

Use Over Georgia-Pacific DensDeck® and DensDeck® Prime

DensDeck® and DensDeck Prime are fiberglass-faced gypsum roof boards manufactured by Georgia-Pacific as nonstructural thermal barriers and membrane substrates for commercial roofing applications.

GCP's self-adhered underlayments (Grace Ice & Water Shield®, Grace Ice & Water Shield® HT, Grace Ultra™, Grace Select™, Grace Roof Detail Membrane™ and Grace Basik®) may be applied to Georgia-Pacific DensDeck and DensDeck Prime. There is no chemical incompatibility. However, because of the nature of the fiberglass surface, the level of membrane adhesion may not be as high as when it is applied to a monolithic surface like plywood.

- When GCP's underlayments are applied to DensDeck, they adhere very well to the fiberglass fabric surface. However, when the adhesion is tested, the fiberglass fails cohesively. This means that part of the fiberglass remains adhered to the membrane and part of the fiberglass remains bonded to the DensDeck. The adhesive bond strength of the GCP underlayment is greater than the internal cohesive strength of the fiberglass fabric surface of the DensDeck. Therefore, the bond between the DensDeck and GCP underlayment is limited by the fiberglass fabric. This is expected to be an issue only while the membrane remains uncovered before the metal roof is installed.

It is not expected that the use of primers will significantly improve the bond strength between GCP underlayments and the fiberglass fabric surface of DensDeck.

- When GCP underlayments are applied to DensDeck Prime, they adhere well to the "treated" surface. If adhesion is marginal, the use of Perm-A-Barrier® WB Primer will improve the adhesion. Apply the primer at a rate of 250–350 ft²/gal (6–8 m²/L). Perm-A-Barrier WB Primer is slippery when wet. Allow primer to dry before walking on the DensDeck Prime substrate. Cover the membrane with the exposed roofing material as soon as possible.

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