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Technical Bulletin TB-2023-05

I. Coverboard requirement over Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Insulation.

On September 27, 2023 ARCA Warranty Ltd. revised the ARCA Roofing Application Standards to prohibit the installation of either a combination base sheet membranes with an asphalt coreboard layer or asphalt coreboard directly over expanded polystyrene (EPS) insulation in both mechanically fastened and adhered (adhesive or asphalt) conventionally insulated roof assemblies.

Revised Standards:

MB 5.3.6

To provide a preferred substrate for the adhesion of the base sheet membrane, the insulation shall be uniformly covered with an approved coverboard.

MB 5.4.1.5

When polystyrene insulation forms the insulation layer, the coverboard shall be comprised of a single layer of 25mm (1") thick shiplap edged fibreboard or two (2) layers of approved coverboard. Each coverboard layer when adhered with hot bitumen shall use the "mop and flop" back coating application method. Combination base sheet membranes incorporating asphalt coreboard and asphalt coreboard are not accepted coverboards directly over polystyrene insulation.

MB 5.4.2.3

For application over other accepted roof insulation, other than polyisocyanurate, polystyrene or stone wool roof insulation, two (2) layers of asphalt core board with joints offset a minimum distance of 150mm (6") from the underlying core board and insulation layer joints shall be mechanically fastened to the structural decking or adhered with the membrane manufacturer's accepted polyurethane foam insulation adhesive.

MB 6.4.2.8.

When combination membrane base sheets are adhered with hot bitumen, membrane manufacturer's accepted polyurethane foam insulation adhesive or are being mechanically fastened, polystyrene insulation shall be first covered with minimum layer of 12.7mm (1/2") thick wood fiber board. Wood fiber board and the combination membrane base sheets shall be adhered using the "MOP AND FLOP" back coating application method with board joints offset a minimum distance of 150mm (6") from the layer preceding.

These changes will be in effect for all jobs bid after November 27, 2023. Changes will be referenced in the ARCA Roofing Application Standards Manual.