Since The NRCA Roofing and Waterproofing Manual, Fourth Edition was published in 1996, six new material standards for polymer-modified bitumen sheet products have been published by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM). These standards are as follows.


For each of these standards, except ASTM D 6298, type classifications (e.g., Type I, Type II) differentiate products covered by the same standard by the products' dimensions, masses and physical properties. In addition, grade classifications differentiate products by the products' surfacing type: Grade G designates granule surfacing and Grade S designates smooth surfacing.

Compliance with these ASTM standards typically is designated with the specific standard designation and, if applicable, specific type and grade classifications. For example, a commodity grade SBS sheet product complying with ASTM D 6164 using polyester reinforcement and granule surfacing should be designated as complying with ASTM D 6164, Type I, Grade G.

ASTM D 6298 does not include any type or grade classifications.

Designers who specify polymer-modified bitumen sheet products should reference compliance with the specific ASTM material standard appropriate for the specific bitumen modifier, reinforcement and surfacing type desired.