

illbruck EPDM Membranes

Application Advice for Low Temperature Conditions

Technical Update

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- Generally avoid working in temperatures below 5°C.
- Beware of frost or condensation on construction or frame surfaces.
- Store materials at 10°C minimum prior to use.
- Use Butyl & Bitumen Primer to aid bonding of the self-adhesive strips with External EPDM Film.
- For specific technical advice or site support, please contact our sales office on 0191 419 0505.

Introduction

Instructions for the application of EPDM Membranes when working in low site temperatures. This technical update is written on the basis of 'FAQ's' which hopefully covers the range of most commonly experienced problems.

Please note individual technical data sheets are available for all products listed on our website : www.tremco-illbruck.co.uk

Products

- External EPDM Film
- FF220 EPDM Membrane
- OT015 Paste Adhesive
- CT113 Contact Adhesive
- Butyl & Bitumen Primer

FAQ's

Q What is the minimum temperature at which the above two adhesives (OT015, CT113) and primer can be used?

A +5°C for the adhesives & - 5°C for the primer are the recommended min. temperatures.

Q What happens if working at lower than the minimum?

A Both adhesives will increase in viscosity at low temperatures resulting in application difficulties. OT015 is more tolerant than CT113 and may actually work successfully at around 0°C, but the condition of the construction or frame substrates must also be considered as at below 3°C, frost particles and condensation can occur which will affect the adhesion. Also, the curing of the adhesive will slow down and could actually stop during prolonged cold weather or repeated temperature cycling in the -5 to +5°C region over night/day periods. Prolonged low temperature cycling could affect actual adhesion.

Q Can the substrates be warmed up locally to aid adhesion?

A If the surface is heated to min. +5°C and this is maintained for approx 12 hours (CT113) or 36 hours (OT015), the adhesive should fully cure. This is likely to be difficult to achieve however.

Q What precautions are necessary in terms of storage?

A When using the products in cold weather, do not store at less than +10°C. Storing at higher temperatures will decrease the viscosity making application easier.

Q Can the Butyl & Bitumen Primer be used to improve the bond of the OT015?

A Yes, apply the primer and leave for 15 – 20 minutes then apply the OT015 to the primer. This would be useful on damp (not wet – dry surface with clean rags if necessary) or slightly dusty surfaces.

Q What is recommended to increase the bond strength of the butyl or acrylic self-adhesive strips on External EPDM Film in low temperature?

A Prime the substrate (window frame or construction) with Butyl & Bitumen Primer – wipe off any moisture first - and apply membrane after 15 – 20 mins. followed by rolling with seam roller.

