
USACE / NAVFAC / AFCEC

UFGS-07 55 00 (August 2009)

Change 1 - 05/14

Preparing Activity: USACE

Superseding

UFGS-07 55 00 (April 2006)

UNIFIED FACILITIES GUIDE SPECIFICATIONS

References are in agreement with UMRL dated April 2025

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SECTION 07 55 00

PROTECTED MEMBRANE ROOFING

08/09, CHG 1: 05/14

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SECTION 07 55 00

PROTECTED MEMBRANE ROOFING 08/09, CHG 1: 05/14

NOTE: This guide specification covers the requirements for protected membrane roof system.

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).

PART 1 GENERAL

NOTE: This specification covers a roofing system in which the membrane is protected by an overlay of extruded polystyrene insulation, a filter fabric, and a layer of ballast on top. The surface of overhangs must be sealed to prevent leakage of air and, therefore, uplift. For additional guidance on PMR, the designer should consult the National Roofing Contractors Association (NRCA) Roofing and Waterproofing Manual.

Roof must be constructed with a minimum slope of 1 to 48, and a maximum slope of 1 to 6. Drainage is critical as the insulation will float if submerged and not adequately ballasted. Where internal drains are not used, ice dams may occur at eaves and

scuppers. For guidance on flashings and drainage details, the designers should consult the SMACNA "Architectural Sheet Metal Manual."

Undersides of the deck, including overhangs, should be sealed when using loose-laid protected membrane to prevent wind from pressurizing the underside of the membrane.

Bituminous membranes should be flood-coated and not surfaced with aggregate. Polystyrene should not be placed in contact with asphalt.

Except where exposed drain baskets pose a safety hazard, there must be an opening in the insulation, filter fabric, and ballast above each drain basket. Pavers above hidden drains will be marked so that the drains can be inspected periodically.

Designer should require materials, products, and innovative construction methods and techniques which are environmentally sensitive, take advantage of recycling and conserve natural resources.

1.1 REFERENCES

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.

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 C29/C29M

(2023) Standard Test Method for Bulk Density ("Unit Weight") and Voids in Aggregate

ASTM C578

(2023) Standard Specification for Rigid,

	Cellular Polystyrene Thermal Insulation
ASTM C726	(2024) Standard Specification for Mineral Wool Roof Insulation Board
ASTM C1177/C1177M	(2024) Standard Specification for Glass Mat Gypsum Substrate for Use as Sheathing
ASTM C1396/C1396M	(2024) Standard Specification for Gypsum Board
ASTM D448	(2012; R 2017) Standard Classification for Sizes of Aggregate for Road and Bridge Construction
ASTM D751	(2019) Standard Test Methods for Coated Fabrics
ASTM D4751	(2020) Standard Test Method for Determining Apparent Opening Size of a Geotextile
ASTM D5034	(2009; R 2017) Standard Test Method for Breaking Strength and Elongation of Textile Fabrics (Grab Test)
FM GLOBAL (FM)	
FM APP GUIDE	(updated on-line) Approval Guide https://www.approvalguide.com/
FM P9513	(2002) Specialist Data Book Set for Roofing Contractors; contains 1-22 (2001), 1-28 (2002), 1-29 (2002), 1-28R/1-29R (1998), 1-30 (2000), 1-31 (2000), 1-32 (2000), 1-33 (2000), 1-34 (2001), 1-49 (2000), 1-52 (2000), 1-54 (2001)
SINGLE PLY ROOFING INDUSTRY (SPRI)	
SPRI RP-4	(2013) Wind Design Standard for Ballasted Single-Ply Roofing Systems
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE)	
Energy Star	(1992; R 2006) Energy Star Energy Efficiency Labeling System (FEMP)
U.S. NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION (NARA)	
PL 109-58	Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAct05)
UL SOLUTIONS (UL)	
UL 580	(2006; Reprint Apr 2024) UL Standard for Safety Tests for Uplift Resistance of Roof Assemblies
UL 790	(2022) UL Standard for Safety Test Methods

for Fire Tests of Roof Coverings

1.2 SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

1.2.1 Wind Uplift Resistance

NOTE: Design should be in accordance with SPRI RP-4. Fully adhered protected membranes have performed well in hurricane areas when ballasted as specified in SPRI RP-4. Roof deck must be adequate to support weight of ballast as dead load.

Wind uplift resistance of the complete roof assembly must be rated Class I-[60] [90] in accordance with UL 580. Wind resistance of loose-laid ballasted system must be in accordance with [FM P9513] [SPRI RP-4]. Submit drawings required for the membrane, modified to include the complete PMR assembly.

1.2.2 Pre-Roofing Conference

After approval of submittals and before performing roofing [and insulation] installation work, hold a pre-roofing conference to review the following:

- a. Drawings, specifications and submittals related to the roof work
- b. Roof system components installation
- c. Procedure for the roof manufacturer's technical representative's onsite inspection and acceptance of the roofing substrate, the name of the manufacturer's technical representatives, the frequency of the onsite visits, distribution of copies of the inspection reports from the manufacturer's technical representatives to roof manufacturer
- d. Plan for coordination of the work of the various trades involved in providing the roofing system and other components secured to the roofing
- e. Quality control plan for the roof system installation
- f. Safety requirements

Coordinate pre-roofing conference scheduling with the Contracting Officer. The conference must be attended by the Contractor, the Contracting Officer's designated personnel, and personnel directly responsible for the installation of roofing [and insulation], flashing and sheet metal work, [[mechanical][and][electrical] work], other trades interfacing with roof work , [Fire Marshall,] and representative of the roofing materials manufacturer. Before beginning roofing work, provide a copy of meeting notes and action items to all attending parties. Note action items requiring resolution prior to start of roof work.

1.3 SUBMITTALS

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.

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

Roof Assembly

SD-07 Certificates

Material and Equipment

Energy Efficiency

Qualifications

1.4 QUALITY ASSURANCE

1.4.1 Material and Equipment

Submit material supplier's or equipment manufacturer's statement that the supplied insulation, filter fabric and membrane materials meet specified requirements. Each certificate must be signed by an official authorized to certify on behalf of material supplier or product manufacturer and must identify quantity and date or dates of shipment or delivery to which the

certificates apply. Submit certificates of compliance for material and equipment, as specified.

1.4.2 Energy Efficiency

Provide products that meet or exceed the specified energy efficiency requirements of FEMP designated or Energy Star qualified products. Submit documentation certifying that product conforms to PL 109-58 by meeting or exceeding Energy Star or FEMP efficiency requirements as defined at "Energy-Efficient Products" at <http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/procurement>. Indicate Energy Efficiency Rating.

1.4.3 Qualifications

Submit documentation verifying a minimum of 2 years experience with PMR systems and certification by the PMR manufacturer as an approved Installer for the specified PMR system.

1.4.4 Fire Resistance

The completed roof system must be rated Class A as determined by UL 790 or Class I as determined by FM APP GUIDE. Indicate compliance of each component of the roofing system by the label or written certification from the manufacturer.

1.5 DELIVERY, STORAGE, AND HANDLING

Store insulation away from areas where welding is being performed or where contact with open flames is possible. Shield insulation from extended exposure to sunlight. Remove materials damaged by moisture from the site. Do not store ballast on the roof.

PART 2 PRODUCTS

NOTE: Insulation to be placed beneath the membrane
is described in Section 07 22 00 ROOF AND DECK
INSULATION.

2.1 UNDERLAYMENT

NOTE: Loose-laid membrane will not be placed
directly on concrete or other hard, potentially
rough deck.

Underlayment may be [concrete] [any insulation which is suitable for the particular membrane] [mineral fiberboard in accordance with ASTM C726][or] [gypsum board in accordance with ASTM C1396/C1396M, 16 mm 5/8 inch thick or glass mat gypsum roof board in accordance with ASTM C1177/C1177M, [6.35 mm 1/4 inch] [12.7 mm 1/2 inch] [15.87 mm 5/8 inch]].

2.2 ROOF MEMBRANE

NOTE: Specify built-up roof, EPDM, modified bitumen
roofing, or PVC roof membrane, or allow Contractor

to choose from these options. Delete each inapplicable roof membrane. When editing these paragraphs, delete aggregate surfacing, walkways, and types of insulation not used. Specify Section 07 51 13 ASPHALT BUILT-UP ROOFING when membrane is applied directly to concrete deck, and require two final bitumen flood coats, each coat providing 1.5 kg of bitumen per square meter 30 pounds per square.

Provide roof membrane in accordance with Section [07 51 13 ASPHALT BUILT-UP ROOFING] [07 53 23 ETHYLENE-PROPYLENE-DIENE-MONOMER ROOFING] [07 54 19 POLYVINYL CHLORIDE ROOFING] [or] [07 52 00 MODIFIED BITUMINOUS MEMBRANE ROOFING].

2.3 INSULATION ABOVE THE MEMBRANE

NOTE: Determine the required R-value and show the R-value at the appropriate detail on the drawings. The required R-value will never be less than that used in the Energy Budget Analysis.

Specify a vapor retarder only when required by calculations made as specified in ASTM Manual 18 "Moisture Control in Buildings" or in the CRREL-EC report "Vapor Retarders for Membrane Roofing Systems."

Insulation placed above the membrane must be extruded polystyrene, or extruded polystyrene with a mortar face. Provide manufacturer's standard insulation factory marked with the manufacturer's name or trade mark, the material specification number, the R-value at 24 degrees C 75 degrees F, and the thickness. Mark boards individually. The thermal resistance of the insulation less than the R-value shown on the drawings is not permitted. Insulation must conform to ASTM C578, Type V, VI or VII and must be intended by the manufacturer for use above a protected roof membrane. Bottom layer of insulation must provide drainage paths, mostly parallel to the slope, between insulation and membrane. Top surface of mortar-faced insulation must be 10 mm 3/8 inch thick portland cement latex mortar having minimum properties as follows: specific gravity: 2.0, compressive strength: 20.7 MPa 3000 psi and bond strength to insulation: 69 kPa 10 psi. Top layer of insulation may have ribbed top surfaces when flat-bottom pavers are used as ballast. Comply with EPA requirements in accordance with Section 01 33 29 SUSTAINABILITY REQUIREMENTS AND REPORTING.

2.4 FILTER FABRIC

Provide filter fabric that is either woven or non-woven pervious sheet of long chain polymeric filaments or yarns such as polypropylene, polyethylene, polyester, polyamide, or polyvinylidene-chloride, formed into a pattern with distinct and measurable openings. The filter fabric must provide an ASTM D4751 Apparent Opening Size (AOS) no finer than the 0.125 mm No. 120 sieve and no coarser than the 0.212 mm No. 70 sieve. Selvage or finish edges of fabric to prevent raveling. Provide fabric with a minimum weight of 102 gms/sq. m 3 oz/sq. yard and conforming to the following table:

Property	Test Procedure	Result
Tensile strength	ASTM D5034 Grab test method using 25 mm 1 inch square jaws and a travel rate of 55 mm per sec 12 inches per minute	29 kg/25 mm65 lbs/inch minimum in any principal direction
Puncture strength	ASTM D751 - Tension testing machine with ring clamp; steel ball replaced with a 8 mm 5/16 inch diameter solid steel cylinder with a hemispherical tip centered within the ring clamp	18 kg40 lbs minimum load

2.5 BALLAST

NOTE: Pavers are preferred over aggregate ballast, and a combination of pavers and ballast is preferred over aggregate only.

Determine ballast and/or paver size and quantity using SPRI RP-4 and modify paragraph BALLAST INSTALLATION accordingly. SPRI RP-4 allows crushed stone over protected membrane. Use light-colored aggregate when locally available. Small aggregate will not be used in vicinity of aircraft operations; however, rock or paver ballast may be used in such areas. Where ambient temperatures drop below freezing, avoid use of ballast or pavers that will break during freeze-thaw cycles.

Installations where this roofing system is used should be monitored; any problems or noteworthy benefits encountered in the use of this system should be brought to the attention of HQUSACE (CEMP-ET) WASH DC 20314-1000 for information and possible dissemination.

Provide ballast that is screened gravel, screened crushed stone, precast concrete pavers, or extruded polystyrene insulation with integral mortar topping. Indicate size and placement. Selected ballast exposed to sunlight must have an initial solar reflectance greater or equal to 0.65 and a solar reflectance greater or equal to 0.50 three years after installation under normal conditions.

2.5.1 Pavers

Furnish air-entrained concrete, minimum 38 mm 1-1/2 inches thick pavers having a 21 MPa 3000 psi minimum compressive strength. Use pavers that are ribbed on the bottom over smooth topped insulation and flat on the bottom over insulation with ribbed top.

2.5.2 Aggregate Ballast

Provide gravel and crushed stone conforming to ASTM D448, Size 4 and 2, with less than 2 percent that passes through a 10 mm 3/8 inch screen. Ballast must have minimum unit mass of 960 kg/cubic meter 60 pcf as determined by ASTM C29/C29M.

PART 3 EXECUTION

3.1 INSTALLATION

Install roof membrane and flashing in accordance with Sections [07 51 13 ASPHALT BUILT-UP ROOFING] [07 53 23 ETHYLENE-PROPYLENE-DIENE-MONOMER ROOFING] [07 54 19 POLYVINYL CHLORIDE ROOFING] [or] [07 52 00 MODIFIED BITUMINOUS MEMBRANE ROOFING].

3.2 FLOOD TEST

After the membrane and its flashings are installed, and before the insulation is placed above the membrane, plug the drains and flood the roof with water for 24 hours. Repair leaks before insulation is installed.

3.3 INSULATION

NOTE: Specify or indicate a 0.13 mm 4 mil
polyethylene sheet below the insulation when surface
is flood coat bitumen.

Loosely lay insulation on the membrane after the membrane is completed and flood coat (if any) is cool. When required by the manufacturer of the insulation, install a slip sheet over the membrane. Provide drainage paths between the lower surface of the insulation and the membrane. Make most of the drainage paths parallel to the slope of the roof. Unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer, stagger end joints. Joints between boards exceeding 6 mm 1/4 inch are not permitted. Install insulation within 19 mm 3/4 inch of projections and cant strips.

3.4 FILTER FABRIC INSTALLATION

Loosely lay filter fabric over insulation, smooth and free of tension and stress. Lap edges and ends a minimum of 300 mm 1 foot and extend above the ballast 50 to 75 mm 2 to 3 inches at the perimeter and penetrations. Joints parallel to perimeter will not be permitted within 1.8 meters 6 feet of the perimeter.

3.5 BALLAST INSTALLATION

Place ballast to provide a weight of 479 Pa 10 psf on the roof area, except that the weight must be 957 Pa 20 psf within 1.2 meters 4 feet of the roof perimeter. At approved intervals, weigh the placed ballast and correct to be within plus or minus 10 percent of specified weight. Install pavers where indicated. Mark pavers above hidden drains so that drains may be inspected. Surround interior roof drains with gravel or stone graded between 25 and 38 mm 1 and 1-1/2 inches to the level of ballast over insulation or to mid-height of drain bonnet, whichever is lower. During placement of aggregate ballast, cover drains and other openings to prevent inadvertent entry of ballast. Ballast buggy wheels

are not allowed on the membrane.

3.6 INSPECTION

NOTE: Where justified by the amount or criticality of the insulation and roofing involved, and similar requirements are not established for the Contractor Quality Control Organization specified elsewhere, the following INSULATION TECHNICIAN and inspection requirements may be added:

"INSULATION TECHNICIAN

A roof insulation technician responsible directly to the Contractor and experienced in the installation of roof insulation and related work must perform the inspection functions and must be on the site whenever roof insulation operations are in progress."

Establish and maintain an inspection procedure to ensure compliance of the installed roof with the contract requirements. Promptly remove work that is not in compliance with the contract and replace or correct in an approved manner. Inspection includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- a. Observation of environmental conditions; number and skill level of roofing workers; start and end time of various tasks; condition of substrate.
- b. Verification of compliance of materials before, during, and after installation, proper storage and handling of insulation.
- c. Inspection of mechanical fasteners; type, number, length, and spacing.
- d. Coordination with other materials, cants, nailers, flashings, and penetrations.
- e. Inspection of proper placement of insulation, joint orientation and laps between layers, joint widths and bearing of edges of underlayment on deck.
- f. Inspection of proper placement of pavers and amount and leveling of ballast.

Submit procedures for approval, prior to start of roofing work including a checklist of points to be observed. Document the actual inspections and furnish a copy of the documentation to the Contracting Officer at the end of each day.

-- End of Section --