

Handling, Installation and Maintenance

Handling: During fabrication and installation, care must be taken to eliminate hard creases which will damage the fiberglass yarns. Walking, stepping on or applying weight to any fold must be avoided. Maintaining a radius of curvature of 4 to 6 inches (100 to 150mm) in any folded area of the fabric is highly recommended.

These same precautions should be taken after the fabric panels are fabricated into larger panels. The increase in total weight of the fabricated panels should be taken into account when folding the panels for shipment to a construction site. All folds should be padded to maintain the 4 to 6 inch (100 to 150mm) radius of curvature.

The membrane must not be dragged across floors that do not have a smooth finish. The Teflon™ coating can be damaged by the rough surface, exposing fiberglass to the environment which will have an effect on the life of the finished structure.

Installation: The same care of the membrane should be taken during the installation process. Uncrating of the fabricated membrane should be done carefully to avoid any sharp surfaces as the membrane is moved from the crate to its final area for installation. These potentially rough surfaces can be found on the ground or on any steel structure over which the membrane is placed. Industry standards should be followed for tensioning the membrane into its final prestressed state.

Maintenance: The installed membrane should be examined on a scheduled basis (at least once a year). In most cases, the membrane will not need any cleaning. However, if the membrane or anything close to the membrane requires cleaning, great care should be taken in the choice of cleaners. Only pure soap products (i.e. Murphy® Oil Soap®) should be used. Any other cleaners or solvents, which contain chemicals that will reduce the surface tension of water, will damage the membrane.

* If not available in your area, contact Saint-Gobain for sourcing information.

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