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# TECHNICAL BULLETIN

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Relates to: 07 52 00 Modified Bituminous Membrane Roofing

## Subject: ROOF DIMENSIONS AND JOINTS

**Related Subject: N/A**

*Ref: see Technical Bulletin n°42 of the Canadian Roofing Contractors Association (CRCA) to determine the different types of joints.*

### ROOF DIMENSIONS

The maximum surface that can be done without a control joint is not limited by the mechanical properties of SOPREMA membranes. However, different types of joints, as explained below can be recommended or required, on a case-by-case basis.

### PARTITIONING JOINTS (CUT-OFFS)

Good practice demands that a roof on rigid insulation be partitioned in order to limit water propagation in the event of infiltration in the system. These joints are located at the top of the slopes and should coincide with cut-offs, that is to say at every 8,000 to 12,000 ft<sup>2</sup> considering this represents a surface a roofer can waterproof during a day, according the type of system.

### ROOF AREA DIVIDERS

Roof area dividers can be required, according to the type of system, for very large roofs with irregular forms. See to this effect the Technical Bulletin N° 42 from the Canadian Roofing Contractors Association. Note that this bulletin does not take into consideration the specific properties of SBS modified bitumen membranes (elasticity, cold bending, fatigue resistance, etc.); in fact, these are much less subject to cracking than a roof made of organic felts and oxidized bitumen. Moreover, more the system is dimensionally stable (less the materials can move or get out of shape), less the membrane will be solicited. Roofing systems without mechanical attachments whose components are adhered using hot asphalt or adhesive must have roof area dividers limiting individual roofing sections to a maximum of 15,000 sq. ft.

### EXPANSION JOINTS

They must correspond with the structural expansion joints, at the places where the structural support can move.

### SUMMARY

- Partitioning joints: *recommended* at 10,000 ft<sup>2</sup> ( $\pm$  2,000 ft<sup>2</sup>);
- Roof Area Dividers: *recommended* at 10,000 ft<sup>2</sup> for systems which the insulation is not mechanically fastened;
- Expansion joints: **required** where there is structural movement

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