TECHNICAL BULLETIN # 1005

SUBJECT: SHINGLE FIRE RATINGS OVER INSULAM / INSULVENT

DATE: May 31, 2000

Insulam and Insulvent are products that are used as nail base insulation for both retrofit and new construction. Many of these applications use shingles as the roofing material of choice although all types of roofing are acceptable over Insulam/Insulvent. During the specification of these products fire ratings of the system are typically reviewed to assure that the application of the system meets the local code requirements.

Shingles are fire tested under the protocol of ASTM E108 or UL 790 at a pitch of 5/12. The fire rating that the shingle attains at this slope determines the rating of the shingle i.e. Class A or C. This rating is for all slopes that the shingle manufacturer approves. Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) has determined through extensive testing that the application of shingles over UL Classified foam plastic that is laminated to 15/32" plywood or 7/16" Oriented Strand Board (OSB) does not effect the fire rating and the system maintains the rating of the shingle. This testing included vented and non-vented specimens.

Insulam and Insulvent both are manufactured with Insulfoam UL Classified Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) and are laminated to minimum 7/16" OSB. Underwriters Laboratories has determined that these substrates do not negatively impact the fire performance of Class A or C asphalt shingles and therefore the rating of the system would be that of the shingle.

If there are questions regarding the data presented in this document and or questions pertaining to the use of Insulfoam Insulam or Insulvent in roofing systems, please feel free to contact Insulfoam-Technical Center @1/800-469-8870.