

BULLETIN

Product Updates · News & Information

November 1996

Revision: September 2012

Roof Coatings

1. Why is it necessary to apply a roof coating over a smooth surface APP membrane?

Since 1992, IKO's limited warranty coverage requires coating smooth surfaced Armourplast Classic membranes. Applying a roof coating over a smooth surface APP can increase the life expectancy of the membrane, at a relatively low cost.

2. Which types of roof coatings are available?

There are three types of roof coating:

- asphalt emulsion which is applied in one application at approximately three gallons per square.
- latex which is an acrylic coating applied in two applications at approximately 3/4 gallon per square, per application.
- solvent base aluminum asphalt which is applied in one application at approximately 1 1/2 gallons per square. This solvent base aluminum is available in two grades, fibrous roof coating and non-fibrous roof coating. The fibrous roof coating is the better quality product and is the one that should be used.

3. What about "sun reflectability"?

On a typical warm sunny day (ambient temperature 82°F (28°C)), membrane temperatures look like this:

- a) Exposed black surface such as Armourplast Classic, 156°F (69°C).
- b) The same membrane coated with aluminum coating, 142°F (61°C).
- c) The same membrane coated with asphalt emulsion, 136°F (58°C).
- d) The same membrane coated with white latex, 104°F (40°C).

On a clear night, all four roof surfaces drop below ambient temperature by 10 to 15°F (approx. 5°C) due to radiative heat loss.

4. How long should the membrane weather before coating?

With most roof coatings, it is a must to wait more than 30 days, less than 90 days before applying the roof coating. During this time, the membrane "cures"; light oils evaporate from the asphalt. If a roof coating was to be applied before the end of the curing process, then the oils would be trapped between the surface of the membrane and the roof coating. Often the end result can be blistering of the roof coating. Always follow the coating manufacturer's recommendation as written on the containers.

5. Who are the manufacturers of roof coatings?

There are many manufacturer members of the Roof Coatings Manufacturers Association (RCMA ((301) 230-2561). Roof coatings produced by these manufacturers are the ones that are recommended by IKO Industries Ltd.

6. Should I coat aged granular APP or SBS membranes, and if so, what are the recommended procedures?

Aged granular modified membranes can be coated as a way to extend product life, improve granule adhesion, or simply to alter the reflectivity/colour of the roof.

After brooming the surface to remove dust and loose granules, apply a Roofcraft asphalt primer over the entire surface. Allow a minimum of seven hours to dry completely. Then apply the roof coating following the manufacturer's recommended procedures.