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TECHNICAL BULLETIN No. 114

Exposure of Ram-Tough 250 Membranes to Deicing Chemicals

A question commonly asked is, "Will deicing products have any affect on Barrett's Ram-Tough 250 hot rubberized asphalt membrane?" There are a large variety of materials being sold for deicing pedestrian and vehicle traffic surfaces. Not being familiar with the make-up of each of these products, we cannot offer a simple all encompassing answer. We can however, confirm that Ram-Tough 250 membranes will withstand exposure to commonly used calcium chloride products. Caution is to be taken with liquid applied deicing agents. Some contain solvent carrying agents that can be detrimental to the assembly.

Since the installation of the Ram-Tough membrane is often in conjunction with extruded polystyrene insulation, concrete surfacing, paver systems, drainage mats, as well as other materials installed above the membrane system, consideration should be given to those materials as well. We have talked with the major suppliers of extruded polystyrene insulation and they have confirmed their product is unaffected by calcium chloride deicing agents. The same holds true for Barrett's drainage mat products. Because of the wide variety of concrete and paver systems available, if there is a concern, Barrett suggests the suppliers be contacted for their recommendations.

Greenroof Installations

If deicing is necessary for traffic surfaces adjacent to vegetated areas, care should be taken to avoid having the deicing material come into contact with the plants and growing media or select a deicing product that's vegetation friendly.

There are a variety of newer materials coming on the market which claim to be more environmentally friendly. If there is an interest in any of these products, provide us with the product literature and Material Safety Data Sheet and our Technical Services Department will review

Issued 1/12