



NEWS BULLETIN

Installation of Blanket Insulation using 2-3" Tabs

There are primarily two methods used to “connect” rolls of blanket insulation to one another on a metal building. Most vapor retarders, or facings, are 6” wider than the insulation they are laminated to. This extra facing may be supplied as 1-6” tab (fiberglass shifted to one side), or 2-3” tabs (fiberglass centered on the facing). This document has been prepared to address installation methods used with 2-3” tabs.

Before the roof and wall panels are applied, the insulation is rolled out against the purlins or girts. Proper installation involves placing the insulation over these framing members with enough drape to allow it to recover to its' full thickness in the central zone of the purlin or girt space. As successive rolls are installed, the insulation is butted closely together with the tabs pulled up in between the insulation. Avoiding gaps between the insulation is important for both thermal performance and condensation control. At the seam where the two rolls of insulation are joined, the tabs should be pulled outward and stapled every 8” using a plier stapler. These staples should be positioned approximately ¼” to ½” from the bottom of the faced side of the insulation. When this initial stapling is completed, fold the tab over and stapled again, in between each original staple. The tabs will now be stapled approximately every 4” assuring a tight vapor seal. Caution should be taken not to staple too close to the base of the tabs, as the staples may pull out resulting in a poor vapor seal.

Some customers purchase “Seal Tabs”. This term refers to the application of double stick to the tab for the entire length of the rolls. During the sheeting process, the release paper is removed from the tape, allowing the erector to adhere the tabs to each other.

