

Press Release

**For Immediate Release
September 27, 2011**

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ASTM Revises Standard Specification for TPO Roofing Membrane

Carlisle PA – After the last balloting cycle in June 2011, revisions to ASTM D6878 “Standard Specification for Thermoplastic Polyolefin-Based Sheet Roofing” were approved. These revisions include increasing the severity of the heat aging requirements as well as increasing the minimum thickness over scrim requirement for TPO single-ply roofing membrane. These increased minimum requirements are now included in the ASTM standard designated D6878- 11a.

This new ASTM requirement for TPO heat aging represents an 800% increase over the previous standard. TPO will now be required to withstand 32 weeks at 240°F without significant changes to the membrane’s physical properties, representing the most stringent heat-aging requirement of any single-ply roofing material. This revised standard is necessary due in part to the increase in the number of buildings utilizing highly reflective vertical surfaces (HRVS). HRVS such as mirrored windows concentrate the sun’s heat and UV on adjacent buildings, causing an extreme increase in heat and UV exposure. While rare, the conditions caused by these design elements, as well as other situations that lead to increased heat and UV exposure, have been addressed by the new ASTM requirements for heat resistance.

All of Carlisle’s Sure-Weld TPO products contain the OctaGuard™ XT Weathering Package, an industry-leading combination of eight heat and UV stabilizers. OctaGuard XT has been a part of Carlisle’s TPO membrane for many years, allowing it to far exceed the new ASTM requirements for heat aging.

In addition to the new requirement for resistance to extreme heat exposure, the new ASTM standard also increases the required minimum thickness over scrim for TPO membrane. The revised standard now requires a minimum thickness over scrim of 15 mils – a 25% increase over the previous standard.

Both of these changes to the TPO standard specification help maintain TPO’s reputation as an industry leader and one of the most durable products available for low-slope roofing.

About Carlisle SynTec:

Carlisle SynTec, headquartered in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, has been manufacturing single-ply membrane roofing systems for nearly half a century. Carlisle is a business segment of Carlisle Construction Materials and has manufacturing facilities in Carlisle, Pa; Greenville, Ill.; Senatobia, Miss.; and Tooele, Utah. For more information, call 800.479.6832 or visit Carlisle’s website at www.carlisle-syntec.com.

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