

BULLETIN

Cold/Wet Weather Installation

VINYL FLOORING FOR THE ELEMENTS



COLD / WET WEATHER REQUIRES SPECIAL ATTENTION

Cold / wet weather requires special care and attention for your Tufdek® installation to maintain adhesion to the deck while ensuring waterproof integrity and pleasing aesthetics. Proper temperature and moisture levels must be obtained for your success.

THE IMPORTANT POINTS

A warm, dry substrate is critical to installation success. If you use Tufdek® I latex based adhesive, an ambient temperature of 5 C or 41 F for 24 hours prior to, during, and after installation is required. Cold wet weather (generally October to March) will cause latex based adhesives to cure at a slower rate. The slower rate of cure combined with cold damp substrates can cause wrinkling and bubbling to occur in the vinyl. Wrinkles or bubbles will predominantly happen at joints in the plywood or cracks in the concrete substrate. These wrinkles or bubbles will sometimes appear immediately after the installation is complete or can show up with the first warm weather.

Solvent based adhesive such as Tufdek® II can offer a wider range of working temperatures although it is still important to ensure a warm dry environment during installation. We recommend when using Tufdek® II adhesive you double prime the substrate to ensure consistent “grab”, and always have one side tacky or stringy to get a proper chemical bond between the two surfaces. Never attempt to bond two dry surfaces together.

TARPS USAGE

Tarpping the work area can help limit the moisture in the substrate, (due to frost, rain, snow or dew, etc) and can help you, the contractor, have more control of your work environment. You may also need to use heating devices within the tarped area to achieve a consistent warm temperature before beginning your installation. Check with your local building code officials and insurance company as to accepted methods of heating.

We encourage you to use a moisture meter to check the moisture levels in the substrate prior to beginning the installation of Tufdek® products. Often the substrate appears dry on the surface with higher moisture levels inside the substrate.

Although we can not control the weather we can control our work environment and take precautions to ensure the best possible installations year round. If you take the appropriate steps and watch the temperature and moisture levels of your work area, you will significantly increase your success for a quality job.

**If you have any questions or concerns please do not
hesitate to contact the TUFDEK Technical Support at
1-877-860-9333**

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Cold/Wet Weather Installations Agreement

Date: _____

To: _____

Re: Cold and/or Wet Weather Installations

Tufdek® Membranes:

As the construction industry continues to push forward and expand the work season, new challenges arise when dealing with exterior climate sensitive applications such as the Tufdek® adhered membrane systems (vinyl decking and vinyl roofing).

Cold and/or wet weather can have many affects on the adhesives used to adhere vinyl decking and roofing to the substrate and can cause potentially immediate and/or long-term esthetic deficiencies. Cold and/or wet substrates can cause the adhesive to experience bonding issues and can cause bubbles or wrinkles in the finished surface. Also, large swings in temperature, humidity and dew point can cause the moisture levels in the substrate to fluctuate rapidly causing the adhesives to release prior to full cure. These rapid changes can cause wrinkles to form at plywood joints where moisture attempts to escape from the substrate.

It is therefore a Tufdek® policy for the entire deck area, including the area beneath the deck, to be tarped. We also require the deck to have a moisture reading of no greater then 19% throughout the entire deck surface prior to and during installation. If the temperature is expected to be below 5 degrees Celsius or 41 degrees Fahrenheit, the tarped in area must be kept at a minimum of 5 degrees Celsius or 41 degrees Fahrenheit for a period of 24 hours prior to installation, during the installation, and 24 hours after the installation.

I understand, as the contractor or consumer, that you may want to have your project completed during poor weather. We will require you to sign off, acknowledging that these potential issues may occur and that Tufdek® and/or its dealers will not be responsible for replacement work associated with the aforementioned conditions present during the installation.

Customer Signature

Date

Contractor Signature

Date