

## **Reminder Bulletin:**

Proper installation is key to the successful use of Polypropylene membranes.  
(Feltex and RoofTopGaurd2)

As the June rains are now here, please take the time to review the proper installation procedures for polypropylene based membranes with each and every roofer you employ. The benefits for using polypropylene are many:

- Far lighter to handle: 1 - 10 sq. roll of Feltex is 32lbs. RoofTopGaurd2 is 40 lbs. compared to 1 - 2 sq. roll of 30lb. felt at 46 lbs. so 10 sq. weighs 230 lbs. 6x more.
- Speeds up installation: Feltex is 4' wide; RoofTopGuard2 is 5' wide; Felt is only 3' wide. So on a typical 18' high roof you need to roll across the roof 4 times with RoofTopGuard2; 5 times with Feltex; or 7 times with 30lb. felt. You will need to change to the next roll every 67 ft. with 30lb. felt and only every 200 ft. with RoofTopGaurd2 or 250 ft with Feltex.
- Far better UV exposure resistance: Whereas Felt and Peel and Stick asphalt based products are meant to be "covered immediately" or at best allowed to be left exposed for "up to 30 days if unavoidable", Polypropylenes have a 6 month to 9 month exposure allowance.
- Better grip and tear and tracking resistance: Especially with the RoofTopGuard2, surface foot grips on sloped roofs are superior and there is no tracking such as is common with peel and stick type membranes. Polypropylenes are far more resistant to tearing than felt.

With all of these superior characteristics, comes one important consideration. Proper installation is critical to proper performance of all polypropylene type membranes. For full underlay installation requirements please see the attached tech bulletin.

A brief summery is:

- Cover all tacks/fasteners.
- As you roll out the membrane, keep your fasteners in the top 4" as the next membrane layer will then cover them.
- Mark your trusses as you go and put a couple of tacks down the truss line in the middle and bottom if needed (they will then be covered by the OSB counter-strapping).
- If very windy put ONE additional tack in between the truss marks at the bottom of the membrane. This tack should be tabbed/caulked, so only use it if needed.
- Be sure to use proper hammer tacker or roof nailer technique to fasten the membrane. This means keep the tacker or nailer flush to the membrane so the fastener stays flush and not up at one end.
- OSB is much preferred to lathe as it does not crack and collect water at the crack during an extended rain.

It really doesn't take much longer to install the underlay properly using this method. It should be followed as per the CSA- A-220 Section 6.1.1 Standard with any underlay material - including felt. We have seen cases of 30lb. felt leaking because of the very bad installation practice of using many tacks exposed and poorly set. If you have questions or need help in getting this information to your roofers, contact us here at Unicrete.

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