



## International Roofing Expo

February 25, 2015  
New Orleans, LA

### **Technical Operations Committee:** **Technical Programs and Issues**

presented by

**Mark S. Graham**

Associate Executive Director, Technical Services  
National Roofing Contractors Association (NRCA)



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### **Objectives of this presentation**

- Define current roofing-related technical issues
- Identify new-developing roofing-related technical issues
- Identify new NRCA technical publications



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## Technical Services section staff

**Mark S. Graham** Associate Executive Director, Technical Services

**Joan Crowe, AIA** Director, Technical Services

**Maciek Rugar** Director, Technical Services

**Jason Wilen, AIA** Director, Technical Services

**Nick Gallagher** Project Manager, Technical Services



## NRCA Technical Operations Committee

**Jim Barr** Barr Roofing Co., Abilene, TX

**Dane Bradford** Bradford Roof Management, Billings, MT

**Dave Karel** Garlock-French Corporation, Minneapolis, MN

**John Plescia** Star Roofing, Inc.

**Kyle Thomas** Thomas Roofing Co., Mobile, AL

**Rob Therrien** The Melanson Co., Inc., Keene, NH

**Dave Tilsen** Tilsen Roofing Co., Madison, WI



## **Other technical committees and task forces**

- Manual Update Committee
- QA/QC Guidelines Task Force
- Roof Coatings Task Force
- SPF Task Force



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## **Topics**

- Asphalt testing and developments
- Polyiso. R-value testing
- Water-based adhesive testing and issues
- Concrete roof decks issues
- Steel roof deck concerns
- Energy code adoption
- New 2015 Manual



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## Asphalt testing and developments



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### NRCA asphalt testing – 2014

- 14 asphalt lots (7 suppliers) sampled
- EVT's:
  - Type III (mop) 424 – 462 F
  - Type III (spreader) 452 – 486 F
  - Type IV (mop) 455 – 482 F
  - Type IV (spreader) 480 – 506 F
- FP's: 615 – 660 F
- 10 of 14 do not comply with ASTM D312's physical property requirements



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### **NRCA asphalt testing -- 2000**

- 19 asphalt lots sampled
- EVT:
  - Type III (mop) 390 – 440 F
  - Type III (spreader) 415 – 475 F
- FPs: 585 – 640 F
- ASTM D312 compliance:
  - 10 of 19 did not comply



### **NRCA asphalt testing -- 1989**

- 26 asphalt samples
- EVT:
  - Type III (125 cps) 400 – 430 F
  - Type III (75 cps) 420 – 470 F
  - Type IV (125 cps) 420 – 455 F
  - Type IV (75 cps) 445 – 485 F
- FPs:
  - Not reported



## Industry Issue Update, May 2014



INDUSTRY ISSUE UPDATE

NRCA Member Benefit

### Asphalt Health and Safety Issues

Changing values and guidelines will affect applications

May 2014

**A**sphalt has been one of the fundamental products used in the manufacture and construction of roof systems in the U.S. Even with the development and maturation of single-ply membrane roof systems and other alternate products, asphalt use continues to be widespread in the U.S. Asphalt is used in the manufacture of asphalt shingles, polymer-modified bitumen sheet products and certain roof coating products. In field applications, hot-applied asphalt is used for adhering base shears, vapor retarders, insulation layers and polymer-modified bitumen shears, severely overlapping between ply sheets in built-up membrane construction; and as a membrane surfacing, commonly with aggregate.

Although asphalt has been used in the U.S. roofing industry for years, health and safety concerns when using hot asphalt and changes to asphalt's physical properties are issues of which users need to be aware.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**  
 Roofing professionals have long recognized many of the health and safety concerns relating to using hot asphalt, and asphalt's odor when heated to elevated temperatures is objectionable to some people.

For more than 20 years, NRCA has worked closely with asphalt suppliers, product manufacturers, the United States of America, "Whisperproofers & Allied Workers, the Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association (ARMA) and the Asphalt Institute through an informal partnership to represent the roofing industry to government bodies studying health and safety aspects of the applied asphalt. This has included individual and joint research and outreach efforts.

An important combined effort includes development of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health's document "Asphalt Fume Exposures During the Application of Hot Asphalt to Roofs—Current Practices for Reducing Exposures" that provides industry guidelines for the safe use of hot asphalt, its provisions have been incorporated into most asphalt suppliers' and product manufacturers' installation guidelines and their safety data sheets (SDS).

In October 2011, the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) issued a conclusion stating occupational exposures to oxidized bitumens and their

emissions during roofing applications probably are carcinogenic to humans (Group 2A). Oxidized bitumens include roofing asphalt used on roof systems.

In May 2013, IARC issued a report of its findings and conclusion. IARC Monograph Volume 103, "Bitumen and Bitumen Fractions, and Some N- and S-Heterocyclic Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons." Although the timing of this report was not surprising, NRCA believes IARC's research is not definitive.

With IARC's determination, in the coming years U.S. government and scientific groups such as the National Toxicology Program and the American Conference of Governmental Hygienists will make their own assessments.

**ASPHALT TESTING**  
 Originally published in 1920, the U.S. product standard for oxidized asphalt used in roofing is ASTM D312, "Standard Specification for Asphalt Used in Roofing." The current edition was published in 2000 and reapproved in 2006.

ASTM D312 provides for four types of asphalt—Types I, II, III and IV—based upon the asphalt's physical properties. An asphalt's tested softening point, hardness (penetration) and ductility properties dictate its type.

ASTM D312 also requires asphalt to have a minimum 500 F flash point (FP). The standard currently does not prescribe minimum or maximum values for an asphalt's exposure temperature (EVT) it simply requires asphalt suppliers report the asphalt's EVT on the package labeling at full of label.

In 1989, NRCA conducted a temperature-viscosity study of 26 asphalt samples procured from around the U.S. EVT data from the samples are provided in Figure 1. The 1989 study was limited to EVT testing and did not include FP testing or testing of other physical properties to determine compliance with ASTM D312.

In 2005, NRCA conducted a limited study of 19 lots of Type III asphalt procured from around the U.S. EVT and FP data for these samples are provided in Figure 2. Ten of the 19 samples analyzed did not meet the physical property requirements of ASTM D312, Type III.

This year, NRCA conducted limited testing of 14 lots of Types III and IV asphalt obtained in late 2013 from roofing contractors'




## Revision to ASTM D312

Will be published as ASTM D312-15

- Maximum heating temp.: 550 F (575 F min. FP)
- Maximum EVTs:
  - Type III (mop) 430 F
  - Type III (spreader) 455 F
  - Type IV (mop) 470 F
  - Type IV (spreader) 485 F
- Lot-specific package labeling of EVT

## NRCA's recommendations

### Mopping asphalt

- Seek out asphalt complying with ASTM D312-15
- Consider asking for certificates of compliance
- Do not overheat asphalt
  - 550 F maximum kettle/tanker temperature
- Apply at EVT (BUR application)
- Make field crews aware
- Contact NRCA with any questions or issues



## Professional Roofing, February 2015

**TECH TODAY**

### An updated standard

ASTM International revises its product standard for asphalt  
 by Mark S. Graham

In December 2014, ASTM International revised and updated its product standard for asphalt to modified roofing asphalt, ASTM D312, "Standard Specification for Asphalt Used in Roofing."

**Earlier editions**  
 ASTM D312 originally was developed, approved and published in 1920. In 1978, ASTM D312-78 was updated from its 1971 edition and information was added to its current format. The following table summarizes the changes from the 1971 edition to the 2015 edition.

**ASTM D312-15**  
 The December 2014 revision of ASTM D312 is published as ASTM D312-15. This latest edition includes the following revisions and additions:

- A maximum asphalt kettle temperature of 550 F
- A change in asphalt's maximum flash point temperature to 375 F
- Establishment of ASTM D312-15, "Standard Test Method for Vacuum Distillation of Asphalt at Elevated Temperature Using a Rotational Viscometer" as the basis for determining EVT
- Establishment of maximum EVT options for Type III asphalt of 400 F (mop application) and 475 F (mechanical spreader application) and Type IV asphalt of 555 F (mop application) and 485 F (mechanical spreader application)
- A requirement that asphalt suppliers provide low-specific-EVTs for mop and mechanical spreader application on asphalt package labeling or bills of lading for bulk shipments. The establishment of a 550 F maximum kettle temperature and maximum EVT when used with low-specific-EVT asphalt heating temperatures.

These revisions were developed by NRCA and the Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association in recognition of current code issues available, roofing practices and NRCA's best-practice application guidelines while considering current safety and health practices. Additional background information is provided in the NRCA membership publication Industry Issue Update, "Asphalt, Health and Safety," May 2014.

**Implementation**  
 If you specify or install non-specified asphalt roofing materials, NRCA encourages you to use asphalt that complies with ASTM D312-15.

Furthermore, NRCA now recommends consideration to give to specifying and using asphalt supplier's proprietary "low-forming" asphalt formulations. Asphalt's low-forming additives are not currently addressed (or included) within ASTM D312-15 and, therefore, need to be specifically requested in addition to specifying EVT.

**MARK S. GRAHAM**, NRCA's associate executive director of technical services.

**Did You Know?**  
 NRCA members past editions of ASTM D312 dating to 1971. If you have editions of ASTM D312 from 1997 to 1984, please contact Mark Graham, NRCA's executive director of technical services, at 800.328.5444, ext. 0111 or [markg@nrca.net](mailto:markg@nrca.net)

**ON THE WEB**  
 For a link to NRCA's industry issue update, log on to [www.professionalroofing.net](http://www.professionalroofing.net)

12 [www.professionalroofing.net](http://www.professionalroofing.net) FEBRUARY 2015



## **Polyiso. R-value testing**



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## **NRCA's 2014 polyiso. R-value testing**

- Repeating similar NRCA testing from 2009
- Newly-manufactured (uninstalled) samples
  - 2.0-inch-thick
  - Permeable-facer-sheet faced
  - Obtained through distribution
- R & D Services, Inc., Cookeville, TN
- ASTM C518 tested “as received”
- Tested at 75 F, and 25 F, 40 F and 110 F



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### NRCA's 2014 polyiso. R-value testing

Sample	R-value, per inch thickness (2-inch specimens)	
	75 F	
1		5.774
2		5.444
3		5.371
4		5.828
5		5.522
6		5.889
7		5.058



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	75 F	
1		5.774
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3		5.371
4		5.828
5		5.522
6		5.889
7		5.058
Ave. (mean)		5.555
Std. dev.		0.297



### NRCA's 2014 polyiso. R-value testing

Sample	R-value, per inch thickness (2-inch specimens)			
	25 F	40 F	75 F	110 F
1	3.765	4.757	5.774	5.118
2	3.909	4.719	5.444	4.958
3	4.737	5.350	5.371	4.810
4	3.506	4.509	5.828	5.227
5	4.221	5.269	5.522	4.929
6	3.775	4.854	5.889	5.247
7	4.431	4.878	5.058	4.581

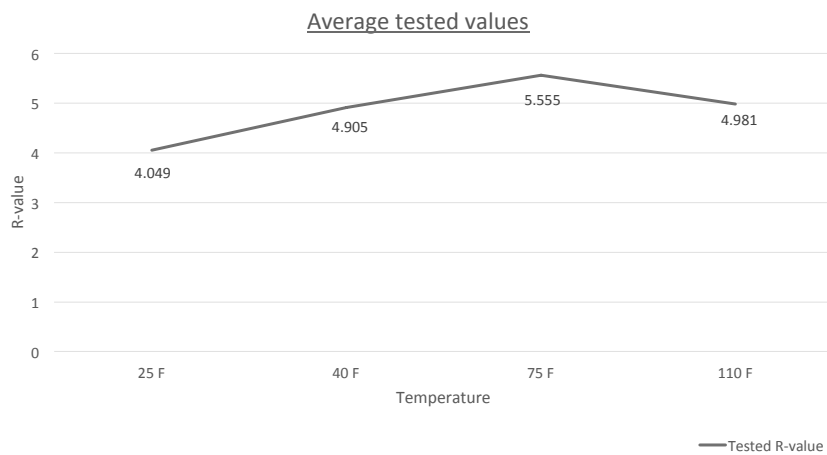


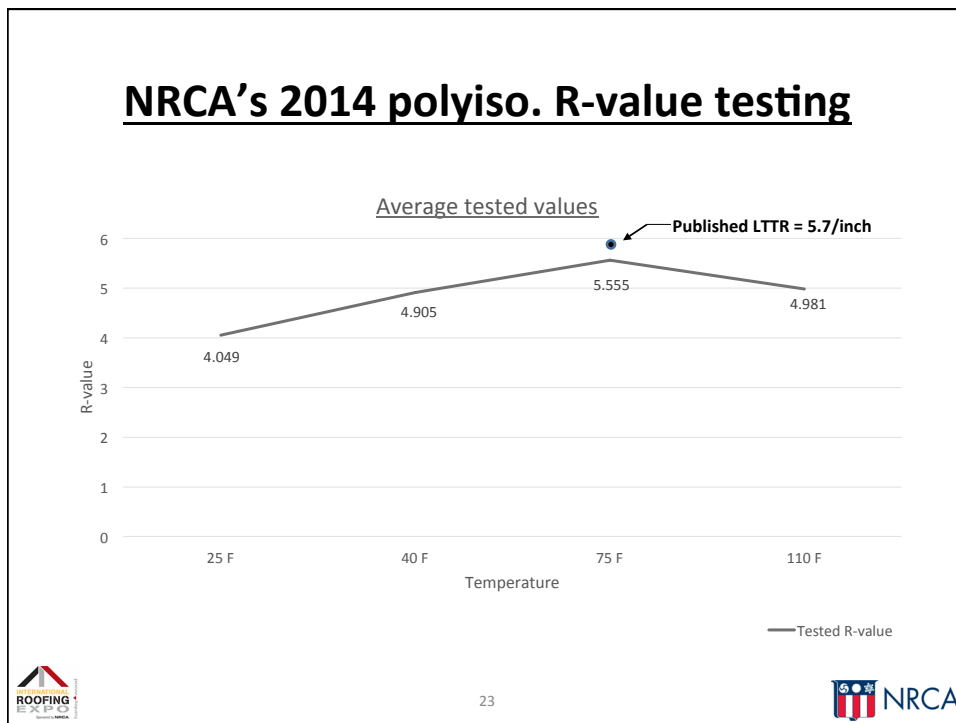
## NRCA's 2014 polyiso. R-value testing

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5	4.221	5.269	5.522	4.929
6	3.775	4.854	5.889	5.247
7	4.431	4.878	5.058	4.581
Ave. (mean)	4.049	4.905	5.555	4.981
Std. dev.	0.432	0.302	0.297	0.239



## NRCA's 2014 polyiso. R-value testing





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## NRCA's recommendations

Polyisocyanurate insulation

Designers should use in-service R-values:

- Heating conditions: R=5.0 per inch thickness
- Cooling conditions: R=5.6 per inch thickness


Specify insulation by its thickness,  
not its R-value or LTTR value



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## Professional Roofing, March 2015



### Testing R-values

**Polysiocyanurate's R-values are found to be less than their LTRR values**

by Mark S. Graham

In late 2014, NRCA conducted limited R-value testing of polysiocyanurate insulation products. The test results show R-values lower than the product manufacturers' published long-term thermal resistance (LTRR) values.

**2014 testing**

NRCA obtained seven samples of newly manufactured (uninstalled), 2-inch-thick, pre-foamed-in-place polysiocyanurate insulation made by an U.S. manufacturer. The samples were obtained from NRCA contractor members throughout the U.S.

The samples were provided to a nationally recognized R-value testing laboratory, R. & D. Services Inc., Oakville, Texas, for R-value testing according to ASTM C518, "Standard Test Method for Steady-State Thermal Resistance Properties by Means of the Heat Flow

Meter Apparatus." The samples were tested "as received," meaning without additional aging. The samples ranged in age from three months to 10 months at the time of testing. R-values were tested at a 75 F mean reference temperature, as well as at 25 F, 40 F and 130 F. Although R-values tested at the 75 F mean reference temperature typically are reported in insulation product manufacturers' literature, NRCA shows the additional test temperatures to bring more representation of actual in-service conditions.

Data from this testing is provided in the figure.

**Analysis**

Review of the 75 F data reveals the average of the results are less than the products' published LTRR values. Only three of the seven specimens have R-values greater than 5.7 per inch for a 2-inch-thickness.

The LTRR concept is intended to approximate a 15-year time-weighted average of a product's R-value, which corresponds to a product's R-value after five years of aging. Because most of the products tested were even closer to 5 years old at the time of testing, all their tested R-values at 75 F should be somewhat above their published LTRR values.

In 2009, NRCA conducted similar R-value testing of polysiocyanurate

Sample number	R-value, per inch thickness (2-inch specimens)			
	25 F	40 F	75 F	130 F
1	3.765	4.757	5.774	5.118
2	3.909	4.719	5.444	4.958
3	4.737	5.350	5.271	4.810
4	3.506	4.509	5.828	5.227
5	4.221	5.260	5.522	4.922
6	3.775	4.854	5.889	5.247
7	4.431	4.878	5.058	4.581
Average (mean)	4.049	4.905	5.255	4.981
Standard deviation	0.432	0.300	0.297	0.239

Data from NRCA's 2014 polysiocyanurate R-value testing

**NRCA's recommendations**

Although the 75 F mean test temperature may be useful for product comparison and labeling purposes, based on NRCA's testing, it is clear this parameter is not representative of in-service conditions. For this reason, NRCA recommends designers consider polysiocyanurate insulation products' in-service R-values for the specific climate where a building is located.

NRCA recommends designers using polysiocyanurate insulation determine thermal insulation requirements using an in-service R-value of 5.0 per inch thickness in heating conditions and 5.6 per inch thickness in cooling conditions.

Furthermore, NRCA recommends designers specify polysiocyanurate insulation by its stated thickness rather than its R-value or LTRR value to avoid possible confusion during procurement.

Additional information regarding the use of polysiocyanurate insulation is provided in *The NRCA Roofing Manual: Maintenance/Repair Systems—2015*. ■■■

**MARK S. GRAHAM** is NRCA's associate executive director of technical services.



## Water-based adhesive testing and issues



## Professional Roofing, Aug. 2012



**Although low-VOC adhesives are marketed as direct replacements for VOC-solvent-based adhesives, there are significant differences**  
 by Maciek Rujar

**In markets subject to volatile organic compound (VOC) regulations, single-ply roof membrane manufacturers supply alternative materials for solvent-based adhesives and primers. Among the VOC regulation-compliant materials are low- and zero-VOC adhesive-based and water-based adhesives or primers in direct replacement for VOC-solvent-based adhesive.**

Although marketed as direct replacements, these materials should be considered apart from traditional solvent-based one-part adhesives. For one thing, work and handling practices for low-VOC materials differ somewhat from those for traditional solvent-based materials. For another, these products present some challenges that do not occur with traditional solvent-based materials. Additionally, depending on product and manufacturer, different recommendations for handling and use may apply for products within the same general category.

**Where are VOCs regulated?**

The California Clean Air Act of 1987 established the framework for the state's air quality management efforts, including requirements for controlling ground-level ozone. In recent years, in 1993, the South Coast Air Quality Management District, which is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and other portions of Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, adopted Rule 110, that set limits on VOC content of adhesives and coatings, including single-ply roof membrane adhesives and primers. The VOC content limits introduced in Rule 110 have since been included in similar regulations adopted by a number of other California air districts.

The Title 15 zero-VOC content per liter (g/L) definition is the weight of volatile compounds, low-volatile and non-volatile, on single-ply roof membrane adhesives—250 g/L, single-ply roof membrane primers—50 g/L and single-ply roof membrane adhesive primers—250 g/L.

More recently, the zero-VOC content limits have been used in regulations adopted by the state and districts that comprise the ozone transport region (OTR) and are aligned about air quality management strategies by the Ozone Transport Commission (OTC).

OTC is a regional advisory body to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established in 1996 through an agreement by the Clean Air Act (CAA). The amended CAA granted the OTC authority to establish air pollution control regulations concerning transport commissions, specifically mobile sources (MS), which include Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island,



## Professional Roofing, "Tech today," Dec. 2013

**TECH TODAY**

### Cold weather application

Installing roofing products and roof systems in fall and winter can prove challenging  
 by Mark S. Graham

**Certain roofing products and roof systems types are temperature-sensitive.**

**Roofing in cold weather,** such as during late fall and winter in northern climates, presents roofing contractors with challenges. In addition to having to manage inherently cold roofing temperatures and increased moisture, contractors face working with roofing products that are temperature sensitive.

The new NRCA established a Cold Weather Application Task Force to review manufacturers' recommendations for roofing product and roof system applications during cold weather.

**Temperature limitations**  
 Roofing contractors have long recognized unique roofing products and roof system types are temperature-sensitive. For example, with hot-applied bitumen-based systems, when ambient temperatures are less than 40 F, shortening the distance between heating equipment and the point of application and using insulated roofing blankets, tarps and dispensing equipment is recommended by NRCA and most manufacturers to reduce the risk of an inoperative temperature at the point of application.

For self-healing asphalt shingles, it is a recognized danger: single-slope, spray may not immediately activate if installed in cold weather. However, some manufacturers provide asphalt shingles with rubber strips that will activate at a lower temperature. Also, in some cold-weather applications, manufacturers suggest hand rubbing shingle side during installation to prevent shingle side split and the shingle's self-seal strips activate.

The latest manufacturer instructions of warm-based and low-volatile organic compound (VOC) adhesives, such as those used with fully

adhesive single-ply membrane roof systems and membrane flashings, present contractors with unique challenges.

Manufacturers generally recommend such adhesives for temperatures not lower than temperatures between 40 F and 50 F. Also, most manufacturers' application instructions limit adhesive use when roofing temperatures are 40 F and rising. This is an expectation that installed adhesives should not freeze during drying and initial curing after application. Adhesives cure times necessary to reach adequate initial "green" strength are based on temperature and humidity conditions and vary among adhesive products. It generally is recognized that applied adhesives should not freeze until at least two days after application.

**Dewpoint considerations**  
 For warm-based adhesives, the humidity at the time of adhesive application also is an important consideration. Adhesive application can cause evaporative cooling of a substrate as the adhesive is applied, leading to the adhesive substrate temperature being slightly lower than the surrounding ambient temperature. If this lower temperature results in the substrate being at or below the dewpointing and dew point temperature, condensation will occur within the applied adhesive. This can significantly affect an adhesive's drying and cure times and strength.

To minimize the potential for adhesive drying based on input from manufacturers, NRCA task force suggests warm-based and low-VOC adhesive applications to be limited to when the dew point temperature is at least the degree Fahrenheit (preferably 10 degrees Fahrenheit or more) from the ambient temperature. This suggested differential

is in recognition that roofing temperatures vary such as from the sun side to shade side of a roof surface. Dew point and ambient temperatures typically are closer during early morning and midday. Also, the humidity is more common in northern climates during periods of cold temperatures.

For warm-based and low-VOC adhesives, when the minimum recommended adhesive temperature or dew-point temperature cannot be met, adhesive application should be stopped.

**Being aware**  
 You need to be aware of the temperatures and moisture-related limitations of the products and systems you use and install. Product-specific literature typically are provided in manufacturer printed installation instructions.

Building owners, designers, general contractors, construction managers and roofing contractors should also be aware of the limitations of roofing products and roof systems installed in cold temperatures. They also need to acknowledge some weather conditions, cooling, work will need to be suspended until more favorable conditions exist.

In situations where roofing work must take place during periods of unfavorable weather, such as when construction project sequencing requires roofing work be conducted in late fall and winter, building owners and designers should consider specifying roofing products and/or roof system types that are not sensitive. Roofing product manufacturers and roofing contractors should be consulted for specific recommendations. ■■■

**MARK S. GRAHAM** is NRCA's executive director of technical services.

- Manufacturers:**
- Store at 60F-90F
  - Install at 40F and rising
  - Longer green time
- NRCA:**
- Don't freeze
  - Dew point differential of 5F or more

## MRCA/NRCA testing

Water-based bonding adhesives

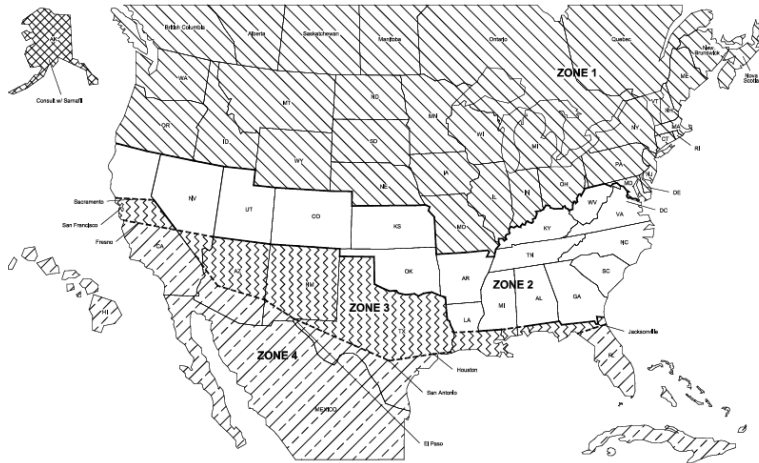
- Products vary
- Pails variability
- Long times to develop strengths
- Peel strengths are relatively low, particularly with paper-faced polyisocyanurate insulation



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## Sika/Sarnafil



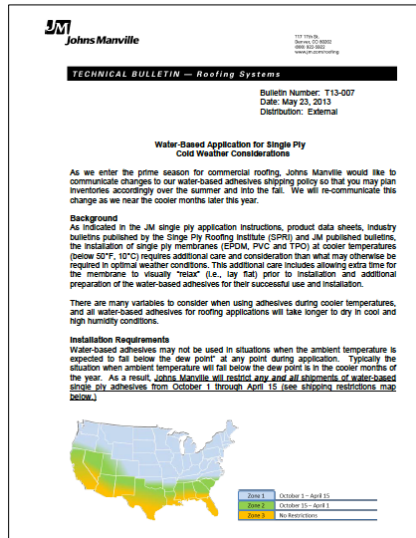
BLACKOUT DATES FOR SIKACOAT & WATER BASED PRODUCTS  
Zone 1: October 1st thru April 15th    Zone 3: November 1st thru March 1st  
Zone 2: October 15th thru April 1st    Zone 4: No Blackout Dates



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## JM technical bulletin



- Shipment restrictions from 10/1 to 4/15
- Storage 60F – 80F
- Should not be applied:
  - Below 40F
  - RH 90%+
  - DP separation < 5F
  - Temp. = DP within 6 hrs.
  - Temp. < 32F within 48 hrs.

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## NRCA's interim recommendations

- Manufacturers need to take a more active role
- Designers need to consider/offer alternatives
- When using polyiso., designers should specify ASTM C1289, Type II, Class 2 (coated glass facers) when using water-based adhesives
- Make field crews aware of limitations
- Consider alternative products/systems



## Concrete roof deck issues



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## Reported roofing-related problems

Concrete roof decks

- Moisture within the roof system
- Loss of adhesion
- Insulation facer delamination
- Adhesive curing issues
- Mold growth
- Fastener/metal corrosion
- R-value loss



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## Concrete drying rates<sup>1</sup>

- Normal-weight structural concrete:
  - Less than 90 days
- Light-weight structural concrete:
  - Almost 6 months

<sup>1</sup> Howard Kanare, "Concrete Floors and Moisture, Second Edition," 75 percent internal RH, controlled laboratory conditions



## NRCA Industry Issue Update, August 2013



**INDUSTRY ISSUE UPDATE**

NRCA Member Benefit

**Moisture in Lightweight Structural Concrete Roof Decks**  
 Concrete Moisture Presents Challenges for Roofing Contractors

NRCA's Technical Services Section is receiving an increasing number of inquiries relating to the application of roof systems over concrete roof decks. These inquiries can be separated into two general questions: When is a concrete roof deck dry enough to apply a roof covering? And why is a roof system applied over a concrete roof deck showing signs of moisture delamination when the roof covering isn't failing?

**CONCRETE BASICS**

There are three general types of concrete: normal-weight structural concrete, lightweight structural concrete and lightweight insulating concrete.

Normal-weight structural concrete is what most people think of as concrete: it has a density of about 150 pounds per cubic foot (pcf). Lightweight structural concrete has structural load-carrying capabilities similar to normal-weight structural concrete, but has a density in the range of 80 to 120 pcf. Lightweight insulating concrete, which many roofing professionals are familiar with as an insulating, above-deck deck topping, typically has a density in the range from 20 to 40 pcf.

Structural concrete—normal-weight structural concrete and lightweight structural concrete—is produced by mixing large and small aggregates, Portland cement, water and, in some instances, admixtures such as fly ash or various chemical admixtures. Admixtures can add entrained air to the concrete, accelerate concrete's curing, retain moisture, reduce moisture and/or lighten concrete's finishing time. Use of admixtures typically is not readily identifiable in the field; microscopic analysis usually is needed for post-application identification of admixtures.

The primary difference in the composition of normal-weight structural concrete and lightweight structural concrete is the large aggregate type. Normal-weight structural concrete contains normal-weight aggregate such as stone or crushed gravel, which are dense and typically will absorb no more moisture than about 2 percent by weight. Lightweight structural concrete uses lightweight, porous aggregate such as expanded shale, which will absorb about 20 to 25 percent moisture by weight. Lightweight aggregate needs to be saturated with moisture...it's often stored in ponds...before mixing. As a result, lightweight structural concrete inherently contains much more water than normal-weight structural concrete.

Lightweight structural concrete is used in roofing-related applications for cast-in-place concrete roof decks using removable form composition roof decks where a metal form deck remains in place; and as a deck topping material, such as a concrete topping surface over precast concrete planks or tees.

Once poured, lightweight structural concrete typically cannot be easily distinguished from normal-weight structural concrete.

Visual identification is possible using megasonication, typically a microscope used by a trained technician.

Lightweight structural concrete inherently contains much more water than normal-weight structural concrete.

**REPORTED PROBLEMS**

The problems reported to NRCA associated with lightweight structural concrete roof decks include the following:

- **Moisture accumulation.** Excessive moisture from a concrete deck can be pressure-differential driven into and condensed within a roof system.
- **Adhesive del.** The presence of moisture can result in deterioration of moisture-sensitive roofing materials and adhesive-bond loss between adjacent material layers.
- **Adhesive issues with water-based and non-soluble organic compounds.** Excessive moisture can affect adhesive curing and drying time. Also, moisture can result in adhesive "bleeding," resulting in bond strength loss.
- **Metal and flange corrosion.** Excessive moisture can contribute to and accelerate metal component corrosion, including fastener corrosion.
- **Insulation R-value del.** The accumulation and presence of moisture in mass insulation products will result in reduced thermal performance (lower effective R-value).
- **Attenuated growth.** The presence of prolonged high-moisture

### NRCA's recommendations:

- Designers should avoid using light-weight structural concrete for roof decks
- Remedial system configurations for retrofit applications

## Steel roof deck concerns



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## Steel deck design

Prior to 2010:

- SDI's *Design Manual for Composite Decks, Form Decks and Roof Decks*
- ANSI/SDI RD1.0-2006, "Standard for Steel Roof Deck" (referenced in IBC 2009)

30-pound-per-square-foot (psf) uplift  
and 45-psf uplift at roof overhangs



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## Steel deck design

Since 2010:

- ANSI/SDI RD1.0-2010, “Standard for Steel Roof Deck” (referenced in IBC 2012 and IBC 2015)

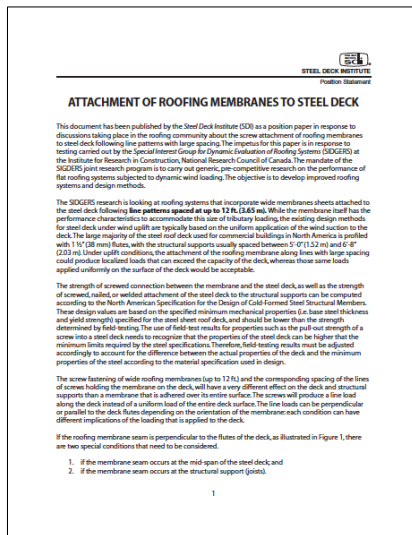
“... be anchored to resist the required net uplift forces, but not less than...”  
30 psf and 45 psf for eave overhangs



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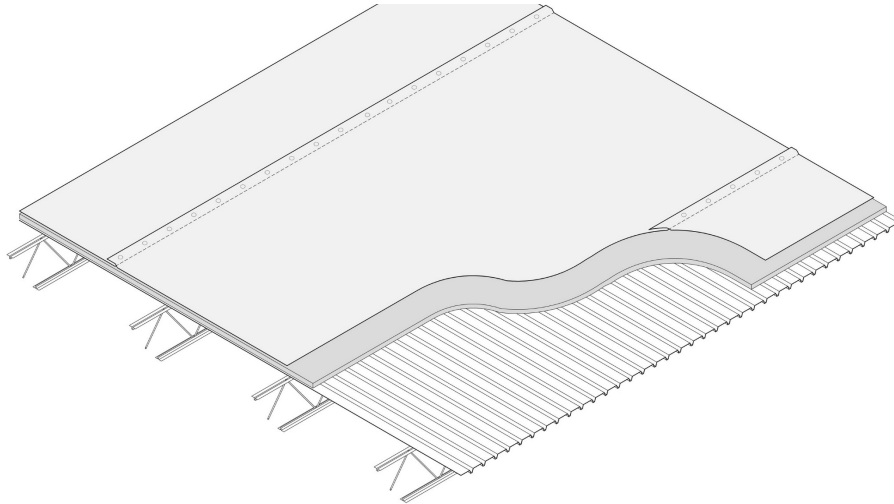
## SDI bulletin



- Decks designed for joist spacing between 5' and 6' 8" o.c.
- Steel decks designed for uniform loading
- Seam-fastened single-ply membranes are a concern

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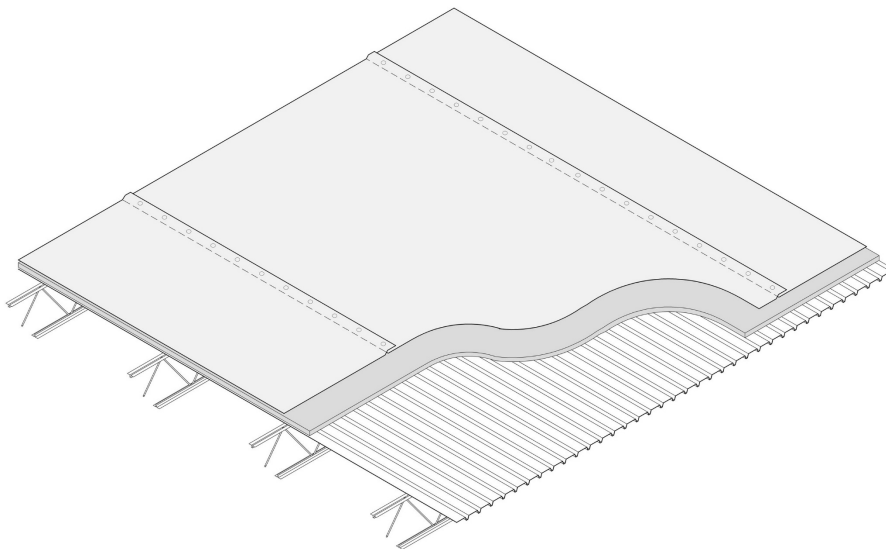
**Membrane seams across deck flutes**



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

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**Membrane seams in deck flute direction**



SDI: 12 X bending moment and shear (deck)

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### **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's recommendations**

- Beware of the situation
- Roof system designers should not rely on “excess capacity” in steel roof decks
- Be cautious of “accepting” responsibility for the roof deck; use NRLRC recommended proposal/contract language
- Better communication is needed between roof system designers and roof deck designers



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## Professional Roofing "Tech today"

January 2015



### Concerns with steel roof decks

Seam-fastened single-ply membrane systems may be problematic  
 by Mark S. Graham

**Dialogue is necessary between steel roof deck designers and roof system designers**

**Steel roof decks** are the most popular roof deck type used in the U.S. However, inconsistencies between design methods used for steel roof decks and roof systems are cause for concern.

**SDI guidelines**  
 Steel roof decks typically are designed using guidelines developed by the Steel Deck Institute (SDI).

Historically SDI's design guidelines for steel roof decks have been published in various editions of SDI's *Design Manual for Composite Deck, Form Deck and Roof Deck*. SDI has revised and updated its manual a number of times during the years. For example, the 2007 edition is referred to as "Publication No. 317."

Beginning in 2006, SDI published its design specifications for steel roof decks as ANSISEED RD-2006, "Standard for Steel Roof Deck." The 2010 edition, ANSISEED RD-2010, is the current edition.

Before the 2006 edition of the International Building Code, SDI's design guidelines were not specifically referenced in model building codes. ANSISEED RD-2006 is referenced as a requirement in the *International Building Code 2006 Edition (IBC 2006)* and ANSISEED RD-2010 is referenced in IBC 2012 and IBC 2015.

SDI's design manual and ANSISEED RD-2010 provide for roof decks to be designed for a 30-psf uniform load (up) and 45-psf uplift at roof eave. ANSISEED RD-2010 also allows

a roof deck's dead load to be deducted from the prescribed design uplift load.

ANSISEED RD-2010 stipulates roof decks must "... be anchored to resist the required net uplift forces, but not less than ... 30 psf and 45 psf for eave overhangs.

Also, in 2009, SDI issued a position statement, "Attachment of Roofing Membranes to Steel Deck." In this statement, SDI indicates its design methods are based on uniform loading of roof decks, such as that provided by adhered built-up, polymer-modified bitumen or single-ply membrane roof systems.

SDI's statement further explains with design uplift loading conditions, attachment of non-anchored mechanically attached single-ply membrane roof systems with wide eave spacing could result in localized loads that exceed roof deck capacity. These same loads applied uniformly on a deck's surface would be acceptable.

**NRCA's analysis**  
 When buildings are designed, the design team's structural engineer typically will be responsible for the design of the roof structure and roof deck. If SDI's guidelines are used, steel roof decks most likely will be designed for a 30-psf uniform uplift capacity with little or no consideration of the roof system type being installed.

Roof system designers typically have relatively little knowledge of steel deck design. Many roof system designers rely on IMI Approval classifications for designing and specifying roof systems uplift, which likely results in readily different design uplift capacities between roof systems and steel roof decks.

For example, a roof system with an IMI 1-00 or Class 90 uplift classification is intended to resist a 45-psf uplift load in the roof

MARK S. GRAHAM is NRCA's associate executive director of technical services.

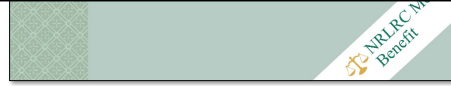






## Consider adding contract provisions



"Roofing Contractor's commencement of the roof installation indicates only that the Roofing Contractor has visually inspected the surface of the roof deck for visible defects and has accepted the surface of the roof deck. Roofing Contractor is not responsible for the construction, structural sufficiency, durability, fastening, moisture content, suitability, or physical properties of the roof deck or other trades' work or design. Roofing Contractor is not responsible to test or assess moisture content of the deck or substrate."







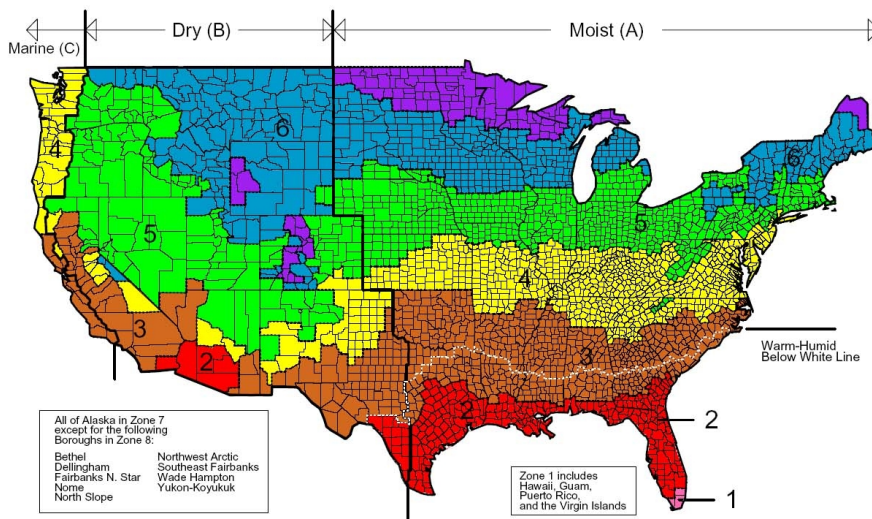
## Energy code adoption



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## Climate zones



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## Adaptation of IECC 2009 Table 502.2(1)

Commercial Buildings (Building envelope requirements method)

Climate zone	Assembly description		
	Insulation entirely above deck	Metal buildings	Attic and other
1	R-15ci (all other) R-20ci (Group R)	R-19	R-30 (all other) R-38 (Group R)
2	R-20ci	R-13 + R-13	R-38
3		R-13 + R-13 (all other) R-19 (Group R)	
4			
5			
6	R-13 + R-19 (all other) R-19 (Group R)	R-13 + R-19 (all other) R-19 + R-10 (Group R)	
7			
8	R-25ci	R-11 + R-19 (all other) R-19 + R-10 (Group R)	R-49

ci = Continuous insulation; LS = Liner system

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## Adaptation of IECC 2012 Table C402.2

Commercial Buildings (Building envelope requirements method)

Climate zone	Assembly description		
	Insulation entirely above deck	Metal buildings	Attic and other
1	R-20ci	R-19 + R-11	R-38
2			
3			
4	R-25ci	R-19 + R-11	R-38 (except Marine 4)
5			R-38 (all other) R-49 (Group R, Marine 4)
6	R-30 ci	R-25 + R-11	R-49
7	R-35ci	R-30 + R-11	
8			

ci = Continuous insulation; LS = Liner system

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## Adaptation of IECC 2015 Table C402.1.3

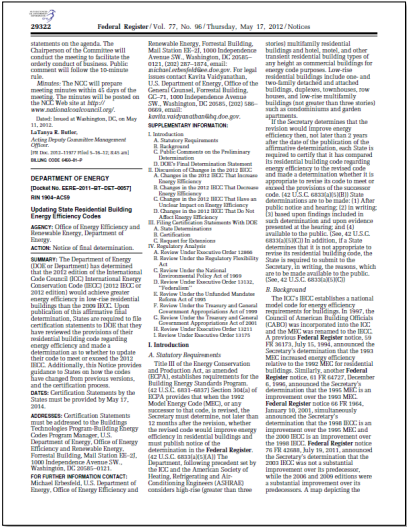
Commercial Buildings (Insulation component R-value-based method)

Climate zone	Assembly description		
	Insulation entirely above deck	Metal buildings	Attic and other
1	R-20ci (all other) R-25ci (Group R)	R-19 + R-11 LS	R-38
2	R-25ci		
3			
4			R-38 (except Marine 4)
5	R-30ci		R-38 (all other) R-49 (Group R, Marine 4)
6	R-35ci		R-25 + R-11 LS
7		R-30 + R-11 LS	
8			

ci = Continuous insulation; LS = Liner system

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## *Federal Register*, May 17, 2012



**201222**      *Federal Register* / Vol. 77, No. 98 / Thursday, May 17, 2012 / Notice

**Updating State Residential Building Energy Efficiency Codes**

**AGENCY:** Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of final determination.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Energy (DOE) is updating its administrative process to determine whether a State's residential energy efficiency code meets the requirements of the International Code Council (ICC) International Residential Code (IRC) 2012 IECC or 2006 IECC. States are required to file certification statements to DOE that they have reviewed the provisions of their residential building code regarding energy efficiency to determine if they meet or exceed the 2012 IECC. Additionally, this Notice provides information on how to update their code to meet or exceed the 2012 IECC. States are required to file certification statements to DOE that they have reviewed the provisions of their residential building code regarding energy efficiency to determine if they meet or exceed the 2012 IECC. Additionally, this Notice provides information on how to update their code to meet or exceed the 2012 IECC.

**DATES:** Certification Statements by the States must be provided by May 15, 2014.

**ADDRESS:** Certification Statements must be addressed to the Buildings Technologies Program, Building Energy Codes Program Manager, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Technical Building, Mail Station 20, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20548-0113.

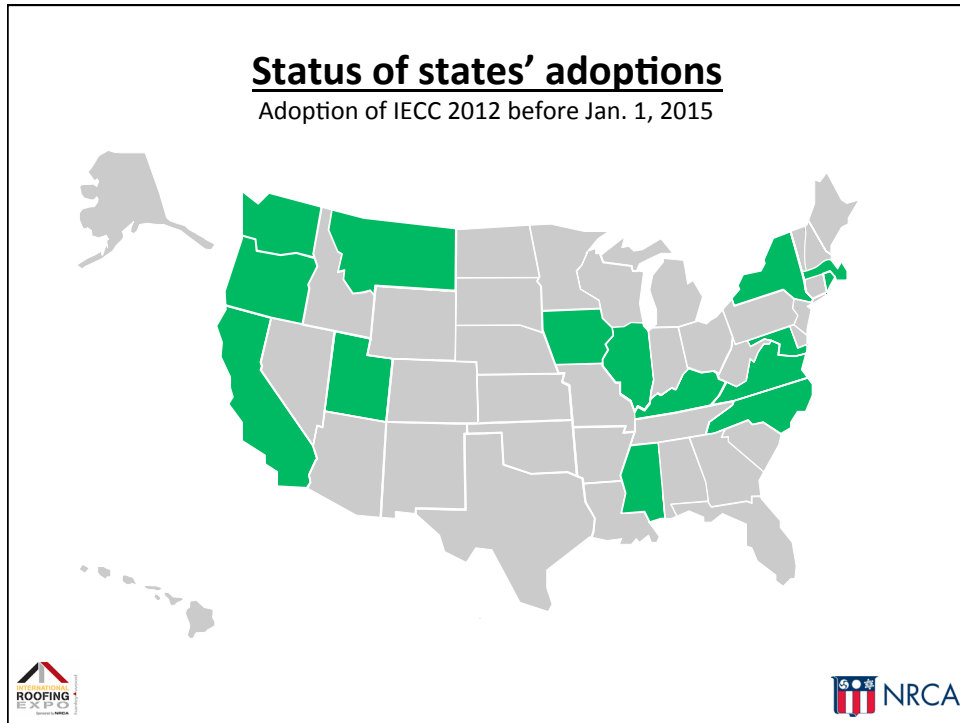
**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael Sperandio, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Mail Station 20, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20548-0113.

**Key points:**



- US DOE determined IECC 2012 will achieve greater energy efficiency in low-rise residential buildings than IECC 2009
- States must certify by 5/17/14 their energy code meets or exceeds the levels of IECC 2012

This triggers most states to update their state energy code

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## **Is there payback...?**

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## In a heating climate


10,000 sq. ft. single-story building in New Orleans, LA

R-value increase	Annual Btu savings	Payback time
R-10 to R-15	21,213,494 Btu	15.0 years
R-15 to R-20	11,760,541 Btu	30.9 years
R-20 to R-25	6,787,331 Btu	49.7 years
R-25 to R-30	4,794,863 Btu	107.8 years



## NRCA "Industry Issue Update"

November 2014



**INDUSTRY ISSUE UPDATE**

NRCA Member Benefit

**Analyzing R-value Requirements**

*Cost paybacks to increases in R-values may not be practical*

November 2014

**R**oof increases in the model energy code's building energy requirements have resulted in increased R-values being specified for many buildings' exterior envelopes, including roof systems.

Adoption of the International Energy Conservation Code, 2012 Edition (IECC 2012), which includes significant R-value increases for most roof systems, has been limited. The R-value increases were implemented into the code with minimal to no consideration of the added initial construction cost and long-term payback to building owners.

**Energy code requirements**

The building envelope thermal (prescriptive) requirements contained in IECC 2012 include roof assembly minimum R-value requirements as shown in Figure 1. These R-values apply to all buildings, including roof system replacements, classified by the code as being for "commercial" buildings. IECC 2012 identifies all buildings as commercial energy classified one- and two-family dwellings and multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses), as well as Group R-2, R-3 and R-4 buildings three stories or fewer in height above grade plane.

Comparing IECC 2012 minimum prescriptive R-values with those in the International Energy Conservation Code, 2009 Edition (IECC 2009) reveals minimum required R-values for roof assemblies have increased from R-5 to R-10 depending on specific climate zone and building level assembly configurations.

In May 2012, the Department of Energy (DOE) issued a determination indicating IECC 2012 provides greater energy efficiency to buildings than IECC 2009. DOE's study found IECC 2012 makes substantial progress with achieving DOE's goal to provide a 20 percent overall improvement in building energy efficiency compared with the code's previous editions.

**Code adoption**

Also included in DOE's May 2012 determination is a requirement for individual states to review their current codes and certify by May 17, 2014, that residential energy efficiency requirements meet or exceed the levels established in IECC 2012. In the past, this type of certification transfer resulted in individual states upgrading their building energy codes to the latest edition of the model code.

To determine the status of individual state energy code

adoption, NRCA conducted a comprehensive survey of state adoption and plans for future code upgrades. From this survey, only seven states were discovered to have updated their energy code to IECC 2012's level by DOE's May 17 certification deadline—Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, Rhode Island and Washington.

Four additional states—California, Florida, Massachusetts and New York—will upgrade to IECC 2012's level by Jan. 1, 2015. The remaining states reported they have no immediate intention of upgrading their energy codes since most have no state-mandated energy code.

NRCA considers the findings of its energy code adoption survey to be significant. High R-value increases, including some insulation manufacturers, trade associations and special interest groups, are building designers and building owners to follow 2012 IECC R-values are required throughout the U.S. Other roof system manufacturers and one special interest group are going as far as implying compliance with the International Energy Conservation Code 2012 follows directly is required. NRCA's survey reveals these high R-value claims are misleading; in fact, most states do not yet require compliance with IECC 2012.

Climate zone	Minimum prescriptive thermal insulation requirements for commercial buildings		
	Insulation entirely above	Roof buildings with R-3 thermal shield <sup>1</sup>	Attic and other
1	R-20 <sup>2</sup>	R-10 + R-11.15	R-10
2	R-20 <sup>2</sup>	R-10 + R-11.15	R-10
3	R-20 <sup>2</sup>	R-10 + R-11.15	R-10
4	R-15 <sup>2</sup>	R-10 + R-11.15	R-10
5	R-20 <sup>2</sup>	R-10 + R-11.15	R-10
6	R-20 <sup>2</sup>	R-10 + R-11.15	R-10
7	R-15 <sup>2</sup>	R-10 + R-11.15	R-10
8	R-15 <sup>2</sup>	R-10 + R-11.15	R-10
9	R-15 <sup>2</sup>	R-10 + R-11.15	R-10

1. U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) GreenSource (2012) defines a thermal shield as a material that is installed on the roof of a building to reduce heat loss. 2. Minimum prescriptive thermal insulation requirements for commercial buildings.

- Payback analysis:
- 100 sq. single story building
  - Costs per R+5 increases
  - Energy savings per R+5 increases
  - Local energy costs
  - Cost ÷ Savings = Payback
  - 16 cities in 8 climate zones

- Payback results:
- R-10 to R-15: 7 to 19 yrs.
  - R-15 to R-20: 14 to 38 yrs.
  - R-20 to R-25: 22 to 61 yrs.
  - R-25 to R-30: 49 to 133 yrs.

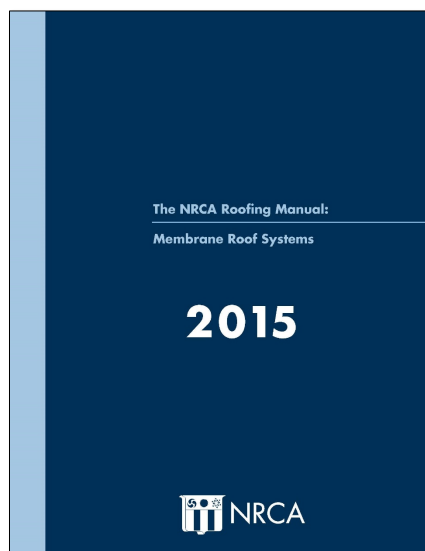
## Updating the NRCA Roofing Manual



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## Updating the NRCA Roofing Manual



### Membrane Roof System-2015:

- Replaces 2011 volume
- Reformatted
- Updated Ch. 4-Rigid Board Insul.
- Updated Ch. 5-Roof Membranes
- Expanded Ch. 9-Reroofing

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## The NRCA Roofing Manual

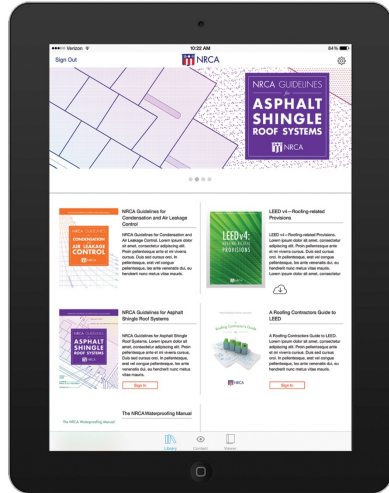


## Manual online

[www.nrca.net](http://www.nrca.net)

- Available to all NRCA member registered users
- “Members only” section. Click on “My account”, then “Electronic files”
- View, download and print

## NRCA App



- NRCA App available on the Apple Store and Google Play Store for tablets
- iPhone App available in Summer
- Register within App as being an NRCA member
- The NRCA Roofing Manual is viewable to NRCA members
- Favorite and send pages features



## Questions?





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