BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, POABC

File No: 12-0016 INTERPRETATION Page 1 of 1

Interpretation Date:	February 18, 2014
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2012
Subject:	Fasteners for membrane roofs
Keywords:	fasteners, membrane roofs, horizontal surface
Building Code Reference(s):	9.26.2

Question:

- 1. Clause 9.26.2.1.(1)(i) references CGSB 37-GP-56M, "Membrane, Modified, Bituminous, Prefabricated, and Reinforced for Roofing." Are these roofing systems permitted to be fastened with fasteners such as referenced in Articles 9.26.2.2. and 9.26.2.3?
- 2. If these roofing systems can be fastened with fasteners such as referenced in Articles 9.26.2.2. and 9.26.2.3; can they be installed on minimum slope surfaces?

Interpretation:

1. Yes.

The referenced roofing systems are permitted to be fastened by nails as referenced in Article 9.26.2.2. Standard CGSB 37-GP-56M covers 3 methods of membrane installation: fully adhered, partially attached, and loosely laid. As indicated in the standard and its appendix guidelines, mechanical fastening may be used for the partially attached method and around the perimeter for loose laid systems, in accordance with the requirements of the selected systems and manufacturers' specifications.

Sentence 3.26.2.2.(4) and Article 9.26.2.3 refer only to the use of nails or staples for shingles; these references are not applicable for membrane roof systems.

2. Yes.

The referenced roofing systems are permitted to be fastened by nails as referenced in Article 9.26.2.2; however, there are minimum sloping requirements as set out in Article 9.26.1.1 and Subsection 9.26.3. Table 9.26.3.1 requires a minimum 1 in 50 slope for modified bituminous membranes. Sentence 3.26.2.2.(4) and Article 9.26.2.3 refer only to the use of nails or staples for shingles, and these references are not applicable for membrane roof systems.

R. J. Light, Committee Chair

The views expressed are the consensus of the joint committee with members representing AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, and POABC, which form the BC Building Code Interpretation Committee. The purpose of the committee is to encourage uniform province wide interpretation of the BC Building Code. These views should not be considered as the official interpretation of legislated requirements based on the BC Building Code, as final responsibility for an interpretation rests with the local *Authority Having Jurisdiction*. The views of the joint committee should not be construed as legal advice.

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