



UNDERWRITERS LABORATORIES INC.®

555 PEINCSTEN ROAD • NORTHBROOK, ILLINOIS 60062-1096

an independent, not-for-profit organization testing for public safety

November 6, 1989

Watersaver Company, Inc.
Mr. Bernie Barr
Regional Sales Manager
P. O. Box 20939
Billings, MT 59106

Our Reference: Subject 55

Dear Mr. Barr:

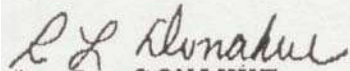
Your October 30, 1989 letter to our Ken Rhodes, regarding 3 in. thick flat Tectum roof deck covered with a 4 ply, gravel surfaced built-up roof covering, has been referred to the writer for reply.

To answer your inquiry, this 4 ply covering, if made up of UL Classified materials, would comply with all requirements of our Standard UL 790 and would be Classified as a Class A covering. Due to the wood fiber content, Tectum decks cannot comply with the literal definition of "noncombustible". However, due to their minimal combustibility, we consider them a suitable alternate to conventional noncombustible decks such as steel, concrete and poured gypsum decks.

Tectum and other structural cement-fiber units demonstrate a relatively low incidence of combustibility as evidenced by their Flame Spread rating of 15 to 20 in tests conducted under UL 723 in the Steiner tunnel. We have judged that any Classified roofing system would be considered suitable for installation over a minimum 2 in. thick Classified structural-cement fiber unit. This judgement is based on the demonstrated high degree of fire resistance of such units when exposed to Class A Burning Brand and Intermittent Flame Tests (UL 790) without the benefit of a roof covering. In such tests, the surface of the units darken in the test flame and brand impingement areas, but no flame or glowing occurs on either the exposed or unexposed faces of the units. With this performance in mind, it is felt that these units are acceptable alternates for noncombustible decks intended to be covered by Classified roofing systems.

It is hoped that the above fully responds to your inquiry. However, should you have any questions, please contact the writer.

Very truly yours,



R. L. DONAHUE
Assistant Managing Engineer
Fire Protection Department