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Technical Advisory Bulletin

To: GAF Residential Sales, GAF Contractors, Field Services, AIS, CARE
From: Technical Services
No: TAB-R-135

Under Deck Sprayed-In-Place Foam Insulation

What Is Sprayed-In-Place Foam Insulation?

Sprayed-in-place insulation is...

Usually a two-part spray on foam insulation, commonly applied to wall cavities and the bottom of roof decks as a part of the building envelope's insulation assembly.

Additional Information About Sprayed-In-Place Foam Insulation You Should Know About...

Using sprayed-in-place insulation...

- Is installed to assist in the energy performance of a home.
- When installed in accordance with the 2018 International Residential Code (the IRC) is an accepted method of insulating a roof assembly.
- May lead to condensation problems, mold growth, deck deterioration, damage of fiberglass asphalt shingles, and structural damage when not installed according to the manufacturer's instructions and building code requirements.

Will Sprayed-In-Place Foam Insulation Damage My Roof?

Sprayed-in-place insulation...

- Applied directly to the bottom side of roof decks, the insulation does not allow for airflow on the bottom of the deck like in a traditional vented attic assembly.
- Is the responsibility of the design professional to examine the need for structural ventilation and to insure interior air quality.
- For any building, construction must be in compliance with local codes.

What Does GAF Recommend?

GAF recommends...

- ThermaCal® Ventilated Nail Base along with Cobra® soffit and ridge vents should be installed to provide a ventilated substrate for shingles when under deck spray-in-place foam insulation is installed on new construction or on tear-off reroofing projects.
- Proper attic ventilation following the FHA/HUD 1/300 rule, which calls for 1 sq.ft. of net free (open) soffit to ridge ventilation of per 300 sq.ft. of attic floor space.
- GAF does, however, recognize the emergence of unvented attic assemblies and recommends that all code requirements be met and the manufacturer's recommendations followed when installing an unvented attic assembly.
- There are retrofit applications of sprayed-in-place foam insulation that allow for ventilated attic assemblies. Where this type of application is installed, GAF's recommendation of proper attic ventilation amounts should be followed.

Will Sprayed-In-Place Foam Insulation Void My Warranty?

No, the GAF Shingle Limited Warranty against manufacturing defects will remain in effect. However, any damage to the shingles attributable to using sprayed-in-place insulation directly applied to the roof deck or lack of ventilation is excluded from GAF's responsibility under the terms of our Limited Warranty.

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.