

Bituminous membranes used in jamaica essay

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For others it is the restoration of another exhausting, unending problem. Left unresolved, leaks might go beyond the “ bucket will catch it” approach.

Today I am pleased to introduce to you waterproofing membrane, an effective solution for a leaking roof. Modified bitumen waterproofing membranes were first introduced to the Jamaican market over 20 years ago, and have since become the leading waterproofing system for low-slope roofs and numerous water and damp roofing applications. Extensive researches done by two of the major suppliers, Dilled- Venezuela and Novellas- Italy have proven that deteriorating membrane is an effective solution for fixing a leaking roof.

As a Jamaican and situated in the hurricane belt as well as having a rainy season we will be faced with a leaking roof at some time in our lifetime and it is therefore imperative for us to be in the know of what works. Spectrum Systems Ltd. Supplies most of the modified bituminous membranes used in Jamaica. These products have established a unique position in the marketplace due to their superior quality, and have been specified for use on major projects island wide from the largest projects including the Barrister Resort, the main terminal building at the Gangster International Airport, the University of the West Indies complex and even the smallest residential repair. The types, composition and application process of the waterproofing membrane are vital facts that reinforces the effectiveness of waterproofing membrane. First let us look at the different types of waterproofing membranes. There are a variety of membranes in varying thickness. They can however be classified into two groups by their finishes.

There is a smooth, black finish type referred to as the plain membrane and the other is a grayish or white granular finish referred to as the sanded membrane. Both finishes come in varying thicknesses ranging from mm-mm and are supplied in rolls 4ft wide and between 26 and 32 Ft. In length.

Secondly let us look at the composition. Waterproofing membranes are a composite of modified bitumen. This means they are manufactured by impregnation of the reinforcement with the waterproofing compound based on distilled bitumen modified with Polynesia polymers of the latest generation, which gives the compound good technical characteristics.

The composite reinforcement, made of unwoven spun bond polyester in combination with fiberglass, conveys high mechanical characteristics, excellent dimensional stability and elastic performance. Shaping of sheets, straightness, dimensional and surface uniformity are accomplished by hot calendaring of the mass at hot melt fluid state. These membranes are self-protected. In the manufacturing of the plain membranes the upper surface is coated with anti-adhesive amorphous sand and the lower surface is coated with a thermo-fusible Polynesia film whilst in the sanded membrane the upper surface is coated with colored slate chips and the lower surface is coated with a thermo-fusible Polynesia film. The manufacturers guide indicates that the product does not contain any dangerous substances and can be considered as household rubbish or industrial waste when disposing. Finally we will look at the application process. Waterproofing membranes can be applied onto every substrate for example: concrete, masonry, steel, wood, insulation panel, membrane etc.

And under heavy protection. The application of the membrane must be carried out in good theater conditions and after the substrate has been adequately cleaned and prepared. After the area is primed and dried, the membrane is positioned over the substrate and heat is applied by passing the flame of the torch evenly across the burn- Off film and the lap area until the membrane bitumen begins to melt. It is then secured to the substrate after the melting begins. In particular situations where the application of heat is prohibited it can be applied using appropriate sealants and mechanical fasteners. It is particularly suitable as a top layer in multi-layer waterproofing systems and can be used n general roofing vehicles parking roof, foundations, on or under floors or ground slab, wall construction, water tanks, tunnels, as protection from acid and basic solutions are examples of the design application of this product.

The membrane has a guaranteed 15 years lifetime as part of its warranty. Ladies and gentlemen wouldn't you agree that waterproofing membrane is an effective solution for a leaking roof when we look at vital fact such as the types, composition and the application process. We can now forego the frustration of a leaking roof.

Thanks for listening.