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USACE / NAVFAC / AFCEC **UFGS-07 31 26 (August 2009)**

Preparing Activity: USACE **Nontechnical Title Revision (August 2015)**

UNIFIED FACILITIES GUIDE SPECIFICATIONS

References are in agreement with UMRL dated April 2025
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SLATE SHINGLES

08/09

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SECTION 07 31 26

SLATE SHINGLES
08/09

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NOTE: This guide specification covers the requirements for slate roofing on new construction and on historic buildings which require replacement, reinstallation, or repair of slate roofs.

Adhere to UFC 1-300-02 Unified Facilities Guide Specifications (UFGS) Format Standard when editing this guide specification or preparing new project specification sections. Edit this guide specification for project specific requirements by adding, deleting, or revising text. For bracketed items, choose applicable item(s) or insert appropriate information.

Remove information and requirements not required in respective project, whether or not brackets are present.

Comments, suggestions and recommended changes for this guide specification are welcome and should be submitted as a Criteria Change Request (CCR).

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PART 1 GENERAL

1.1 REFERENCES

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NOTE: This paragraph is used to list the publications cited in the text of the guide specification. The publications are referred to in the text by basic designation only and listed in this paragraph by organization, designation, date, and title.

Use the Reference Wizard's Check Reference feature when you add a Reference Identifier (RID) outside of the Section's Reference Article to automatically place the reference in the Reference Article. Also

use the Reference Wizard's Check Reference feature to update the issue dates.

References not used in the text will automatically be deleted from this section of the project specification when you choose to reconcile references in the publish print process.

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The publications listed below form a part of this specification to the extent referenced. The publications are referred to within the text by the basic designation only.

ASTM INTERNATIONAL (ASTM)

ASTM B370	(2022) Standard Specification for Copper Sheet and Strip for Building Construction
ASTM C406/C406M	(2022) Standard Specification for Roofing Slate
ASTM D146/D146M	(2004; E 2012; R 2012) Sampling and Testing Bitumen-Saturated Felts and Woven Fabrics for Roofing and Waterproofing
ASTM D226/D226M	(2017) Standard Specification for Asphalt-Saturated Organic Felt Used in Roofing and Waterproofing
ASTM D412	(2016; R 2021) Standard Test Methods for Vulcanized Rubber and Thermoplastic Elastomers - Tension

NATIONAL ROOFING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION (NRCA)

NRCA 3740	(2005) The NRCA Waterproofing Manual

SHEET METAL AND AIR CONDITIONING CONTRACTORS' NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (SMACNA)

SMACNA 1793	(2012) Architectural Sheet Metal Manual, 7th Edition

1.2 SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

Salvage and reuse intact and serviceable existing slate materials whenever possible. Match new slate being incorporated into existing slate roofs as closely as possible. Use slate from the same quarry or manufacturer as the original, if possible. Establish units of work, including removal of existing materials, preparation of existing surfaces and application of underlayment, nailers, and related temporary and/or permanent flashing. Lay out the progression of work and present to the Contracting Officer to prevent other trades from working on or above completed roofing. Do no store materials on roof decks in such a manner as to overstress and/or damage the deck and supporting structure. Avoid placing of loads at midspans of framing so that superimposed loads are well distributed. For vertical surfaces which project through the roof surface at a right angle to the slope of the roof, build a cricket (sometimes referred to as a saddle) into the roof to divert water away from the back of the vertical

member, as shown.

1.3 SUBMITTALS

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NOTE: Review submittal description (SD) definitions in Section 01 33 00 SUBMITTAL PROCEDURES and edit the following list, and corresponding submittal items in the text, to reflect only the submittals required for the project. The Guide Specification technical editors have classified those items that require Government approval, due to their complexity or criticality, with a "G." Generally, other submittal items can be reviewed by the Contractor's Quality Control System. Only add a "G" to an item, if the submittal is sufficiently important or complex in context of the project.

For Army projects, fill in the empty brackets following the "G" classification, with a code of up to three characters to indicate the approving authority. Codes for Army projects using the Resident Management System (RMS) are: "AE" for Architect-Engineer; "DO" for District Office (Engineering Division or other organization in the District Office); "AO" for Area Office; "RO" for Resident Office; and "PO" for Project Office. Codes following the "G" typically are not used for Navy and Air Force projects.

The "S" classification indicates submittals required as proof of compliance for sustainability Guiding Principles Validation or Third Party Certification and as described in Section 01 33 00 SUBMITTAL PROCEDURES.

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Government approval is required for submittals with a "G" or "S" classification. Submittals not having a "G" or "S" classification are for Contractor Quality Control approval. Submittals not having a "G" or "S" classification are for information only. When used, a code following the "G" classification identifies the office that will review the submittal for the Government. Submit the following in accordance with Section 01 33 00 SUBMITTAL PROCEDURES:

SD-02 Shop Drawings

Drawings; G, [_____]

SD-03 Product Data

Qualifications

SD-04 Samples

Slate

Accessories for Slate Roofs

Sealants

Underlayment Membrane

Fasteners

SD-07 Certificates

Materials

1.4 QUALITY ASSURANCE

Provide qualified workers, trained and experienced in installing slate roofing systems of this configuration, and submit documentation of 5 consecutive years of work of this type. Show familiarity with and perform work in accordance with [SMACNA 1793] [and] [NRCA 3740.] As proof of Qualifications, submit documentation showing qualifications of personnel proposed to perform the roofing work, and a list of installations made identifying when, where, and for whom the installations were made. Submit drawings showing slate installation and appearance details, flashing details, and nailing patterns for the slates.

1.5 DELIVERY, STORAGE, AND HANDLING

Deliver materials in manufacturer's unopened bundles and containers with the manufacturer's brand and name marked clearly thereon. Store shingles in accordance with manufacturer's printed instructions and roll goods on-end in an upright position. Immediately before laying, store roofing felt for 24 hours in an area maintained at a temperature not lower than 10 degrees C 50 degrees F.

1.6 PROJECT/SITE CONDITIONS

Perform slate roofing operations when existing and forecasted weather conditions permit work in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations and warranty requirements. Apply elastomeric membrane underlayment only in fair weather when air and surface temperatures are above 5 degrees C 40 degrees F. Provide temporary protection materials maintained on the site at all times for temporary roofing, flashing, and other protection when delays and/or changed weather conditions do not permit completion of each unit of work prior to the end of each working day. Remove and discard materials which have been used for temporary roofing, flashing and other protection.

1.7 WARRANTY

Furnish a warranty against defects in material and workmanship of slate roof assembly, including related metal flashing for a period of 10 years from date of final acceptance of the work. Contractor will inspect the completed project every 12 months for the first 3 years of the warranty period, at year 5 and a final inspection at year 10. Perform inspections from a remote access device such as a bucket lift or cherry picker and do not include any foot traffic on the slates.

PART 2 PRODUCTS

2.1 MATERIALS

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NOTE: Edit these paragraphs to meet project requirements.
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Submit certificates of compliance attesting that the materials meet specification requirements.

2.1.1 Slate

Provide slate conforming to ASTM C406/C406M. Slate must be Grade A, (ASTM S1), hard, dense rock, punched or drilled for two nails each. Do not use cracked slate. Exposed corners must be full. Broken corners on covered ends which sacrifice nailing strength or the laying of a watertight roof will not be allowed. Submit three representative shingles to show color range.

2.1.1.1 Standard Thickness Roofing Slate

Slate must be [[smooth texture] [rough texture]] [5 to 6 mm 3/16 to 1/4 inch thickness] [all [_____] thickness] [[_____] and [_____] intermingled thicknesses]. Slate must be the following sizes: [[_____] by [_____]] [graduated lengths] [and] [random widths].

2.1.1.2 Graduated Roof Slate

Slate must be [[smooth texture] [rough texture]] and vary in thickness from [_____] at eave to [_____] at ridge; the percentage of each thickness to be respectively [_____]. Intermingle the thicknesses intermingled in the various courses, modulating from the heavier and thicker slates in the lower courses of the roof to the thinner slates at the ridge. Provide slate in standard random widths graduated in length from [_____] at eave to [_____] at ridge, and apply with standard 75 mm 3 inch lap and exposures.

2.1.1.3 Slate Colors

Provide [unfading] [semi-weathering] slate. Color must be [in accordance with Section 09 06 00 SCHEDULES FOR FINISHES] [_____].

2.1.2 Underlayment Membrane

Cover the underlayment membrane on all surfaces with slate. Furnish membrane consisting of [asphalt-saturated felt] [or] [high strength composite self-adhering membrane]. Submit a 300 by 300 mm 1 by 1 foot section.

2.1.2.1 Roofing Felt

Provide roofing felt that is asphalt-saturated rag felt, Type II, No. 30 asphalt felt in accordance with ASTM D226/D226M.

2.1.2.2 Elastomeric Membrane Underlayment

Provide a cold applied composite self-adhering membrane of not less than 0.10 mm 0.004 inch high strength polyethylene film with slip resistant embossing, coated on one side with a thick layer of adhesive-consistency rubberized asphalt, interwound with a disposable silicone coated release sheet. Tensile strength and elongation values less than 1.7 MPa 250 psi when tested in accordance with ASTM D412 are not acceptable and do not

affect pliability when testing in accordance with ASTM D146/D146M.

2.1.2.3 Elastomeric Membrane Accessories

Provide membrane manufacturer's approved two component urethane, mastic and primer. Provide membrane manufacturer's recommended flashing, expansion joint covers, temporary UV protection and corner fillets.

2.1.3 Nails

Provide large-headed slater's solid copper nails of Number 10 or 11 gauge metal. Nails must be 3d for slates 450 mm 18 inch or less in length; use 4d nails for slates 500 mm 20 inch or longer, and use 6d nails for slates on hips and ridges. Thicker slates require longer and heavier gauge nails. Determine the proper size by adding 25 mm 1 inch to twice the thickness of the slate. Provide nails that are long enough to adequately penetrate the roof sheathing. Use ring shank nails to retain copper flashing and slate at rake edges, hips, ridges, and eaves that are prone to wind damage.

2.1.4 Flashing

Flashing must be 0.57 kg 20 ounce, light cold-rolled temper (H00) copper conforming to ASTM B370. Provide flashing in accordance with the requirements as specified in Section 07 57 13 FLASHING AND SHEET METAL.

2.1.5 Elastic Cement

Provide an approved brand of waterproof elastic slater's cement and match color as nearly as possible to the general color of the slate.

2.1.6 Acid Neutralizing Wash

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NOTE: In areas of the country where past burning of fossil fuels has caused acid staining of slate roofs and existing portions of the roof are being reused or are to remain in place, application of an acid neutralizing wash is recommended. Edit specification to meet project requirements.

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Provide non-destructive wash formulated to neutralize the effects of acid deposits resulting from the past burning of fossil fuels (particularly coal). The wash must not change the color, appearance, or life of the slate roof, copper flashing and accessories, underlayment, adhesives or the wall surfaces of the building.

2.1.7 Sealants

Where required, provide sealanta in accordance with the slate manufacturer's recommendations. Submit 237 mL 8 ounces of each type.

2.2 ACCESSORIES FOR SLATE ROOFS

2.2.1 Crickets or Saddles

Provide crickets of light rafter construction covered with sheathing, underlayment, and copper sheet metal specified in Section 07 57 13

FLASHING AND SHEET METAL. If the cricket area is large and exposed to view, slate it the same as other roof areas.

2.2.2 Snow Guards

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NOTE: Snow guards are necessary accessories for most slate roofs in sections of the country where masses of snow and ice accumulate on the roof that can slide from the roof onto lower roof surfaces and gutters. Snow guards are manufactured in various forms, and each type requires different methods of application. They may be obtained from slate distributors, quarriers of roofing slate, or manufacturers. Edit to meet project requirements.

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Provide nonferrous metal snow guards, as indicated.

PART 3 EXECUTION

3.1 PROTECTION OF ROOF SURFACES

Use equipment (such as padded ridge ladders) and techniques to prevent damage to roof as a result of foot or material traffic. Contractor is responsible for controlling breakage of new or existing slate beyond what is indicated. Wear proper shoes which will not further damage slates, and with soles which will aid in preventing falls.

3.1.1 Installation Plan

Submit a detailed installation plan for approval prior to beginning the work indicating the methods to be used to apply the slates to the roof and protect the installed slates from damage. Include a narrative description and a drawing clearly depicting the layout for work access devices such as padded roof jacks for walkways, padded chicken walk placements between walkways, and other means of protecting newly installed slates and any existing slates to remain. Provide details that clearly indicate the installation/incorporation of work access devices and the sequence of work to include these devices. Do not allow foot traffic on newly installed slates or existing slates to remain. Indicate how the work access devices will keep foot traffic off the slates at all times.

3.1.2 Inspection

Perform Contractor's quality control inspections and inspections by the Government as the Work progresses to coordinate with the installation and removal of the work access devices. Notify the Contracting Officer a minimum of 48 hours in advance of requested inspections and maintain work access devices in place to provide access to uninspected areas until final acceptance by the Government.

3.2 SLATE REMOVAL

Where work involves partial replacement or repair of roof, verify each slate for tightness and continued use. Perform testing with broad, flat-nosed, slater's pliers. Mark slates which have been identified for replacement or re-installation with a non-destructive color mark removable by solvent, rather than water, and for approval within 30 days after

Notice to Proceed. Re-fasten slates fastened with non-copper fasteners with proper copper fasteners. Submit representative samples of each fastener with identifying tags.

3.3 PREPARATION OF SURFACES

Roof deck surfaces must be smooth, clean, firm, dry, and free from loose boards, large cracks, and projecting ends that might damage the roofing. Clean oreign particles from interlocking areas to ensure proper seating and to prevent water damming. Prior to installation of slate, flash and secure vents and other projections through roofs in position, and firmly drive projecting nails home.

3.4 ROOFING FELT

Lay felt in horizontal layers with joints lapped toward eaves and at ends at least 50 mm 2 inches, and secured along laps and at ends as necessary to hold the felt in place and protect the structure until covered with the slate. Felt must be preserved unbroken, tight and whole. Lap felt at hips and ridges at least 300 mm 12 inches to form a double thickness and lap 50 mm 2 inches over the metal of valleys or built-in gutters.

3.5 ELASTOMERIC MEMBRANE UNDERLAYMENT

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NOTE: A composite self-adhering membrane will be used in areas where ice build-up (ice dams) and wind driven rains are potential problems. In such areas, underlayment installation will be detailed on the drawings. Edit these paragraphs to meet project requirements.

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3.5.1 Surface Preparation

Remove dust, dirt, loose nails or other protrusions. Priming is not required for wood or metal surfaces but is necessary on concrete or masonry surfaces.

3.5.2 Primer

Apply primer at a coverage rate of 6-9 sq. meters/L 250-350 sq. ft./gal. Spray or roll paint primer. Cover pine wood decks with minimum 6 mm 1/4 inch plywood prior to receiving membrane coverage.

3.5.3 Membrane Application

Apply membrane according to manufacturer's instructions and adhere it directly to roof deck. Cut the membrane into 3 to 4.5 meter 10 to 15 foot lengths and re-roll it. Peel back the release paper 300 to 600 mm 1 to 2 feet; align the membrane on the lower edge of the roof when the first 300 to 600 mm 1 to 2 feet are placed. Peel the release paper under the membrane from the membrane and press the membrane in place. Roll lower edges firmly with a wallpaper or hand roller. For ice dam protection, apply the membrane to reach a point above the highest expected level of ice dams; refer to drawings for extent. Overlap ends and edges a minimum of 150 mm 6 inches. Do not fold membrane onto an exposed face of the roof edge.

3.5.4 Valley and Ridge Application

Cut the membrane into 1.2 to 1.8 meter 4 to 6 foot lengths. Peel the release paper sheetand center over the valley or ridge, then drape and press in place, working from the center of the valley or ridge outward in each direction. For valleys, apply membrane starting at the low point and working upwards. Overlap all sheets a minimum of 150 mm 6 inches.

3.5.5 Vertical Membrane Flashings

Vertical wall installations must receive primer prior to the application of membrane. Apply primer at a coverage rate of 6-9 sq. meters/L 250-350 sq. ft./gal. Turn membrane up walls and dormers as indicated. Mechanically fasten vertical membrane terminations and apply a troweling of mastic as approved by the membrane manufacturer. Membrane may be folded onto the fascia, provided it will be covered by a gutter metal edge or other material.

3.5.6 Protection

Do not leave elastomeric membrane underlayment permanently exposed to sunlight. Cover membrane with exposed roofing materials as soon as possible. Patch membrane damaged due to exposure to sunlight prior to the application of final roof covering.

3.6 METAL FLASHING

Provide metal flashing as shown at intersections of vertical or projecting surfaces through the roof or against which the roof abuts, such as walls, parapets, dormers, and sides of chimneys. Install flashing in accordance with Section 07 57 13 FLASHING AND SHEET METAL.

3.7 SLATING

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NOTE: The best guide to traditional slating installation procedures is "Slate Roofs", published in 1925 by the National Slate Association. A reprint was issued in 1977 by the Vermont Structural Slate Co. The Steep Roofing Section of the National Roofing Contractors Association Roofing Manual contains a section on Slate Roofing which is essentially an abridged and edited version of the original 1925 publication.

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3.7.1 Repair and Replacement

Intermingle existing reusable slates removed from the repair area with new slates to provide a smooth visual transition between new and existing areas. Apply slating as indicated.

3.7.2 Slate Coursing

Project slate 50 mm 2 inches at the eaves and 25 mm 1 inch at gable ends, and lay in horizontal courses with 75 mm 3 inch headlap (unless otherwise indicated), and break joints with the preceding one by at least 75 mm 3 inches. Double and cant slates at the eaves or cornice line 6 mm 1/4 inch by a wooden cant strip, using same thickness slate for under-eaves at

first exposed course. Under-eave slate must be approximately 75 mm 3 inches longer than exposure of first course. Through joints from the roof surface to the underlayment are prohibited.

3.7.3 Nailing

Fasten each slate with a minimum of two copper nails of sufficient length to penetrate the roof decking at least 19 mm 3/4 inch or through the decking thickness, whichever is less. Where the underside of roof decking is exposed to view, such as in overhanging eaves, provide nails long enough to penetrate the roof decking but not so long that they may be driven through the decking. The heads of slating nails must just touch the slate and do not drive "home" or draw the slate, but leave the heads just clearing the slate so that the slate hangs on the nail. Do not puncture the sheet metal with nails in slates overlapping sheet metalwork. Exposed nails are permissible only in top courses where unavoidable, but covered with elastic cement. Lay hip slates and ridge slates in elastic cement spread thickly over unexposed surface of under courses of slate, nail securely in place and pointd with elastic cement.

3.7.4 Vertical Surfaces

Fit slate neatly around pipes, ventilators, chimneys and other vertical surfaces.

3.7.5 Hips

Lay hips to form a [fantail] [saddle] [mitered] [Boston] hip[as indicated].

3.7.6 Ridges

Lay ridges to form [comb] [saddle] [strip saddle] ridges. Pass the nails of the combing slate through the joints of the slate below. Lay the combing slate with the same exposure as the next course down. Project combing slates sloping away from the direction of the prevailing storms 25 mm 1 inch above the combing slate on the opposite side of ridge.

3.7.7 Valleys

Lay valleys to form [closed] [open] [round] valleys. Form open-type valleys with the main roof at cricket areas. The size of the cricket is largely determined by the roof condition. Unless noted otherwise, the slope of the cricket must be the same as the slope of the roof.

-- End of Section --