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Aurora, Colorado -- December 11, 2025

Roofing Technical Update

presented by

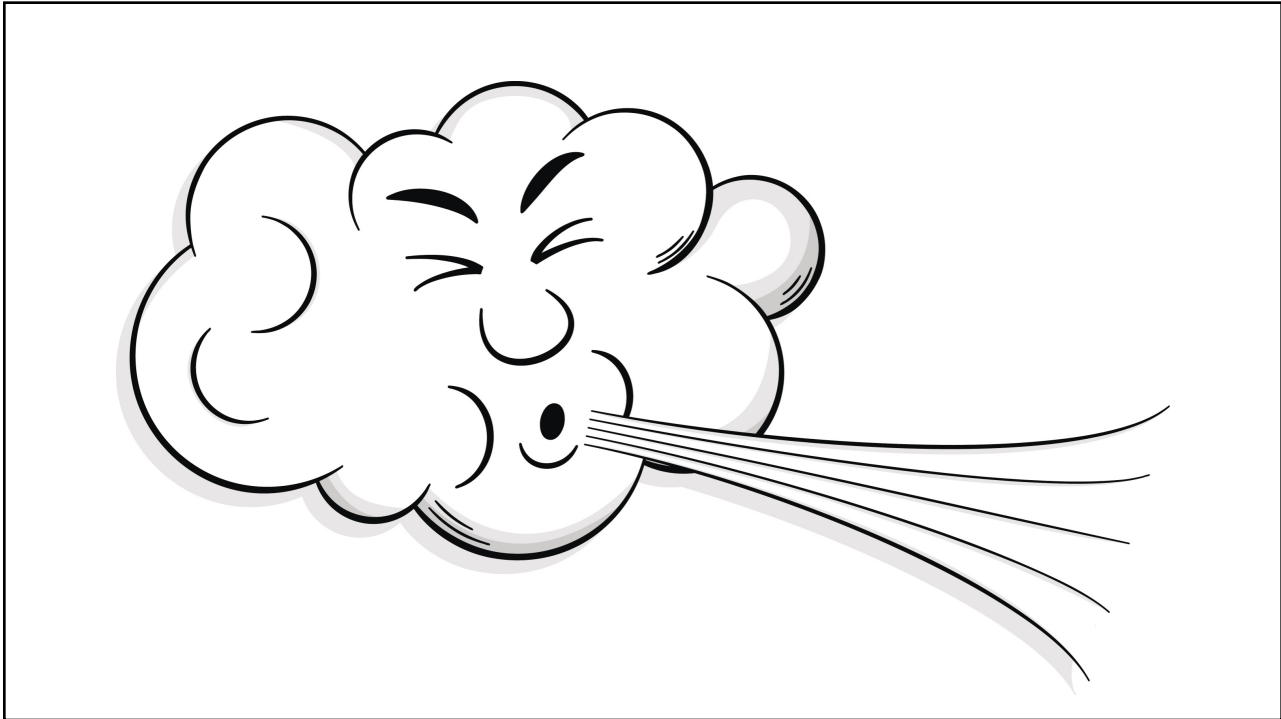
Mark S. Graham
Vice President, Technical Services
National Roofing Contractors Association (NRCA)



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Colorado Roofing Association

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Beaufort wind scale

Force	Wind Speed (mph)	Description	Characteristics
0	0-1	Calm	Smoke rises vertically
1	1-3	Light air	Direction of smoke drift
2	4-7	Light breeze	Wind felt of face; leaves rustle
3	8-12	Gentle breeze	Wind extends a light flag
4	13-18	Moderate breeze	Small branches are moved
5	19-24	Fresh breeze	Small trees in leaf begin to sway
6	25-31	Strong breeze	Large branches in motion
7	32-38	Near gale	Whole trees in motion
8	39-46	Gale	Breaks twigs off trees
9	47-54	Severe gale	Slight structural damage occurs
10	55-63	Storm	Trees uprooted; structural damage
11	64-72	Violent storm	Wide-spread damage
12	73-83	Hurricane	See Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale

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Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale

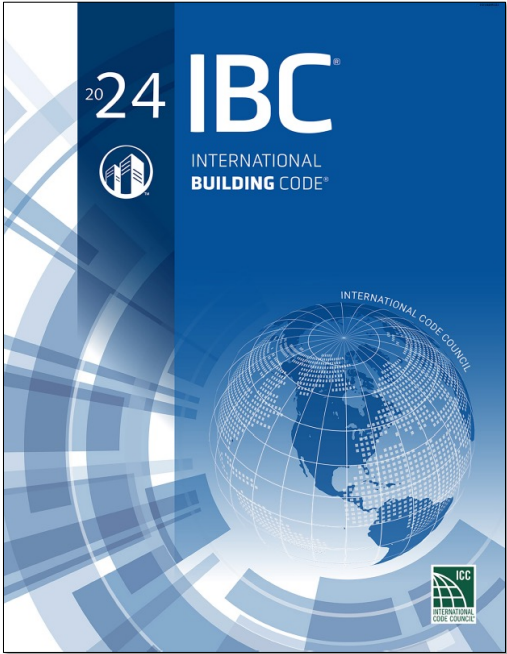
Category	Wind Speed (mph)	Characteristics
1	74-95	Very dangerous winds produce some damage
2	96-110	Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage
3	111-129	Devastating damage will occur
4	130-156	Catastrophic damage will occur
5	157 and higher	Catastrophic damage will occur

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Enhanced Fujita Tornado Scale (EF scale)

Category	Wind Speed (mph)
0	65-85
1	86-110
2	111-135
3	136-165
4	166-200
5	Over 200

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2024 IBC
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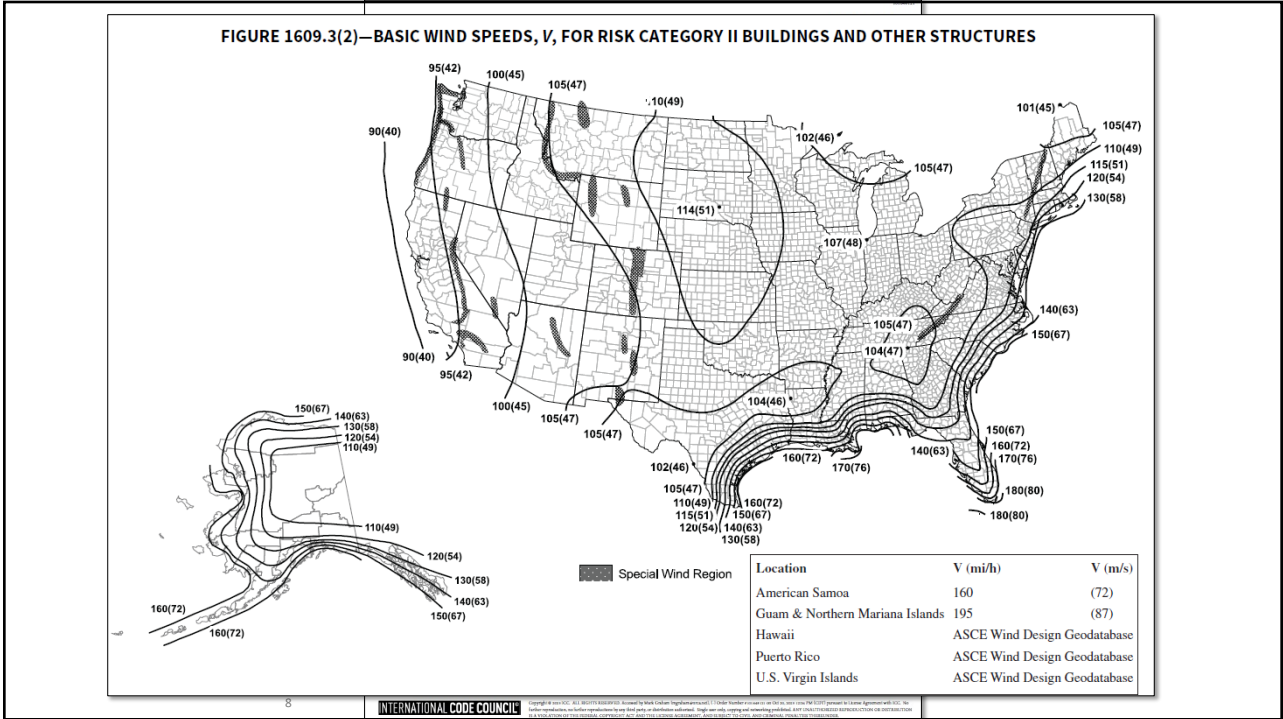
INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL

ICC
INTERNATIONAL
CODE COUNCIL

**International Building Code,
2024 Edition**

[Link](#)

7



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Mean recurrence interval

MRI dictates a building's Risk Category → Basic wind speed (3-sec. peak gust) map

Risk Category I	300-year MRI
Risk Category II	700-year MRI
Risk Category III	1,700-year MRI
Risk Category IV	3,000-year MRI

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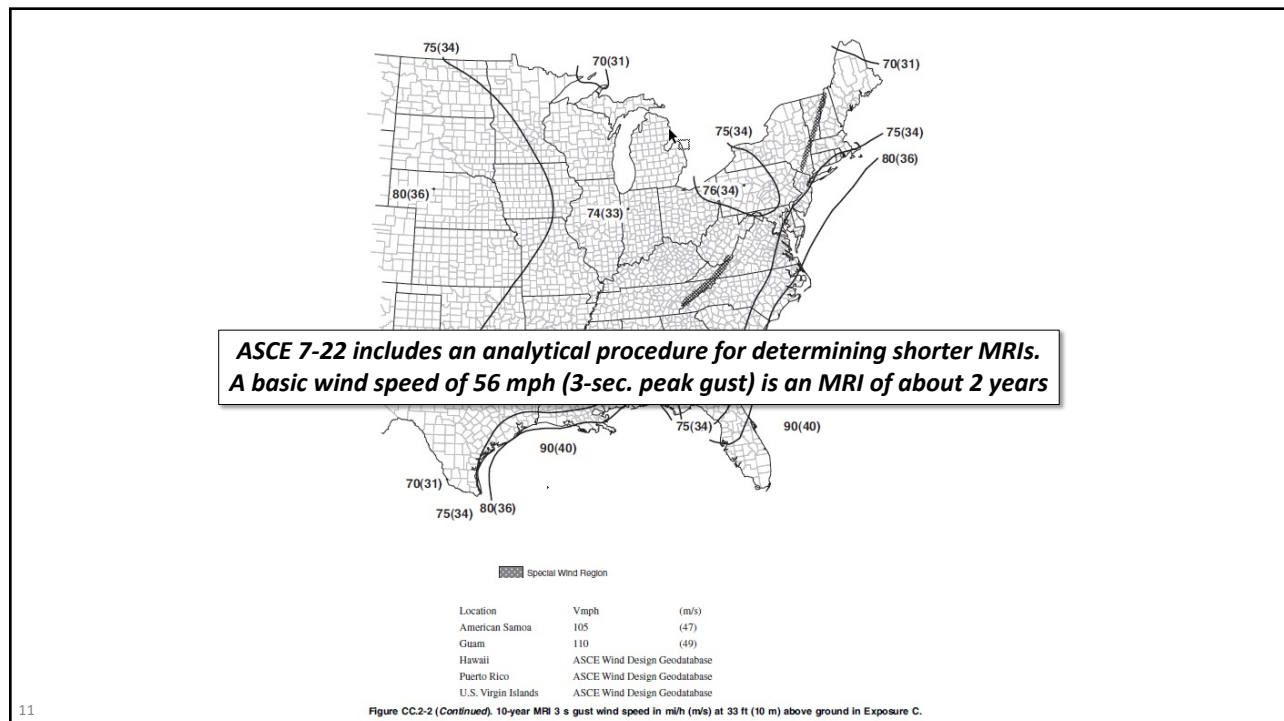
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Manufacturers' warranties

- Typically limit wind coverage to 56 mph
- "...sole and exclusive warranty..."

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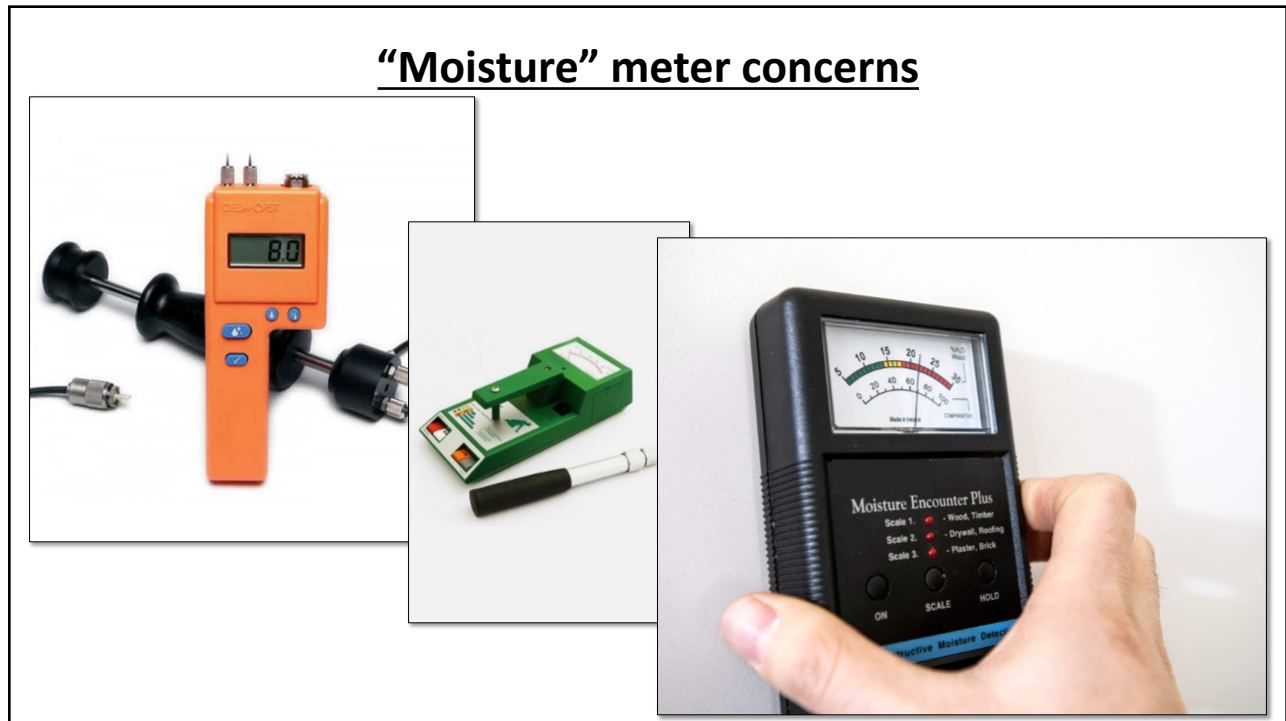
Considerations...

- Manufacturers are increasingly using wind speed history to void their warranties... and avoid responsibilities
- Contractors face some liability:
 - Wind speeds between the manufacturer's warranty limit and the design wind speed (i.e., building code)
 - Non-wind-related issues when the warranty limit is exceeded
- Building owners may better served without a manufacturer's warranty with a low wind speed limit
- Contractors can consider wind speed limitations in their warranties

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“Moisture” meter concerns



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*These meters do not read moisture...
...they are reading relative conductivity, which can be
correlated to specific materials in specific conditions
when properly calibrated.*

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Considerations

“Moisture” meters

- Read/understand the instruction manual
- Understand device sensitivity
- Understand proper operating conditions
- Proper calibration/recalibration is critical
- Don't overstate the meter's capability
- Verify job-specific results with gravimetric analysis

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Installation

Apply only as many DensDeck® Roof Boards as can be covered by a roof membrane system in the same day.

DensDeck® Roof Boards of any thickness do not require gapping. Board edges and ends should be butted tightly together. When installed on a structural metal deck, edge joints should be located on and parallel to top flutes, so that edges are supported.

Independent evaluations have demonstrated that hot mopping to DensDeck® Roof Boards is an acceptable method of bonding membranes. However, the product must be **dry prior to commencing installation of hot asphalt application, with free moisture content less than 1% using a moisture meter** that has been set to the gypsum scale.

- When using DensDeck® Roof Board or DensDeck® Prime Roof Board, Georgia-Pacific Building Products recommends maximum **asphalt application temperatures of 425°F (218°C) to 450°F (232°C)**. Application temperatures above these recommended temperatures may adversely affect roof system performance. Consult and follow roofing system manufacturer's specifications for full mopping applications and temperature requirements.
- Follow accepted roofing industry guidelines for full mopping applications such as EVT temperature guidelines, brooming and proper application rates of asphalt.

DensDeck® Prime Roof Board and DensDeck® StormX™ Prime Roof Board may be flood mopped to a substrate followed by a flood mopped application of membrane using these guidelines:

- DensDeck® Prime Roof Board and substrate must be dry.
- Asphalt used to install DensDeck® Prime Roof Board should be allowed to cool prior to mopping base sheet to top of boards.
- Allow base ply to cool before mopping additional plies or cap sheet to limit the amount of direct heat that is applied to boards.

18 Recommendations
and Limitations for
Use

PRODUCT

DensDeck®
Roof Board

DensDeck®
Prime Roof Board

DensDeck®
StormX™
Prime Roof Board

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Considerations...

- Be extra cautious of handheld moisture meters
- The “dryness” of gypsum board products is somewhat unknown
- NRCA cautions mopped- or torch-application to gypsum board products

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Polyiso. testing

R-value testing

Facer sheet adhesion (with the Chicago Roofing Contractors Association)

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LTTR – ASTM C1303 and ASTM C518

- A 15-year time-weighted average R-value
- The predicted R-value after 5-years (under controlled laboratory conditions)

R-value – ASTM C518

- R-value at the time of the test

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- LTTR and R-value is typically tested and reported at 75 F.
- NRCA tests at 75 F, but we also test at 40 F and 110 F.

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Test results

Physical properties

Manufacturer	Apparent density (lb/ft³)	Thickness (inches)
1c	2.726	2.578
1p	2.002	2.594
2c	3.254	2.576
2p	2.024	2.585
3p	2.218	2.500
4p	2.057	2.735

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Test results	
R-value	
Manufacturer	R-value (75 F)
1c	14.4
1p	13.9
2c	13.6
2p	15.6
3p	13.2
4p	15.3

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More test results			
R-value			
Manufacturer	R-value (40 F)	R-value (75 F)	R-value (110 F)
1c	10.8	14.4	12.8
1p	8.9	13.9	12.0
2c	14.5	13.6	12.1
2p	15.4	15.6	13.4
3p	12.6	13.2	11.6
4p	16.9	15.3	13.1

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Preliminary conclusions

- Tested R-values vary
- Some tested R-values are already lower than LTTR
- Some samples are exhibiting different characteristics

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Preliminary recommendations

- Specify, purchase and sell polyisocyanurate insulation (and all insulation products) based on their thicknesses, not its R-values

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Polyiso facer sheet adhesion

This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.



Designation: C1289 – 23a

Standard Specification for Faced Rigid Cellular Polyisocyanurate Thermal Insulation Board¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C1289; 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 revision. A superscripted epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers the general requirements for faced thermal insulation boards composed of rigid cellular polyisocyanurate surfaced with other materials. The insulation boards are intended for use at temperatures between -40 and 200°F (-40 and 93°C). This specification does not cover cryogenic applications. Consult the manufacturer for specific recommendations and properties in cryogenic conditions. For specific applications, the actual temperature limits shall be agreed upon by the manufacturer and the purchaser.

1.2 This standard is intended to apply to rigid cellular polyurethane-modified polyisocyanurate thermal insulation board products that are commercially acceptable as non-structural panels useful in building construction. The term polyisocyanurate encompasses the term polyurethane. For engineering and design purposes, users should follow specific product information provided by board manufacturers regarding physical properties, system design considerations, and installation recommendations.

Notes 1—See Appendix X1 for guidance on determining wind pressure resistance of panels when required for wall sheathing applications.

1.3 The use of thermal insulation materials covered by this specification is typically regulated by building codes, or other agencies that address fire performance. Where required, the fire performance of the material shall be addressed through standard fire test methods established by the appropriate governing documents.

1.4 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

Notes 2—For conversion to metric units other than those contained in this standard, refer to IEEE/ASTM SI 10.

¹This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C16 on Thermal Insulation and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C16.22 on Organic and Nonhomogeneous Inorganic Thermal Insulations. Current edition approved Sept. 1, 2023. Published October 2023. Originally approved in 1995. Last previous edition approved in 2023 as C1289 – 23. DOI: 10.1520/C1289-23A.

1.5 *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, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.6 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 The following documents, of the issue in effect on the date of material purchase, form a part of this specification to the extent specified herein:

2.2 *ASTM Standards²*

C108 Terminology Relating to Thermal Insulation

C177 Test Method for Steady-State Heat Flux Measurements and Thermal Transmission Properties by Means of the Guarded-Hot Plate Apparatus

C203 Test Methods for Breaking Load and Flexural Properties of Block-Type Thermal Insulation

C208 Specification for Cellulosic Fiber Insulating Board

C209 Test Methods for Cellulosic Fiber Insulating Board

C283 Test Method for Dimensions and Density of Pre-formed Block and Board-Type Thermal Insulation

C390 Practice for Sampling and Acceptance of Thermal Insulation Lots

C518 Test Method for Steady-State Thermal Transmission Properties by Means of the Heat Flow Meter Apparatus

C550 Test Method for Measuring Thickness and Squareness of Rigid Block and Board Thermal Insulation

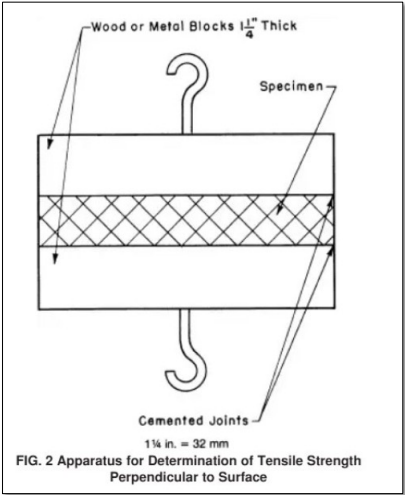
C728 Specification for Perlite Thermal Insulation Board

C1045 Practice for Calculating Thermal Transmission Properties Under Steady-State Conditions

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.

ASTM C1289-23a

11.6 *Tensile Strength Perpendicular to Board Surface*—Tensile strength perpendicular to the major board surfaces of the faced board product shall be tested in accordance with Test Method C209, Tensile Strength Perpendicular to Surface, or Test Method D1623 (Type C), utilizing a 250°F (121°C) hot melt adhesive system for sample preparation. Molten adhesive shall be uniformly applied over each faced sample surface and allowed to cool in 73°F (23°C) laboratory air for 24 h before testing.



Tensile strength, psf	500 (24)	500	500 (24)	500 (24)	500 (24)	2000 (95)
(kPa), min		(24)				
Perpendicular to board surface						

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Test results

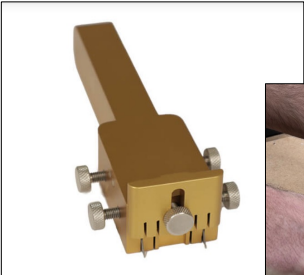
ASTM C209 tensile strength

Manufacturer	Tensile strength Average (psf)	Standard deviation (psf)
1c	1,888	556
1p	2,041	909
2c	1,874	730
2p	1,301	409
3p	1,029	495
4p	1,185	327

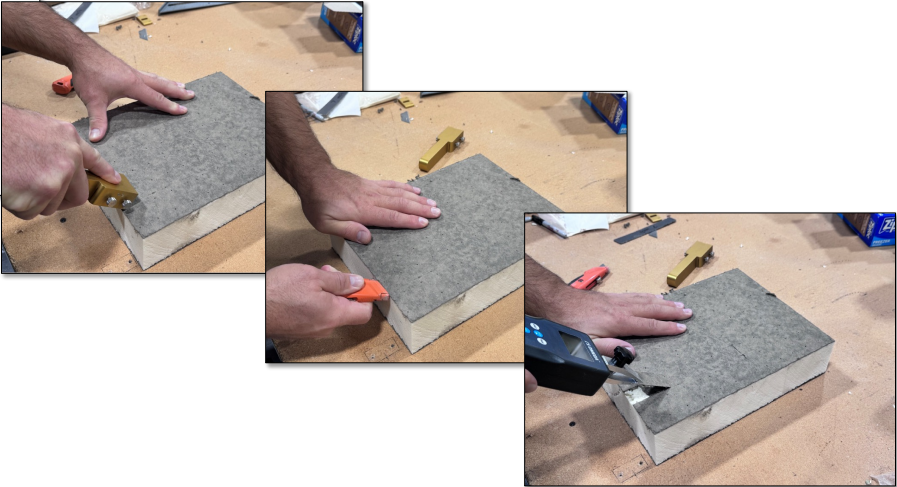
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Peel test

Internally-developed evaluation method
No ASTM standard



MTT strip cutter



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Test results

Manufacturer	Peel strength Average (psi)	Standard deviation (psi)
1c	2.78 MD	0.62 MD
	3.03 XMD	0.44 XMD
1p	2.52 MD	0.78 MD
	2.89 XMD	0.94 XMD
2c	2.30 MD	0.31 MD
	2.30 XMD	0.28 XMD
2p	2.52 MD	0.61 MD
	2.36 XMD	0.53 XMD
3p	2.83 MD	0.59 MD
	2.97 XMD	0.57 XMD
4p	2.61 MD	0.56 MD
	2.19 XMD	0.76 XMD
Average	2.59 MD 2.62 XMD	

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Preliminary conclusions

- Our peel test method seems viable
 - More refinement of the test method may be needed
- Peel values are only about 10% of tensile values
- Peel values seem low
- More testing is planned:
 - More polyiso. specimens (production lots, plants)
 - Board top vs. board bottom
 - Impact of knit lines
 - Other faced insulation boards

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Polyiso. storage


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TECHNICAL BULLETIN | 12

ISSUE: 10/29/2017

*UPDATE: 06/19/2024


PAGES: 01

Storage Recommendations for Atlas ACFoam® Products

SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENT

Factory applied packaging is intended only for protection during transit. When stored outdoors or on the job site, the insulation should be stacked on pallets at least three inches above ground level and completely covered with a weatherproof covering such as a tarpaulin. The temporary factory-applied packaging should be slit or removed to prevent accumulation of condensation. Roof insulation which has become wet or damaged should be removed and replaced with solid, dry insulation, of the same type.


For additional storage and handling recommendations, see [PIMA Technical Bulletin # 109](#).



Atlas Roofing Corporation

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*Atlas Roofing Corporation (ARC), a leader, manufacturer of roofing, insulation

PAGE 1 of 1

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PIMA Technical Bulletin #109

Storage and Handling Recommendations For Polyiso Roof Insulation


Storage

Polyiso insulation is typically shipped protected by a plastic wrap, plastic bag or both. This factory packaging is intended for handling the polyiso in the manufacturing plant and during transit. The factory packaging should not be relied upon as protection at jobsites or other outdoor storage locations unless specified otherwise by the manufacturer.

Note: Polyiso insulation is fully cured and fit for installation upon delivery. No additional storage time is required.

Material delivery should be carefully coordinated with the roof application schedule to minimize outdoor storage. When short-term outdoor storage is necessary, whether at grade or on the roof deck, the following precautions should be observed unless specified otherwise by the manufacturer:

- Bundles should be stored flat above the ground (or other surface) utilizing included feet or on raised pallets. If possible, the bundles should be placed on a finished surface such as gravel, pavement, or concrete rather than on dirt or grass.
- Cover the package and pallet with a breathable tarpaulin and secure cover to prevent wind displacement.



Surround yourself with the best.

ARC's Polyiso Roofing products have been designed for resistance to heat, moisture, and protection from damage by construction traffic and/or abuse is extremely

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Colorado Roofing Association

20

Wood sheathing

Plywood and oriented strand board, and nailbase insulation

41

Standards for wood structural panels

International Residential Code, 2024 Edition

Plywood:

- U.S. Department of Commerce PS-1, “Structural Plywood”
- CSA Group O325, “Construction Sheathing”

Oriented-strand board (OSB):

- U.S. Department of Commerce PS-2, “Performance Standard for Wood-based Structural-use Panels”
- CSA Group O437, “Standards for OSB and Waferboard”

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Common, but not referenced in the Code

Plywood and OSB:

- APA-The Engineered Wood Association Standard PRP-108, “Performance Standards and Policies for Structural-Use Panels”

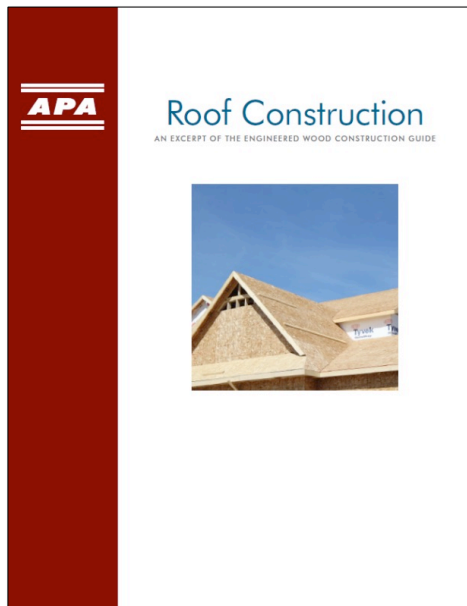
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Attachment of Wood Panels: The *International Residential Code, 2024 Edition's* Table R602.3(1)-Fastening Schedule provides minimum fastener and fastener spacing requirements for wood structural panels into roof framing shown in Figure 6.1.

Item	Description of building elements	Number and type of fasteners	Spacing of fasteners	
			Edges (inches)	Intermediate supports (inches)
Wood structural panels, roof sheathing to framing and particle board wall sheathing to framing				
31	3/8- to ½-inch-thick	6d common or deformed nail (2" x 0.113" x 0.281" head)	6	6
		8d common nail (2½" x 0.131" x 0.281" head), or RSRS-01 nail (2⅜" x 0.113" x 0.281" head)	6	6
32	19/32- to ¾-inch thick	8d common nail (2½" x 0.131" x 0.281" head), or RSRS-01 nail (2⅜" x 0.113" x 0.281" head)	6	6
33	7/8- to 1¼-inch thick	10d common nail (3" x 0.148" x 0.281" head), or 2½" x 0.131" x 0.281" head deformed nail	6	12

Figure 6-1. Roof sheathing-specific excerpt from *International Residential Code, 2024 Edition's* Table R602.3(1)-Fastening Schedule

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**APA Form E30, "Roof Construction"**

--Roofing-specific excerpts from
*APA's Engineered Wood Construction
Guide* (102 pages)

[Link](#)

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Considerations

Lumber, plywood and OSB roof decks

- Be extra cautious of plywood and OSB roof decks
- Limit your deck acceptance responsibilities
- Consider more proactive plywood and OSB deck replacement
- Consider pull tests for plywood and OSB roof decks when using mechanically-attached membrane systems

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RESEARCH+TECH



Know your steep-slope roof decks

Following plywood and OSB installation guidelines can help ensure a successful roof system performance

by Mark S. Graham

Plywood or oriented strand board structural panel sheathing are integral components of many steep-slope roof assemblies, and proper use of these products can help ensure successfully performing assemblies. If you use or encounter plywood and/or OSB structural panel sheathing roof decks, it is important to be knowledgeable of the applicable code requirements and APA—The Engineered Wood Association and NIBCA guidelines applicable to them.

IBC 2018

The International Residential Code* provides specific requirements applicable to plywood and OSB structural panel sheathing used as roof decks for one- and two-family dwellings. In IBC's 2018 edition, specific requirements are provided in Section 0510: Roof Sheathing.

IBC 2018 requires wood structural panels conform to the Department of Commerce's PS-1, "Structural Plywood," or PS-2, "Performance Standard for Wood-based Structural-Use Panels," or CSA Group's "Q1025, "Construction Sheathing," or Q4427, "Standards on OSB and Wulframit." PS-1 and Q1025 generally are recognized to apply to plywood, and PS-2 and Q4427 apply to OSB.

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professionalroofing.net DECEMBER/JANUARY 2020-21

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RESEARCH + TECH



Know the options

Proper specification is essential for nail-base insulation

by Mark S. Graham

in roof assembly configurations with nailable roof coverings, such as asphalt shingles and metal panels, factory-fabricated, nail-base insulation is becoming more common as a component of insulation entirely above the roof deck. Because nail-base insulation serves multiple functions, including being a roof covering substrate and thermal insulation layer, proper design and specification are essential for roof assembly performance.

The basics

Nail-base insulation is composed of a layer of rigid board insulation factory-adhered or laminated to a layer of structural wood panel sheathing, such as plywood or oriented strand board.

"The U.S. product standard for nail-base insulation is ASTM C1289, 'Standard Specification for Faced Rigid Cellular Polystyrene/Thermal Insulation Board,' Type V. It provides requirements for a polystyrene/urethane insulation foam core

Professional Roofing

September 2024

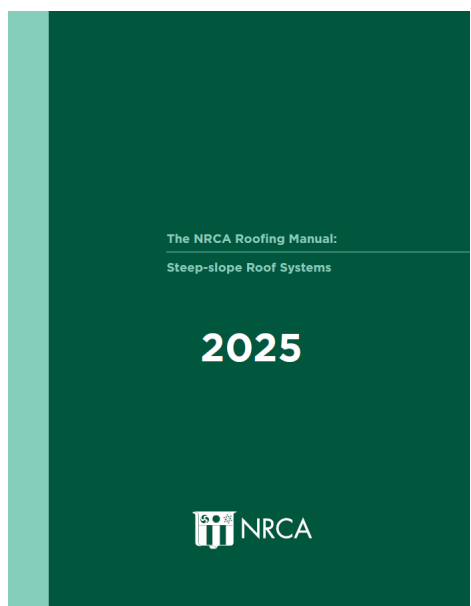
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Nailbase insulation considerations

- Double layer design and application
- Taped joints can control vapor leaks/underlayment wrinkling at board joints
- Pressure-tested and FRT nailbase are not good ideas for nailbase

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2025 NRCA Manual Steep-slope Roof Systems

*The Manual represents
“best practice” guidelines*

[Link](#)

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NRCA has concerns about the long-term performance of OSB panels, including those addressed by PS 2 used as substrates for asphalt shingle roof systems. Although NRCA acknowledges the widespread use of OSB panels for constructing roof deck substrates, experience has shown OSB panels are subject to dimensional changes, ridging and fastener backout resulting from changing moisture conditions the roof decks typically encounter. NRCA has received reports of asphalt shingle roof assemblies constructed with OSB panel decks experiencing panel edge swelling, warping and buckling. NRCA also is concerned about the effects on OSB panels of repeated fastener removal and new fastener installation as existing roof systems are removed and replacement roof systems are installed during a roof deck's life. Because of these reasons, NRCA does not recommend using OSB panels as a substrate for asphalt shingle roof systems.

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Recent and common technical inquiries

Requests of NRCA for technical assistance

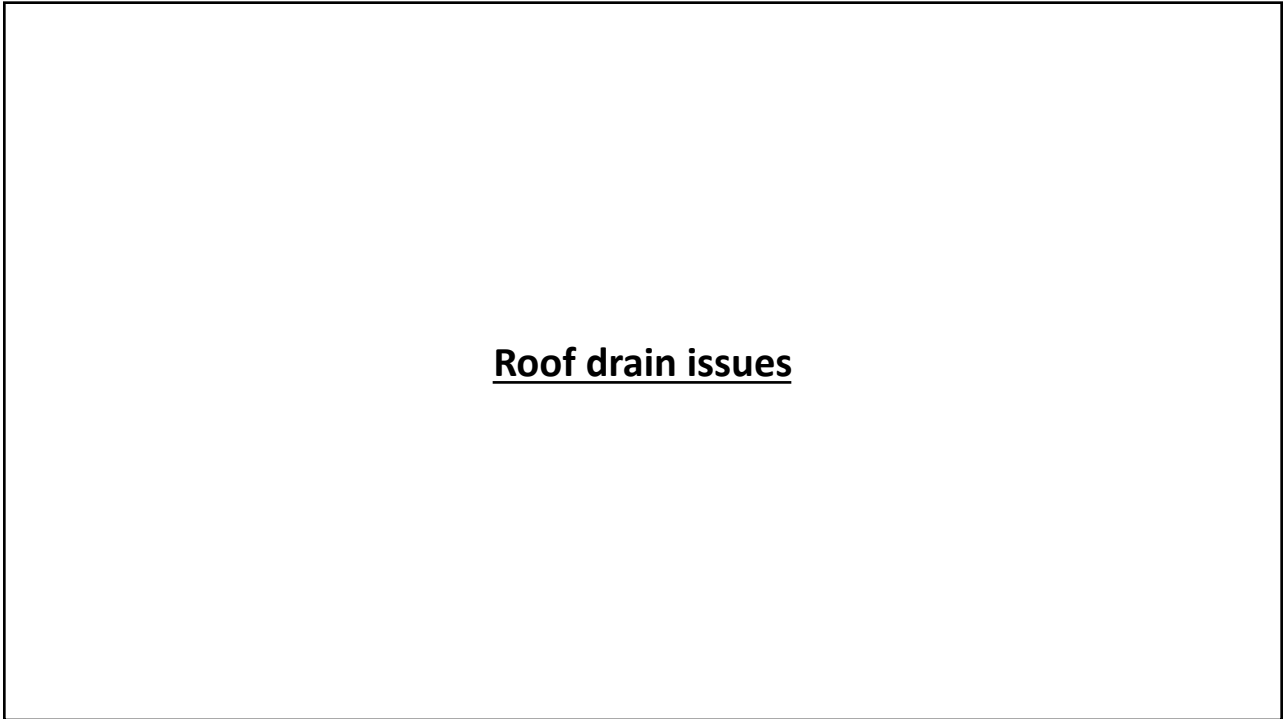
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Fastener issues

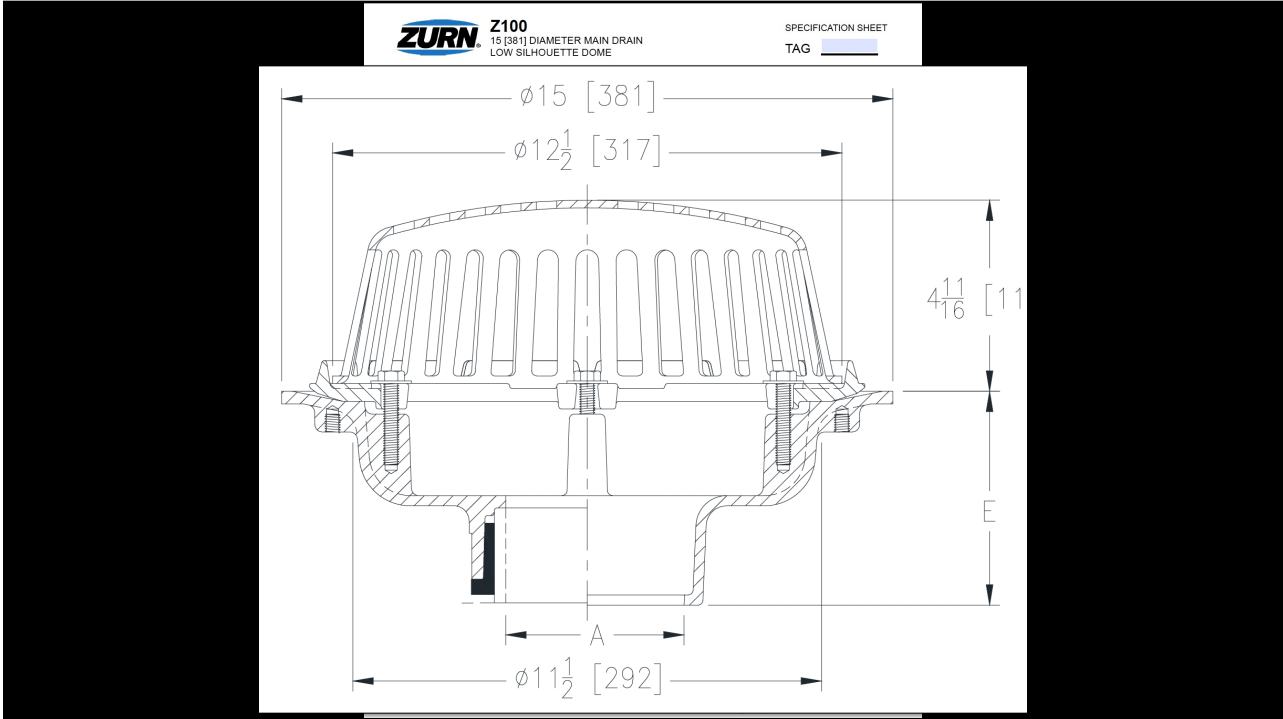
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Membrane discoloration

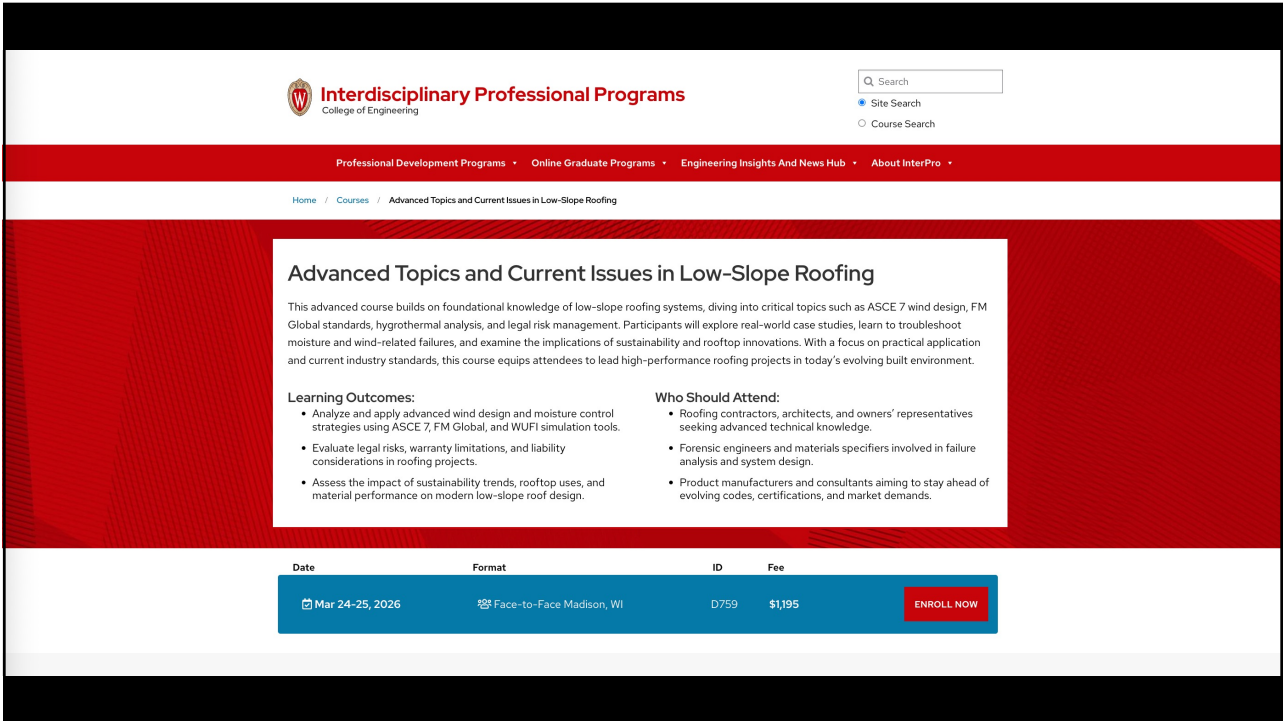
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Questions...

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Additional information about my work is available on NRCA's website, www.nrca.net.

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