AEP SPAN TECHNICAL BULLETIN #15

PEEL COAT GUIDELINES AND BEST PRACTICES

This bulletin details proper jobsite storage, removal and clean-up of panels and flashings supplied with protective peel coat film.

JOBSITE STORAGE

Stored panels and flashings should be protected from exposure to moisture, sunlight and precipitation. It is recommended to store panels and flashings indoors for the utmost protection. If outdoor storage is the only means, it is recommended to store panels and flashings elevated under a water-proof tarp and tilted in such a way to not entrap moisture and facilitate drainage. Exposure to UV light and weather elements can result in excessive adhesion to the surface. The film can also degrade to the point it can no longer be peeled o .

Material with peel coat applied should not be stored for longer than 30 (thirty) days.

REMOVAL OF PEEL COAT

Protective films should be removed gradually beginning at one end peeling back at a 180° degree angle with a smooth even motion. Do not quickly jerk the protective film. Inspect for any adhesive residue once the peel coat is removed. If residue remains on the surface, follow the below cleaning guidelines.

DO NOT remove peel coat in freezing conditions. The recommended temperature range for film removal is between 40° F (16° C) and 90° F(32° C).

Example of peel coat removed in freezing conditions.

DO NOT remove peel coat if panels are wet. Panels and flashings should be moved indoors and allowed to dry before removing the protective film.

Using sunlight to warm or dry the panels and flashings could result in UV degradation of the peel coat. Heat lamps or dryers can be used to warm up or dry off panels.

Peel coat should be removed from installed panels and flashings within 24 (twenty-four) hours.

REMOVAL OF STUBBORN PEEL COAT AND RESIDUE

There are several options available that may aid in removing stubborn peel coat and/or left-over residue.

- Citrus-based hand cleaners (non-abrasive)
- Goo Gone Pro-Power Adhesive Remover
- PPG DuraPrep® Prep 400 Overspray & Graffiti Remover (For use on Dura Tech™ 5000 paint systems only)
- Water applied with portable steam cleaner

As a general rule the peel coat will be resistant to the absorption of the Goo Gone Pro-Cleaner, Citrus-based cleaner and DuraPrep Prep 400 cleaners.

- Remove a much of the film or residue as possible.
- Panels and flashings must be completely dry before applying cleaners. With the dry substrate out of direct sunlight, saturate the film backing with the selected cleaner. Keep the film saturated with repeated applications until the film swells and softens. The remover needs to wick under the edges of the film which can be aided by gently agitating the film edge with soft bristle brush.
- Once the film has softened, lift and remove with fingernail or by means of scraping with a soft, non-abrasive scraper, being careful not to scratch or damage the panel surface. It is common for only the area of film near the edge to be removed; it may take repeated cycles to remove all the film or residue. For left-over residue, saturating then wiping with a soft cloth may be sufficient.

Example of leftover adhesive residue on panel leg.

- When peel coat or residue is completely removed, a general-purpose surface cleaner may be used with a soft cloth to remove any light haze or residue that remains. Please reference Technical Bulletin #13 Cleaning Coil Coatings for approved painted surface cleaners.
- A portable steam cleaner can also be used to swell and soften the film for easier removal.

Cleaners should always be tested on a small area first. Carefully read and follow the manufacture's precautions and directions. The information provided in this technical bulletin is for general knowledge only; it is not to be considered an exact method for removal of peel coat or adhesive residue.

Care should be taken to avoid cleaners from contacting siding, windows, doors and vegetation.

Follow all local environmental guidelines for proper disposal of cleaning agents.

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