



BULLETIN #9

July 1981

NRCA-RIC/TIMA JOINT STATEMENT ON BLISTERING
Supersedes NRCA Bulletin #7, March 1, 1981

Roof membrane blistering between the top facer of polyurethane insulation and the built-up roofing membrane continues to be a concern to the roofing industry. The TIMA Roofing Insulation Committee plans to continue to conduct field and laboratory testing to determine the causes or contributors to blistering.

The optional procedures for roofing over polyurethane insulation outlined in interim Bulletin #7 have been shown to be effective. These procedures now represent the best current state of the art. Both NRCA and TIMA agree that the preferred method of installing insulation is in two layers. Whereas it is acknowledged that blistering clearly does not occur in all cases, in order to minimize potential blister formation between the top facer sheet of insulation and the built-up roofing membrane, NRCA-RIC/TIMA recommend that one of the two procedures outlined below be followed:

1. Over the top surface of polyurethane insulation, a thin layer of wood fiber board insulation, perlite board insulation or glass fiber board insulation should be installed, staggering the joints from the layer below. The built-up roofing membrane should then be applied as specified by the designer.
2. Over the top surface of polyurethane insulation, a venting type base ply should be installed in such a way as to allow for venting. The balance of the built-up roofing membrane should then be applied as specified by the designer.