FOR 30 DAYS

Firm quote with defined assumptions, gauge schedule, and reinforcement package. Lead time and delivery date are part of the quote — not negotiated separately.

04

MANUFACTURE & FABRICATION

2–4 WEEKS

Panels roll-formed, fabricated, and packaged in our CSA A660 / A277 facility in Stettler. Accessories — flashings, doors, hardware, rib stiffeners — fabricated in parallel.

05

DELIVERY, ERECTION & CLOSEOUT

2–5 DAYS

Coordinated to your site or install partner. For Supply + Install, our crews handle erection. As-built drawings and closeout documentation issued on sign-off.

Note, durations may differ than above for more complex and custom design parameters.

FAQ · THE EIGHT QUESTIONS WE GET MOST

QUESTIONS BUYERS ASK FIRST.

Q. What's the structural difference between self-framing & rigid frame?
A. Rigid frame: a separate steel skeleton of columns and rafters carries the loads; cladding doesn't contribute. Self-framing: there is no separate skeleton — the ribbed steel panels interlock to form a diaphragm shell that carries and distributes loads.

Q. What are the practical width and height limits?
A. At 1.0 kPa (S. AB), up to 36′ on 22-gauge. At 2.5 kPa (N. AB), that drops to 24′. Standard eaves run to 16′ without reinforcement; reinforced systems extend to 24′. Above 20′ eave and/or 36′ width, rigid frame is typically more appropriate.

Q. How much does a self-framing building cost?
A. From (CAD): 100–250 ft² typically lands around $125–$130/ft², range $87–$175. 251–600 ft² is $63–$125/ft². 601–1,000 ft² is $60–$115/ft². See p.16.

Q. Can self-framing buildings be insulated for Alberta winters?
A. Yes. Wall assemblies in R-12 to R-20 are standard; roof assemblies can achieve R-50+ with deeper cavity systems and insulation ribs. Insulation is designed for the project's thermal target.

Q. How long does it take?
A. Manufacturing typically takes 2–4 weeks depending on complexity. Most self-framing buildings can be erected in 2–5 days once the foundation, skid, or timber base is level and square.

Q. Do I need a permit?
A. In most Alberta and Western Canadian municipalities, permits are required for permanent structures. Metalex provides P.Eng.-stamped drawings to support the permit application process.

Q. Can I create multiple separate spaces inside one building?
A. Yes — using Metalex's partition wall system. 22-gauge C and Z channel framing, liner panels both faces, continuous polyethylene vapour barrier sealed with tuck tape. One envelope, multiple zones.

Q. At what point should I be looking at rigid frame instead?
A. Clearest triggers: eave height consistently > 24′ · clear span > 36′ · overhead crane or monorail loads · complex footprint · heavy structural customization. Close to those thresholds, evaluate total installed cost on both systems.

LOWEST-FRICTION NEXT STEP

SEND US WHAT YOU HAVE.

You don't need a finished design. You need enough about the problem for us to start. Send any of the items below — one is enough; more is better.

A · GEOMETRY

A ROUGH SKETCH OR DRAWING

A napkin drawing, a hand-marked PDF, or a CAD file. Anything that tells us what shape building you're picturing.

B · EQUIPMENT

EQUIPMENT / SKID DIMENSIONS

For OEMs: skid footprint, equipment heights, clearances. We'll wrap the building around it.

C · SITE

SITE LOCATION

Lat/long or a street address. Gives us climate zone, frost depth, wind exposure, and snow load before the first call.

D · CLEAR INSIDE

DESIRED INSIDE CLEAR DIMENSIONS

How much room do you need inside? Length, width, eave height, ceiling clear. The structural envelope grows from there.

E · CONTEXT

PHOTOS OF AN EXISTING BUILDING OR SKID

Phone photos are fine. Helps us understand context, access, and adjacent structures.

F · SCHEDULE

A ROUGH TIMELINE

When do you need it on site? Even "Q3 2026" is enough to start sequencing. Knowing the deadline shapes the recommendation.

G · THERMAL

INSULATION & HEATING REQUIREMENTS

R-value target, interior temperature target, heated or unheated, any process heat constraints. Drives the assembly.

H · OPENINGS

DOOR, LOUVER, HATCH, PENETRATION LIST

Personnel doors, overhead doors, ventilation, piping cut-outs, equipment access. Send a sketch or P&ID.

WHAT YOU'LL GET BACK

A recommended building path, the key questions we still need answered — **within 2 business days**

For most builds, a full quote is returned within two business days

START YOUR PROJECT · ONE CONVERSATION AWAY

HAVE A PROJECT? SEND US THE BASICS.

500+
BUILDS PER YEAR

18K+
PANELS PRESSED PER YEAR

23 YR
YEARS OPERATING

A660 & A277
CERTIFIED FACILITY

Whether you're an EPC sourcing a building for next year's capex, an OEM packaging a skid for shipment in eight weeks, or an operator who needs a heated equipment shelter — the right first move is the same. Call. Email. Send a sketch.

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FROM DESIGN-TO-INSTALL, NO CORNERS CUT