SHINGLE MIXING ON LARGE ROOFS

Due to slight variations in shingle colors made at different manufacturing facilities, it is common industry practice that different ‘lots’ of shingles cannot be mixed on any roof, large or small. This is the standard practice and recommendation for IKO’s competitors, for either solid or blended shingle colors.

IKO has advanced the quality control of the granule coloring and shingle blending processes to the point where shingles from any of its manufacturing plants can be, and have been, successfully mixed on the same roof without issue. IKO carefully specifies the color values of the granules, and the granule mixing process at the shingle plants is computer-controlled and constantly evaluated by rigorous on-line testing.

Despite this industry-leading quality assurance, extremely minor differences in shingle appearance may still go undetected (often these optical differences will weather out after a few months of roof exposure, regardless). In fact, these minor tonal differences are only visible on very large, unbroken roof planes, where the human eye can survey many bundles, or pallets, of shingles at one time. For this reason, when installing shingles on large, unbroken roof planes (in excess of 100 squares (10,000 sq. ft.) per elevation) IKO, like all manufacturers, requires the shingles be selected from the same production run. Since all IKO bundles are stamped at time of production, this lot code is easily found on the shingle wrappers. Although the alpha-numeric code may look confusing, contractors need to only ensure the first 6 characters match. The code starts with two letters, then a number, then a letter, then a series of numbers. For example, AG2V131558 can be mixed with AG2V130733 – even though they look different, since the initial 6-character portion, AG2V13 matches, the bundles can be used on the same roof plane.

Contractors and homeowners can continue to mix shingles made at different IKO plants with confidence on typical standard roof installations – a convenience and benefit that other manufacturers cannot match. The attention to production codes is only required for those select roofs with large unbroken roof planes – arguably the most critical color matching challenge for any roofing material.

See also IKO’s Residential Information Bulletin #31 on Color Variation. For additional information on any of IKO’s products or application requirements, visit us on the web at www.iko.com, or contact us in Canada at 1-888-766-2468, or the United States at 1-888-456-7663.