Luncheon Program
February 26, 2014

Observations from the Field: Legal Do's and Don'ts

presented by

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We now know the rationale for FM Approval's classification changes in 2013

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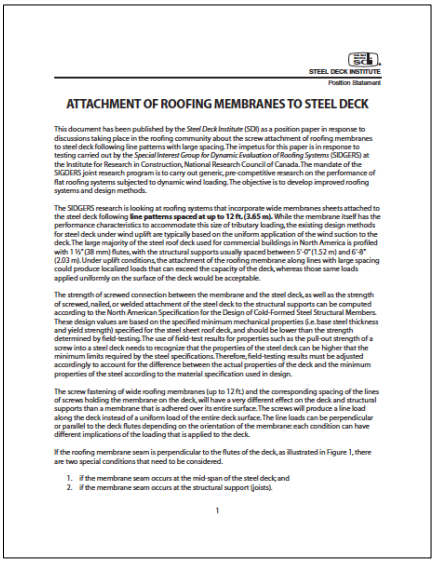
SDI bulletin



STEEL DECK INSTITUTE
Position Statement

ATTACHMENT OF ROOFING MEMBRANES TO STEEL DECK

This document has been published by the *Steel Deck Institute* (SDI) as a position paper in response to discussions taking place in the roofing community about the screw attachment of roofing membranes to steel deck following line patterns with large spacing. The impetus for this paper is in response to testing carried out by the *Special Interest Group for Dynamic Evaluation of Roofing Systems* (SIDGERS) at the Institute for Research in Construction, National Research Council of Canada. The mandate of the SIGDERS joint research program is to carry out generic, pre-competitive research on the performance of flat roofing systems subjected to dynamic wind loading. The objective is to develop improved roofing systems and design methods.

The SIDGERS research is looking at roofing systems that incorporate wide membranes sheets attached to the steel deck following **line patterns spaced at up to 12 ft. (3.65 m).** While the membrane itself has the performance characteristics to accommodate this size of tributary loading, the existing design methods for steel deck under wind uplift are typically based on the uniform application of the wind suction to the deck. The large majority of the steel roof deck used for commercial buildings in North America is profiled with 1 ½" (38 mm) flutes, with the structural supports usually spaced between 5'-0" (1.52 m) and 6'-8" (2.03 m). Under uplift conditions, the attachment of the roofing membrane along lines with large spacing could produce localized loads that can exceed the capacity of the deck, whereas those same loads applied uniformly on the surface of the deck would be acceptable.

The strength of screwed connection between the membrane and the steel deck, as well as the strength of screwed, nailed, or welded attachment of the steel deck to the structural supports can be computed according to the North American Specification for the Design of Cold-Formed Steel Structural Members. These design values are based on the specified minimum mechanical properties (i.e. base steel thickness and yield strength) specified for the steel sheet roof deck, and should be lower than the strength determined by field-testing. The use of field-test results for properties such as the pull-out strength of a screw into a steel deck needs to recognize that the properties of the steel deck can be higher that the minimum limits required by the steel specifications. Therefore, field-testing results must be adjusted accordingly to account for the difference between the actual properties of the deck and the minimum properties of the steel according to the material specification used in design.

The screw fastening of wide roofing membranes (up to 12 ft.) and the corresponding spacing of the lines of screws holding the membrane on the deck, will have a very different effect on the deck and structural supports than a membrane that is adhered over its entire surface. The screws will produce a line load along the deck instead of a uniform load of the entire deck surface. The line loads can be perpendicular or parallel to the deck flutes depending on the orientation of the membrane: each condition can have different implications of the loading that is applied to the deck.

If the roofing membrane seam is perpendicular to the flutes of the deck, as illustrated in Figure 1, there are two special conditions that need to be considered.

1. if the membrane seam occurs at the mid-span of the steel deck; and
2. if the membrane seam occurs at the structural support (joists).

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- Decks designed for joist spacing between 5’ and 6’ 8” o.c.
- Deck designed for uniform loading
- Seam-fastened single-ply membranes are a concern

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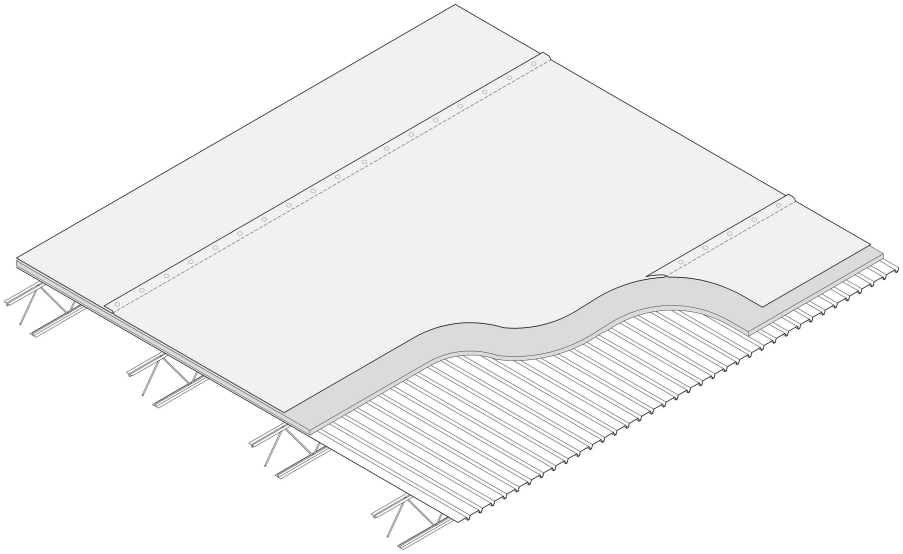
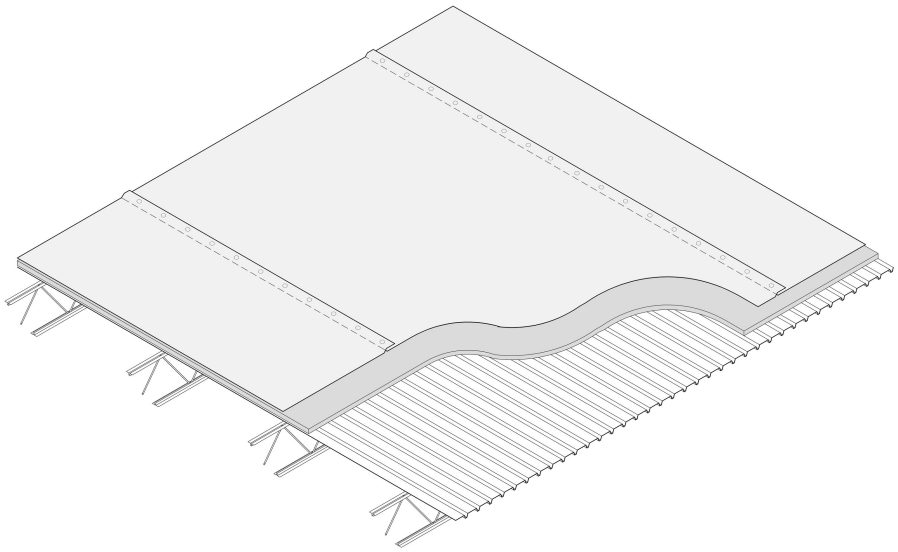
Membrane seams across deck flutes



SDI: 3.8 X moment (deck); 2 X load (joists)

Membrane seams in deck flute direction



SDI: 12 X bending moment and shear (deck)

SDI bulletin -- Conclusion

"…SDI does not recommend the use of roofing membranes attached to the steel deck using line patterns with large spacing unless a structural engineer has reviewed the adequacy of the steel deck and the structural supports to resist to wind uplift loads transmitted along the lines of attachment. Those lines of attachment shall only be perpendicular to the flutes of the deck."

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NRCA interim recommendations

- Beware of the situation
- NRCA is investigating further…

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Concerns with rooftop quality assurance observers (QAOs)

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A QAO is not a "field superintendent"
and should never direct roofing work/operations

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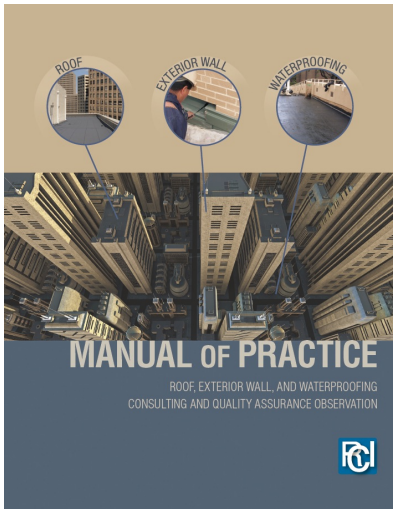
RCI



Manual of Practice:

- Sec. 1: Introduction
- Sec. 2: Recommended practices for consulting
- Sec. 3: Recommended practices for QAO
- Sec. 4: Specialized areas of practice
- Appendixes

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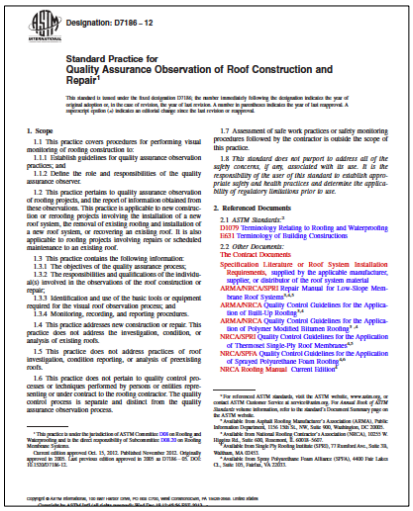
ASTM D7186-12



Designation: D7186 – 12

Standard Practice for
Quality Assurance Observation of Roof Construction and Repair[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D7186; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers procedures for performing visual monitoring of roofing construction to:

1.1.1 Establish guidelines for quality assurance observation practices; and

1.1.2 Define the role and responsibilities of the quality assurance observer.

1.2 This practice pertains to quality assurance observation of roofing projects, and the report of information obtained from these observations. This practice is applicable to new construction or reroofing projects involving the installation of a new roof system, the removal of existing roofing and installation of a new roof system, or recovering an existing roof. It is also applicable to roofing projects involving repairs or scheduled maintenance to an existing roof.

1.3 This practice contains the following information:

1.3.1 The objectives of the quality assurance process;

1.3.2 The responsibilities and qualifications of the individual(s) involved in the observations of the roof construction or repair;

1.3.3 Identification and use of the basic tools or equipment required for the visual roof observation process; and

1.3.4 Monitoring, recording, and reporting procedures.

1.4 This practice addresses new construction or repair. This practice does not address the investigation, condition, or analysis of existing roofs.

1.5 This practice does not address practices of roof investigation, condition reporting, or analysis of preexisting roofs.

1.6 This practice does not pertain to quality control processes or techniques performed by persons or entities representing or under contract to the roofing contractor. The quality control process is separate and distinct from the quality assurance observation process.

1.7 Assessment of safe work practices or safety monitoring procedures followed by the contractor is outside the scope of this practice.

1.8 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*[2]

D1079 Terminology Relating to Roofing and Waterproofing

E631 Terminology of Building Constructions

2.2 *Other Documents:*

The Contract Documents

Specification Literature or Roof System Installation Requirements, supplied by the applicable manufacturer, supplier, or distributor of the roof system material

ARMA/NRCA/SPRI Repair Manual for Low-Slope Membrane Roof Systems[3,4,5]

ARMA/NRCA Quality Control Guidelines for the Application of Built-Up Roofing[3,4]

ARMA/NRCA Quality Control Guidelines for the Application of Polymer Modified Bitumen Roofing[3,4]

NRCA/SPRI Quality Control Guidelines for the Application of Thermoset Single-Ply Roof Membranes[4,5]

NRCA/SPFA Quality Control Guidelines for the Application of Sprayed Polyurethane Foam Roofing[4,6]

NRCA Roofing Manual: Current Edition[4]

[1] This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D08 on Roofing and Waterproofing and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D08.30 on Roofing Membrane Systems.

Current edition approved Oct. 15, 2012. Published November 2012. Originally approved in 2005. Last previous edition approved in 2005 as D7186 – 05. DOI: 10.1520/D7186-12.

[2] For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

[3] Available from Asphalt Roofing Manufacturer's Association (ARMA), Public Information Department, 1156 15th St., NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20005.

[4] Available from National Roofing Contractor's Association (NRCA), 10255 W. Higgins Rd., Suite 600, Rosemont, IL 60018-5607.

[5] Available from Single Ply Roofing Institute (SPRI), 75 Rumford Ave., Suite 3B, Waltham, MA 02453.

[6] Available from Spray Polyurethane Foam Alliance (SPFA), 4400 Fair Lakes Ct., Suite 105, Fairfax, VA 22033.

- Experience
- Role: observe and report
- Reporting procedures
- QAO shall maintain on-site contract documents
- QAO shall have insurance
- QAO shall provide and maintain PPE and fall protection equipment

"Tech today" column, February 2014

TECH TODAY

Quality-assurance guidelines

Quality-assurance observers have specific project roles and responsibilities

by Mark S. Graham

Proper quality assurance during roof system installation can be an important element for long-term performance.

Quality assurance—unlike quality control, which is performed by roofing contractors—is the responsibility of a building owner or his or her designated representative, such as a licensed design professional, roof consultant or general contractor. The purpose of quality assurance is to verify the scope and intent of a project's contract documents are being met and roof system materials are being installed in accordance with contract documents, manufacturers' installation instructions and accepted industry practices.

The most effective means of providing quality assurance is visually observing materials and procedures

NRCA asserts the most effective means of providing quality assurance is by visually observing materials and procedures used at the time of roof system installation. The person performing visual observation often is referred to as a quality-assurance observer (QAO).

ASTM D7186

ASTM D7186, "Standard Practice for Quality Assurance Observation of Roof Construction and Repair," establishes the role and responsibilities of those performing quality-assurance observation, as well as procedures for observation and reporting.

A QAO's function is to provide on-site observation and reporting of a roof system's construction process in a clear, accurate and objective manner; a QAO should not direct or order any work. A QAO should:

- Observe and record the general condition of the job site and roof areas under construction and materials used and stored
- Note pre-existing property damage or damage that can occur and the substrate condition and repair or replacement procedures
- Observe and record the installation of roofing materials and any other components specified in the contract documents, and flashing installation and detailing
- Record weather conditions, roofing crew size, foreman's name and all job-site visitors

A QAO should prepare a daily written report with photographs this report should be made available to all parties involved in the roofing project. A copy of the report should be provided to the roofing contractor no later than the commencement of work the following day. ASTM D7186 includes sample pre-construction damage, material delivery, daily construction and progress summary, and unit cost tracking report forms for use by QAOs when completing the documentation necessary to provide proper quality assurance.

A QAO also should keep on-site copies of contract documents, including project specifications, the roof plan, construction detail drawings and any addenda, as well as stamped material submittals and minutes from the pre-bid, pre-construction and project meeting minutes.

A QAO is responsible for providing and maintaining the tools and equipment required to perform his or her work, including any necessary safety equipment, such as personal protective equipment and fall protection. A QAO should follow all applicable safe work practices.

A QAO or the firm providing the quality-assurance observations must provide insurance and submit a certificate of insurance showing coverage for workers' compensation, comprehensive general liability, automobile insurance and, if applicable, professional liability insurance. Insurance limits shall be the statutory amounts or higher amounts if required in the contract.

NRCA guidelines

ASTM D7186 references the following NRCA documents that provide industry-accepted guidelines for evaluating roof system application:

- *Quality Control Guidelines for the Application of Built-up Roofing*
- *Quality Control Guidelines for the Application of Polymer-modified Bitumen Roofing*
- *Quality Control Guidelines for the Application of Thermoset Single-ply Roof Membranes*
- *Quality Control Guidelines for the Application of Spray Polyurethane Foam-based Roofing*
- *Quality Control Guidelines for the Application of Asphalt Shingle Roof Systems*

NRCA recommends those documents be used with ASTM D7186 to provide effective quality assurance.

When a QAO will be present on a job site, NRCA recommends his or her role be clearly defined and understood by all parties, including the building owner, licensed design professional, general contractor or construction manager, and roof consultant. NRCA encourages referencing ASTM D7186 for this purpose.

All NRCA documents referenced can be purchased by accessing the NRCA Bookstore at shop.nrca.net. ●●●

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12 www.professionalroofing.net FEBRUARY 2014

NRCA's recommendations

- Confirm/clarify QAO's role and responsibilities
- Use "Tech today" column and/or ASTM D7186
- Get QAO's daily reports
- Document any situation where a QAO directs your work/operations

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