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Technical Advisory Bulletin

To: GAF Commercial Sales, GAF Contractors, Field Services, AIS, CARE
From: Technical Services
No: TAB-C-38

Cool Weather Considerations for Liquid-Applied Roof Coatings

What Is The Concern?

The application of liquid-applied roof (LAR) coatings during cool weather can present special challenges. Proper precautions need to be considered prior to any application of LAR coatings during cool weather. **Always follow any cool weather application instructions** that may be specific to the product or system that is being installed.

Plan Carefully...

Do not apply coatings during inclement or threatening weather. Acceptable weather conditions are based on actual ambient temperature and likely presence of nature's elements, including wind, humidity, snow, dew, etc.

- **Acrylic coatings...** are to be applied at 50°F (10°C) and rising with no rain, dew, fog or freezing temperatures in the forecast for 24 hours.
- **Silicone coatings...** are to be applied at 40°F (4.4°C) and rising with no rain, dew, fog or freezing temperatures in the forecast for 24 hours.
- **Only apply coatings on a dry roof.** Before applying, know the dew points and apply during the dry period leaving enough time for the coating to dry before condensation ("dew") can occur.
- **Do not over-apply when the weather breaks.** Using more product per coat only slows the dry and cure time.
- **Cold weather can slow cure times.**
 - **Solvent-based** products may take up to **8 times** longer to cure in cooler temperatures.
 - **Water-based** products may take up to **24 times** longer to cure in cooler temperatures.
- **Darker colored coatings...** may help decrease the overall cure time, even during cooler weather.

Delivery, Storage & Protection

Store materials in a weather-protected environment.

- Whenever possible store all materials in a warehouse with temperatures between 40°F- 90°F (4°C - 32°C).
- Use materials as soon as possible after they are removed from storage.
- Do not leave material unprotected on the job site.
- Always keep material from freezing, once the material has frozen it must be discarded.

*Additional
Considerations...*

A frozen basecoat may often appear walkable in the morning, but may not be fully cured.

If the base coat includes the installation of fabric as part of a detailing step, it may be walkable in cold weather, but is still wet underneath. Often these detailed areas have thicker applications that need more time to dry. To ensure the base coat is cured, **check that it is dried and bonded to the substrate before top-coating**. DO NOT apply the top coat until the base coat has fully cured.

Questions?

GAF Technical Services Can Assist You... with these and other questions you may have regarding your new roof installation. Technical Support Services can be contacted at 800-766-3411. 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 to find the latest information on our products and their installation.

Important: This document supersedes any prior GAF Technical Advisory Bulletins on this topic. Please always check www.gaf.com to make sure you have the most up to date information.