

## TECHNICAL BULLETIN – TB258

### REINFORCEMENT MATTING FOR WATERPROOF MEMBRANES

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#### INTRODUCTION & SCOPE

When installing waterproof membranes, there is use of matting for re-inforcement at places such as joints and turn ups. There a number of different types of these materials, and this bulletin concerns the use of fibreglass matting vs Deckweb.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The ARDEX waterproofing membranes, specifically the one pack materials such as ARDEX WPM001 and the Dunlop equivalent Undertile Waterproofer, were as late as the mid 00s supplied with fibre-glass mesh matting as the re-inforcement material. The rationale was that this material was easy to source and quiet robust. However over time it was found there were problems when the matting was not properly covered and embedded. Hence they were completely replaced by woven polymeric matting.

 <p>Image source <a href="https://www.neillsmaterials.co.uk">https:// www.neillsmaterials.co.uk</a></p>	
An example of chopped strand fibreglass matting	ARDEX Deckweb matting as roles of woven fabric

#### THE ISSUE

The fibreglass matting used was quite compact and close weave, and because of the high solids content of the membrane, was more difficult to wet out and fully coat with the membrane. Where this was not correctly achieved, the membrane applied to too thin, or detailing was done poorly at places such as joints, there was the potential for moisture to penetrate onto the some hydrophilic fibreglass and then wick along the strands. When this occurred water was able to in between the layers of the membrane, or even penetrate through and start a leak.

As a consequence, a superior solution was sought and all fibreglass was replaced by the woven polymer matting tape ARDEX Deckweb, which had been in use previously for a number of years. This material does not display the same problems as fibreglass mesh.

## SUMMATION

ARDEX only recommends that when a matting is required for use with products such as ARDEX WPM001, ARDEX WPM002, ARDEX WPM155R, ARDEX WPM179, Aba Waterproofer and Dunlop Undertile Waterproofing, that ARDEX Deckweb is used for this application.

There are also some special applications such as WPM155R where STB Tape is used at joints, and the ARDEX Construction Detail Tape is used for a range of specific situations.

ARDEX has no recommendations for the use of fibreglass matting with any of the liquid applied membranes.



**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 for specific applications/installations contact your nearest ARDEX Australia Office

**DISCLAIMER**

The information presented in this Technical Bulletin is to the best of our knowledge true and accurate. No warranty is implied or given as to its completeness or accuracy in describing the performance or suitability of a product for a particular application. Users are asked to check that the literature in their possession is the latest issue.

**REASON FOR REVISION**

New bulletin.

**REVIEW PERIOD**

36 months from issue

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