



## technical bulletin

**DATE:** October, 2014

**FROM:** Paul Casseri, Product Manager, Residential Roofing Products

**SUBJECT:** Cold Weather Shingle Installation Recommendations

Asphalt shingles may be successfully installed at temperatures of approximately 40F and rising. These following recommendations will assist in completing a trouble free installation under cooler weather conditions with little inconvenience to the installers.

- As with most material, Asphalt shingles tend to become less flexible in cold weather. Use precaution when handling bundles of shingles and individual shingles in cold weather as they may crack, or in severe cases, break apart. Lay the bundles out flat and individually across the roof to allow them to acclimate to the ambient air temperature and to allow the bundles/shingles to relax and flatten away from the pallet storage configuration. Shingles will lay flatter on the deck as they are nailed.
- DO NOT drape the shingles or shingle bundles across the ridge or across other bundles prior to opening and installing, especially in temps below 70 F – this may cause the shingles to “take a set” and then not lay flat when fastening.
- Allow any obviously distorted shingles to relax in the sunlight for a couple of hours, if possible, to allow them to relax and flatten out.
- Don’t crowd the shingles too tightly together end to end – let them lightly touch, or leave a slight gap of up to 1/16” to allow for natural warming and expansion and to allow the shingles to flatten further with the sun’s exposure over a few days.
- *Adjust the nail gun to set the nail head just snug to the granules, or hand nail* – don’t over-drive the nails or nail too tightly – this will also allow the cool shingles to continue to relax from the sun and to continue to flatten after the job is completed.
- Shingles installed in fall or winter and not exposed to adequate surface temperatures, or other conditions which temporarily or permanently preclude activation of the sealant, may never seal and must be hand sealed at the time of installation. It is not a manufacturing defect if shingles fail to seal under the above circumstances.
- During cold weather and severe wind, hand sealing is required using flashing cement meeting ASTM D-4586. CAN/CSA-A 123.5 -M90 requires shingles applied in Canada between September 1 and April 30 be adhered with a field applied adhesive as outlined by manufacturer.
- While StormMaster SBS asphalt modified shingles are easier to handle in cold temperatures and the shingles are much more crack resistant, the sealant materials will react and perform the same as with other standard asphalt shingles in cold conditions.
- When finishing the top of the roof, the Ridge Cap shingles are bent over the roof planes. To ensure that the shingles do not crack during installation, it is suggested to leave the Ridge Cap shingles in a warm area prior to installation.