



February 3, 2016

Advisory Bulletin AB-2016-01

We recently became aware that some crews have been using heat to seal laps of ProtectoBase. This is not a recommended practice.

ProtectoBase is designed to mate with itself on the side lap by exposing the SBS bitumen from a top selvage to the underside mating surface of the adjoining bottom piece. A release film is applied at the factory to prevent the surfaces from sticking while packaged. The installer needs to remove this release film from both mating surfaces prior to application of the finishing heat fused cap sheet. During cold weather, the exposed SBS bitumen will appear to not stick well to itself. This is normal and expected of polymer based bitumen products and you should not be alarmed. The side laps will securely seal once the application of the cap sheet begins. Heat transfer from the act of heat fusing the cap is sufficient to complete the joint as it was intended to.

For applications where the ProtectoBase MUST be left exposed for emergency purposes, i.e. imminent storm incoming without time to complete the cap installation or at the end of each day when cap sheet is not being installed that same day the joining edges of ProtectoBase shall be buttered using a roofer's torch and round nosed trowel such that the joint remains impervious to water ingress.

Please note that IKO does not promote phased construction and that every attempt should be made to schedule work of this kind with this in mind.

IKO does not require nor condone the practice of attempting to heat fuse the mating surfaces of ProtectoBase side laps by introduction of heat into the seam under any circumstances.

Please contact the ARCA if you have any questions.