

# TECHNICAL ADVISORY BULLETIN

To: GAF Residential Sales, GAF Contractors, GAF Field Services

From: Technical Services Department

**Subject: StormGuard® & Weather Watch® Leak Barriers In Contact With  
PVC Products & Vinyl Coated Metal Products**



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From North America's  
Largest Roofing Manufacturer!™

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## **What Is The Concern?**

**Plasticizers can migrate...** from the PVC/vinyl into asphaltic products when PVC products or vinyl coated metal products remain in contact with asphaltic products.

## **How Can It Affect My Roof?**

**Softening, flowing and dripping...** of the asphaltic compound in the leak barrier can occur. The plasticizers from the PVC products can soften the asphalt and cause it to flow and drip.

**Asphaltic staining and residue...** can run into the interior of the building, down the roof or onto adjacent materials such as the fascia.

**The PVC material itself can become hard and brittle...** as the plasticizers migrates into the asphalt.

**Leaks...** can result as the leak barrier and the PVC products deteriorate.

## **Does This Happen With All Products That Contain PVC?**

**No...** it depends on the plasticizer and the formulation of the PVC material. Some PVC products can be used with asphaltic products without problems.

**However...** problems have occurred with some **roofing accessories** including **skylights**, made from PVC or vinyl coated metal.

## **What Should You Do?**

**Contact the manufacturer of the PVC based material...** to confirm the product has been formulated to be suitable for use in contact with asphaltic self-adhering leak barriers.

## **Where Can I Get More Information?**

**GAF Technical Services can assist you...** with these and other questions you may have regarding your new roof installation. GAF Technical Services can be contacted at **800-ROOF-411** (800-766-3411). Also, the GAF website is a great resource for just about any question you may have or for additional information you may require. Please visit: [www.gaf.com](http://www.gaf.com).