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## TECHNICAL BULLETIN

NO.: **0811CE**  
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REPLACES: -

### Subject: Installing LASTOBOND 195 underlayment membranes in cold weather

Membrane preconditioning:

**LASTOBOND 195** membranes are composed of reinforcement coated with SBS modified bitumen. Like any membrane with reinforcement, stresses accumulate in the roll during manufacturing. These stresses must be allowed to dissipate before the membrane is installed.

To do this, all membranes with reinforcement must be fully unrolled 15 minutes prior to installation, no matter the temperature. This procedure is even more important when the work is performed at temperatures below 15°C (59°F). Failure to precondition the membrane before its installation will result in wrinkling when the membrane reheats. When asphalt shingles are installed on non-preconditioned membranes, wrinkles are liable to cause shingles to lift, which will create unaesthetic wrinkles in the shingles. Wrinkles and waves in the shingles are an indication that the underlayment membranes were not sufficiently preconditioned.

In cold weather, simply unrolling membranes does not provide sufficient preconditioning. The limitations on the product's Technical Data Sheet must therefore be followed: air, surface and membrane temperatures, must all be at least 4.5°C (40°F) during application. Failure to follow these recommendations will cause problems that shall never be considered as deficiencies in the materials used.

Furthermore, installing a roof underlayment above frozen plywood panels or particle boards may cause wrinkles at the base board joints. These wrinkles are due to the migration of humidity contained in the boards when they reheat. This effect usually occurs in new construction where membranes are installed over boards containing humidity. If this effect is noticed, repairs must be made at these locations before the shingles are installed.

**Note:** This technical bulletin was prepared by SOPREMA Inc. for architects, engineers, building owners, and contractors, as a reference guide in designing, selecting and constructing roofing, and/or waterproofing and/or air/vapour barriers utilizing SOPREMA Inc. products. SOPREMA Inc. reserves the right to change, or modify, at our discretion, without prior notice, any information, recommendations, or specifications contained in this technical bulletin.

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Adopting the following recommendations in addition to preconditioning membranes and observing temperature limitations can help prevent problems associated with inappropriate use of the product:

- Material delivered in rolls should be carefully stored in an upright position, with the selvedge side on top.
- Membranes should be properly protected from inclement weather and harmful substances and always be stored away from the sun.
- If the products are stored outside, cover them with an opaque protective cover after the packaging provided for delivery has been removed.
- When installing at a temperature close to the acceptable limit of 4.5°C (40°F), cut the rolls into smaller strips to facilitate installation and preconditioning.

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