

TO: Atlanta Sales, Commercial Field Sales, Regional Managers, Plant Managers and Account Executives

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FROM: Director Technical Services, Commercial Products Division

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SUBJECT: Adhering Atlas ACFoam® Products Using Hot Asphalt

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*SUPERSEDES EXISTING DOCUMENTS

Hot asphalt is often used to adhere the above ACFoam® products to structural concrete decks. Additional layers of these products, as well as cover boards, such as perlite, high density wood fiberboard, and Dens-Deck™, are also commonly adhered to each other with hot asphalt. Historically, Atlas's recommendation for this application has included three limitations: First, the size of the insulation board applied in hot asphalt shall not exceed 4' x 4'; Second, the asphalt temperature at point of contact with these ACFoam® products shall not exceed 450°F; Third, the asphalt shall be applied at the *EVT (equiviscous temperature).

This use of *EVT has a long history of success in the application of BUR ply felts. Certain contractor associations and BUR system manufacturers point out that the *EVT recommendation applies only to membrane construction and not to insulation attachment, because asphalt at its *EVT is too thin and flows too easily to fill irregular surfaces, such as found on a concrete deck. Asphalt at a lower temperature is more viscous, providing better adhesion and positive contact between the deck and the insulation surfaces and between layers of insulation.

Given the effect of temperature on asphalt viscosity, Atlas's recommendation for adhering these ACFoam® products with hot asphalt has changed in two important ways. First, the asphalt shall be applied at a temperature approximately 60° F (≈15°C) to 70°F (≈20°C) lower than the inter-ply hand mopping *EVT. Second, the temperature of the asphalt at point of contact with these ACFoam® products shall not be greater than 390° (≈200°C). The recommended maximum size of insulation boards applied in hot asphalt remains the same (4' x 4').

As a result of this bulletin, the applicator will probably need to adjust the temperature of the asphalt used for insulation attachment. Therefore, please be sure to communicate this information to your customers. Our literature and labels will reflect this change as soon as revisions can be made. In the meantime, this Technical Bulletin, which supersedes our previous recommendations on this subject, should be distributed as widely as possible.

*EVT is the temperature at which the viscosity of inter-ply hand mopping asphalt is 125 centipoise, a measure of viscosity that decreases (asphalt becomes thinner) as the temperature of the asphalt increases.