



Tech Corner



Why use Self-adhered modifieds?

Pluses:

- No open flames needed to install a complete roof assembly
- Helps keep the Insurance rates lower eliminating the torch
- No smell, smoke, solvent fumes to disrupt the occupants
- A very clean application, no bleed-out lines, no granule dribbling
- No cold-welds on field seams, compound to compound side and end laps
- Labor savings due to speed of application
- Systems available for both commercial and residential applications
- Ability to phase construct the assembly with self-adhered base sheet
- Meets all codes- UL Class A, FM I-90, IUCBO and ICC
- Systems available with warranties up to 20 years NDL
- Details similar to most torch applied modifieds, thus no surprises
- Many colors and color blends available to augment the attractiveness

Negatives:

- Heat sensitive for application, 40 F and rising
- Slightly higher in material cost than most torch grade modifieds

As one can see, the advantages greatly outweigh the negatives by a wide margin making the self-adhered modified bitumens a very interesting product to investigate. Use a manufacture's product, which is intended for commercial applications as well as residential and has had a track record of usage. This will insure full code compliance, system availability for different applications, and system warranties.

Most self-adhered modifieds have different methods to seal the granular cap sheet to a granular surface. This detail will be the most difficult to accomplish, thus investigate the manufacturer's requirements. For example some self adhered modifieds us a hot-air welder, which is a very easy method. Good luck and welcome to the new generation of applying modified bitument membranes.

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