

MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ARDEX WPM 185 MINERAL

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INTRODUCTION & SCOPE

The purpose of this bulletin is to outline the procedures recommended by Ardex Australia Pty Ltd for the maintenance of the waterproofing membrane system used on exposed roof areas to gain maximum service life.

ABOUT THE SYSTEM

ARDEX WPM185 Mineral Finish membrane is a bitumen sheet membrane capping layer normally installed over previous layer(s) of similar material. The mineral surface finish is achieved by the fusion of mineral chips into the bitumen during production and these are designed to protect the bitumen from exposure to ultra violet light. Ultra violet light will cause the unprotected bitumen to oxidise and result in pre-mature failure of the membrane system.

REGULAR MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance consists of frequent (suggested weekly) inspection of all drainage channels and outlets to ensure they are clear and free flowing to prevent water accumulating over the surface. All refuse laying on the roof surface, particularly sharp objects, should be removed to prevent damage.

Regular traffic will dislodge some of the mineral chips over time and these will tend to collect at low points in the surface. These loose chips should be removed and re-distributed over the higher points and pressed firmly into the bitumen membrane.

INCIDENT REPAIR PROCEDURE

Incident damage should be repaired as quickly as possible following the incident to avoid consequential damage and water penetrating behind the membrane.

Areas where the capping layer has been damaged should be carefully inspected to ensure the damage is restricted to the capping layer. In the event that the damage extends below the capping layer the damaged area should be referred to the local Ardex Representative for a recommendation on remedial treatment.

Areas of minor damage where the capping layer membrane is not physically holed should be heated with an LPG torch and the softened bitumen spread with a gauging trowel uniformly across the damaged area. While the bitumen remains soft and molten add mineral chips (available from Ardex) and press these firmly into the softened bitumen.

Where the capping layer has been holed, but the damage has not extended beyond the capping layer, a patch of ARDEX WPM185 Mineral should be applied using an LPG torch such that the patch extends at least 50mm beyond the damaged area.

ROUTINE PERIODIC MAINTENANCE

All surfaces should be inspected at least annually to identify areas of mechanical damage and to ensure all laps between sheets remain firmly bonded with no fractures between the sheet and the bleed material.

All surfaces should be swept (annually under normal circumstances or 6 monthly in high wind areas) to redistribute any mineral chips that have become loose. The surface should then be rolled to impress the loose chips into the bitumen.



MAJOR MAINTENANCE

Major maintenance is recommended after 20 years. The local Ardex representative should carry out an inspection to determine the most cost effective method of remediating the surface to prolong the service life.

IMPORTANT

This Technical Bulletin provides guideline information only and is not intended to be interpreted as a general specification for the application / installation of the products described. Since each project potentially differs in exposure / condition specific recommendations may vary from the information contained herein. For recommendations about specific applications / installations contact your nearest Ardex Australia Office.

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REASON FOR REVISION

Review and update

NSW 02 9851 9100, **QLD** 07 3817 6000, **VIC** 03 8339 3100, **SANT** 08 8406 2500, **WA** 08 9256 8600
New Zealand (Christchurch) 643 384 3029

Web: <http://www.ardex.com> email: technicalservices@ardexaustralia.com

