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UPDATE - Tectum Decks and UL/FM Requirements

TECTUM Roof Deck panels are composed of aspen wood fibers bonded with a special inorganic hydraulic cement, and are formed by a continuous process under heat and pressure. The material is treated with silicon to resist water and water migration.

TECTUM panels come in various forms from straight TECTUM to composite panels using various other materials such as EPS or Styrofoam insulation and OSB boards for a nailing substrate.

Interested persons who need information on specific Tectum deck panels should contact Tectum's Technical Services Dept.

Tectum has approvals from UL, FM, SBCCI, ICBO, BOCA, etc. In some instances, the information or approvals may be limited and will need explanation from their Technical staff.

Tectum is a suitable alternate deck for non-combustible deck assemblies in UL Listings.

Contractors bidding jobs with Tectum decks should carefully research the available information and/or question the designer specifying certain requirements such as FM 1-90 or to

insure that the combination specified is actually approved. In addition to FM wind uplift approvals, Tectum also has several approvals with UL regarding wind up-lift resistance. BITEC has not done any testing with Tectum and therefore can not provide letters or information regarding any approvals other than for our own warranty purposes. For BITEC warranty issuance purposes, any situation over Tectum deck will require pre-approval by the Technical Services Dept.

BITEC recommends that contractors or other interested persons contact Tectum and the various insulation and fastener manufacturers for specific information on approvals with their products.

In addition to the various auger-type fasteners, several contractors and Tectum report satisfactory results using Tube Loc nails. In most situations, BITEC will recommend fastening an approved base sheet to the Tectum deck using Tube Loc nails, and then insulation can be mopped to the base sheet. Fastening insulation directly to the Tectum deck will require pre-approval. Caution

must be exercised when using auger-type fasteners, as many of them require pre-drilling and over-tightening can pull plugs from the deck.

Remember that just because a project specification is written with certain requirements, does not mean that those conditions have been tested, approved or that there is any documentation of the desired results. We should still advise our customers to satisfy themselves before bidding projects, that they can provide the required approvals from sources other than BITEC.

Tectum decks, properly designed and installed or recovered, if in good condition, can provide an adequate substrate for a roof membrane. However, we caution contractors and others about wind uplift approvals, etc. concerning information that we can not provide.

With the constantly changing fastener market and testing being done with insulation and fastener combinations over various decks, there is likely to be some changes with regards to Tectum deck applications in the near future.