

December 14, 2023

Technical Bulletin TB-2023-06

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

On November 28, 2023 ARCA Warranty Ltd. revised the ARCA Roofing Application Standards to provide clarity on the requirements for a high density coverboard installed over expanded polystyrene (EPS) insulation in modified bituminous conventionally insulated roof assemblies.

Revised Standards:

MB 5.4.1.5

When polystyrene insulation forms the insulation layer, a minimum layer of 9.5mm (3/8") high-density coverboard shall be installed. The "mop and flop" back coating application method shall be used when the coverboard layer is adhered with hot bitumen. 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 accepted roof insulation other than polyisocyanurate 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, mechanically fastened or with membrane manufacturer's accepted polyurethane foam insulation adhesive, polystyrene insulation shall be first covered with a minimum layer of 9.5mm (3/8") high-density coverboard with board joints offset a minimum distance of 150mm (6") from the layer preceding.

A **High-Density (HD) Coverboard** is defined as a material with a minimum compressive strength of 550 kPa (80 PSI) used over roof insulation to provide protection to the insulation during installation and service.

These changes will be in effect for jobs bid after January 28, 2024. Changes will be referenced in the ARCA Roofing Application Standards Manual.

II. New Accepted Thermoplastic (PVC) Membrane.

On November 28, 2023 ARCA Warranty Ltd. On November 28, 2023 ARCA Warranty Ltd. accepted the Carlisle RapidLock attachment method for fully adhered thermoplastic (PVC) membranes over Carlisle InsulBase RL or SecurShield RL polyisocyanurate insulation.

NEW Accepted Membranes

Carlisle FleeceBACK RL RapidLock 115mil PVC membrane

Carlisle FleeceBACK RL RapidLock 135mil PVC membrane

Changes will be referenced in the ARCA Accepted Materials listings and ARCA Roofing Application Standards Manual.

III. Attachment Method - Modified Bituminous Membrane.

On November 28, 2023 ARCA Warranty Ltd. approved the revision to the accepted attachment method for the Polyglass Elastoflex S6 modified bituminous base sheet membrane to include being installed by torch.

Changes will be referenced in the ARCA Accepted Materials listings and ARCA Roofing Application Standards Manual.

IV. New Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Insulation Manufacturer.

On November 28, 2023 ARCA approved Foam Mods as a Manufacturing member, and ARCA Warranty Ltd. approved the following materials for use in the ARCA Warranty Certificate program.

Expanded Polystyrene Insulation

Foam Mods Type 1

Foam Mods Type 2

Changes will be referenced in the ARCA Accepted Materials listings and ARCA Roofing Application Standards Manual.

V. Removed Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Insulation Manufacturer.

Great White Foam is no longer in business and has been removed as an ARCA Manufacturing member. Their expanded polystyrene insulation is no longer available.

Changes will be referenced in the ARCA Accepted Materials listings and ARCA Roofing Application Standards Manual.

VI. Revised Vapour Retarder Application Recommendations.

On November 28, 2023 ARCA Warranty Ltd. approved revisions for the minimum recommended vapour retarder application of a HDPE (polyethylene) vapour retarder on steel decks.

REVISED Standards:

EPDM 4.6.7.2
TP 4.6.7.2
MB 4.6.5.2

Membrane side laps shall be a minimum of 75mm (3") and end laps a minimum of 150mm (6"). Offset end lap joints from adjacent rows a minimum of 300mm (12"). The Vapour Retarder shall be fully supported, either vertically or horizontally, at the roof perimeter and around curbs. All laps shall be sealed with a lap sealant approved by the manufacturer.

Changes will be referenced in the ARCA Roofing Application Standards Manual.