

TECHNICAL BULLETIN: 20-02

Cold Weather Considerations for Water-Based Adhesives and Coatings

We would like to remind our customers of the shipping policy for our water-based adhesives and roof coatings during this time of year. To reduce the opportunity for water-based adhesives and coatings to freeze, we may limit when these products can be shipped or require insulated packaging to ship product. At this time of year and in the coming months, water-based adhesives and coatings cannot be exposed to temperatures at or below freezing at any time during shipping, storage, or installation. If water-based adhesives and/or coatings become frozen, the product will be visually and physically affected - even when it returns to room temperatures (75°F [23°C]), because the adhesive will separate and have residual solid formations present in the container. The adhesive will not be able to be mixed or reconstituted back to a uniform mixture. If this occurs, do not use water-based adhesive or water-based coating, and dispose of following your local and state disposal guidelines.

Keep in mind that water-based adhesives and water-based coatings become thicker during colder temperatures. This typically results in heavier applications than intended (more material used than anticipated). It will also take longer to dry in cool and high humidity conditions. This can present a shorter window of application opportunity during the workday, as dew points and/or freezing temperatures can be reached at night prior to the curing window which can adversely affect its performance.

Water-based adhesives should not be used in situations when the ambient temperature is expected to fall below the dew point* at any point during application. Typically, the situation when ambient temperature will fall below the dew point is in the cooler months of the year. As a result, IB Roof Systems may restrict shipments of water-based single ply adhesives and roof coatings from October 31 through March 15. Water-based adhesives and coatings should be stored in a dry, protected area between 50°F and 80°F (10°C and 27°C). Water-based adhesives and coatings should NOT be applied:

- At temperatures >40°F (5°C).
- At very high relative humidity (>90%) or when rain is expected.
- When the dew point* and the ambient temperature separation is not greater than 5 degrees F during time of application.
- When ambient temperatures are expected to fall below the dew point* during application and/or up to 6 hours after application.
- When temperatures are expected to fall below freezing within 48 hours of application.

When placing an order, please consult your IB Inside Sales Representative or IB Territory Sales Manager to consider the shipping conditions and location. Please visit www.ibroof.com to view the latest specifications and system requirements or contact IB Technical Services at (800) 426-1626.

*Dew point definition - the temperature below which the water vapor in a volume of humid air at a given constant barometric pressure will condense into liquid water at the same rate at which it evaporates. Condensed water is called dew when it forms on a solid surface. The dew point is a water-to-air saturation temperature.