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TECHNICAL BULLETIN

APPLICATION OF INSULATION TAPES

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

There are certain basic guidelines for installation that apply to virtually all pressure sensitive tape products.

Surface to be adhered to must be clean and dry. Most surfaces to which Compac tapes will be applied can be cleaned with a mild solvent or cleaner. The primary exception would be ASJ, which is installed with paper exposed. It should be dry-wiped. Tape should not be installed to ASJ under very high humidity conditions. Tape must not be applied to any wet surface. NEVER USE SILICONE SPRAY IN PROXIMITY TO SURFACES TO WHICH TAPE WILL BE APPLIED.

Apply adequate pressure. Firm, rigid materials are easier to bond to. Blanket type insulations, such as duct wrap and metal building facings can present challenges. Apply as much pressure as is reasonable without damaging the insulation or equipment. We recommend the use of a plastic squeegee, which we can supply.

Use the proper tape. The correct tape for insulation applications usually is made with the same backing as the facing or vapor retarder to which it will be applied. Examples are ASJ, FSK, PSK, and metal building tapes. Aluminum foil tape is a universal type seam sealer that can be used on duct board and duct wrap where it blends in nicely, as well as on pipe insulation, if appearance is not important. We do, however, recommend FSK for duct wrap insulation, and ASJ tape for mechanical insulation with ASJ vapor retarder.

Structural support. Tapes are not intended to support significant weight, beyond that encountered in normal installation practice. With few exceptions, they are not meant to “hang” insulation. Materials and devices intended for such functions must be employed.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

For further information or to discuss specific applications, please contact our Technical Service Manager at 1-877-5COMPAC (1-877-526-6722).

Cp10-25-05