

BULLETIN

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Storage and handling of polyisocyanurate insulation

Polyisocyanurate foam insulation is the most commonly used roof insulation today. It is durable and resistant to damage from normal handling. To ensure the insulation can be used with minimal damage, the following storage and handling recommendations should be followed.

Storage

Polyisocyanurate (Polyiso) insulation is shipped to the jobsite protected by a plastic stretch wrap. This factory packaging is intended for handling the polyiso in the manufacturing plant and during transit; it should not be relied upon as job site protection from the elements. IKO recommends slitting the wrapping on site prior to application to expel any moisture or condensation that may accumulate during transit and storage on the job site. The polyiso must be protected by a waterproof, breathable covering such as a canvas tarpaulin and placed on raised pallets or platforms during onsite storage.

Handling

Exercise care during handling and application of polyiso insulation to prevent breaking or crushing of the square edges and surfaces.

Wet, cupped or bowed insulation boards should not be installed and must be discarded and removed from the site. Cupping or bowing may result from the wetting of certain facer materials. Although it is occasionally done, the cutting or scoring of these board facers to alleviate board cupping is not recommended by IKO Industries Ltd. (IKO).

Flammability

Polyiso insulation is combustible. Therefore, it should not be exposed to direct flame, high temperatures or an ignition source of sufficient heat and intensity (ie. flames, fire, sparks, etc.) during transit, storage or product application. Once ignited, polyiso may release thick smoke, characteristic of any burning plastic product.

Consult the product label and/or IKO's Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for specific safety instructions. Follow all provisions from OSHA, NRCA, CRCA or local fire authorities.

Polyiso roof insulation, like other roofing materials, requires a proper understanding of its storage, handling and application to result in a well-constructed and satisfactorily performing roofing system.