#### CB S.A.

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Agrément Certificate 22/6144

Product Sheet 2

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# **COROTOP BREATHER MEMBRANES**

# FOR USE IN COLD NON-VENTILATED ROOFS

This Agrément Certificate Product Sheet<sup>(1)</sup> relates to COROTOP Breather Membranes, flexible three-layer polypropylene sheet materials for use as roof tile underlays in cold non-ventilated pitched roof systems.

(1) Hereinafter referred to as 'Certificate'.

#### **CERTIFICATION INCLUDES:**

- factors relating to compliance with Building Regulations where applicable
- factors relating to additional non-regulatory information where applicable
- independently verified technical specification
- assessment criteria and technical investigations
- design considerations
- installation guidance
- regular surveillance of production
- formal three-yearly review.

## **KEY FACTORS ASSESSED**

**Weathertightness** — as part of a complete roof, the products will resist the passage of water and wind-blown rain and dust into the interior of the building (see section 6).

**Condensation** — the products are low water vapour resistance (Type LR) underlays and can be used as part of cold non-ventilated roof systems (see section 7)

**Wind loading** — when installed on appropriately spaced battens and/or rafters, the products' physical properties are adequate to resist the wind loads imposed on the underlay. The products will reduce the wind uplift forces acting on the roof covering (see section 8).

**Strength** — the products have adequate strength to resist the loads associated with the installation of the roof (see section 9).

**Properties in relation to fire** — the products are classified as Class E in accordance with EN 13501-1 : 2018 and their use is restricted in some cases by the national Building Regulations (see section 10).

**Durability** — under the normal conditions found in a roof space, the products will have a service life comparable to a traditional roof tile underlay (see section 12).

The BBA has awarded this Certificate to the company named above for the products described herein. These products have been assessed by the BBA as being fit for their intended use provided they are installed, used and maintained as set out in this Certificate.

On behalf of the British Board of Agrément

Date of First issue: 4 July 2022 Hardy Giesler
Chief Executive Officer

The BBA is a UKAS accredited certification body – Number 113.

The schedule of the current scope of accreditation for product certification is available in pdf format via the UKAS link on the BBA website at www.bbacerts.co.uk

Readers MUST check the validity and latest issue number of this Agrément Certificate by either referring to the BBA website or contacting the BBA directly.

Any photographs are for illustrative purposes only, do not constitute advice and should not be relied upon.

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# Regulations

In the opinion of the BBA, COROTOP Breather Membranes for use in cold non-ventilated roofs, if installed, used and maintained in accordance with this Certificate, can satisfy or contribute to satisfying the relevant requirements of the following Building Regulations (the presence of a UK map indicates that the subject is related to the Building Regulations in the region or regions of the UK depicted):



# The Building Regulations 2010 (England and Wales) (as amended)

Requirement: B3(4) Internal fire spread

Comment: The products are restricted by this Requirement. See section 10.1 of this Certificate.

Requirement: B4(1) External fire spread

Comment: The products are restricted by this Requirement in some circumstances. See sections

10.1 and 10.2 of this Certificate.

Requirement: C2(b) Resistance to moisture

Comment: The products will contribute to a roof satisfying this Requirement. See section 6.1 of this

Certificate.

Requirement: C2(c) Resistance to moisture

Comment: The products will contribute to a roof to satisfy this Requirement with regard to

interstitial condensation. See section 7 of this Certificate.

Regulation: 7(1) Materials and workmanship

Comment: The products are acceptable. See section 12 and the *Installation* part of this Certificate.

# The Building (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (as amended)

Regulation: 8(1) Durability, workmanship and fitness of materials

Comment: The products can contribute to a roof satisfying this Regulation. See section 12 and the

*Installation* part of this Certificate.

Regulation: 9 Building standards applicable to construction

Standard: 2.4 Cavities

Comment: Consideration needs to be taken of the need for cavity barriers in association with the

products to satisfy this Standard with respect to clause 2.4.2  $^{(1)(2)}$ . See section 10.1 of this

Certificate.

Standard: 2.6 Spread to neighbouring buildings

Comment: The products are restricted under clauses 2.6.4<sup>(1)(2)</sup> of this Standard, in some

circumstances. See section 10.1 of this Certificate.

Standard: 2.7 Spread on external walls

Comment: The products are restricted under clause 2.7.1<sup>(1)(2)</sup> of this Standard. See sections 10.1 and

10.3 of this Certificate.

Standard: 3.10 Precipitation

Comment: The products will contribute to a roof satisfying clauses 3.10.1<sup>(1)(2)</sup> and 3.10.8<sup>(1)(2)</sup> of this

Standard. See section 6.1 of this Certificate.

Standard: 3.15 Condensation

Comment: The products can contribute to limiting the risk of interstitial condensation, with

reference to clauses  $3.15.1^{(1)(2)}$ ,  $3.15.3^{(1)(2)}$  and  $3.15.7^{(1)(2)}$ . See section 7 of this Certificate.

Standard: 7.1(a) Statement of sustainability

Comment: The products can contribute to meeting the relevant requirements of Regulation 9,

Standards 1 to 6 and therefore will contribute to a construction meeting a bronze level

of sustainability as defined in this Standard.

Regulation: 12 Building standards applicable to conversions

Comments in relation to the products under Regulation 9, Standards 1 to 6 also apply to

this Regulation, with reference to clause  $0.12.1^{(1)(2)}$  and Schedule  $6^{(1)(2)}$ .

(1) Technical Handbook (Domestic).

(2) Technical Handbook (Non-Domestic).



The products are restricted by this Regulation. See section 10.1 of this Certificate.

# Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016

Information in this Certificate may assist the client, designer (including Principal Designer) and contractor (including Principal Contractor) to address their obligations under these Regulations.

See sections: 1 Description (1.1) 10 Properties in relation to fire (10.4) and 14 General (14.2) of this

Certificate.

## **Additional Information**

## **CE** marking

Comment:

The Certificate holder has taken the responsibility of CE marking the products in accordance with harmonised European Standard BS EN 13859-1: 2014.

# **Technical Specification**

# 1 Description

1.1 COROTOP Breather Membranes for use in cold non-ventilated roofs are three-layer polypropylene composites with the nominal characteristics and available grades given in Table 1. The membranes are available with or without an integral self-adhesive tape to allow sealing of overlaps

Table 1 Nominal characteristics					
Characteristic (unit)	COROTOP Breather Membranes				
Characteristic (unit)	Light	Smart	Classic	Blue	Strong
Thickness (mm)	0.40	0.45	0.50	0.60	0.70
Mass per unit area (g·m <sup>-2</sup> )	100	120	130	140	160
Roll length (m) <sup>(1)</sup>	50	50	50	50	50
Roll width (m) <sup>(1)</sup>	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Colour					
upper	various	various	various	various	various
lower	various	various	various	various	various
Tensile strength (N per 50 mm)					
longitudinal	240	280	300	330	350
transverse	125	155	200	200	240
Elongation (%)					
longitudinal	60	70	60	60	70
transverse	70	60	100	70	70
Tear resistance (N)					
longitudinal	100	100	120	130	140
transverse	120	120	140	200	230
Watertightness					
unaged	W1	W1	W1	W1	W1
aged <sup>(2)</sup>	W1	W1	W1	W1	W1
Equivalent air layer thickness $s_d$ (m)	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020

<sup>(1)</sup> Other lengths and widths are available.

1.2 The Certificate holder recommends a suitable single-sided tape for taping the overlaps for use with the products, but these have not been assessed by the BBA and are outside the scope of this Certificate.

#### 2 Manufacture

- 2.1 The membranes are manufactured by thermally bonding two layers of non-woven polypropylene with a microporous film between the layers, to form a breathable waterproof membrane.
- 2.2 As part of the assessment and ongoing surveillance of product quality, the BBA has:
- agreed with the manufacturer the quality control procedures and product testing to be undertaken
- assessed and agreed the quality control operated over batches of incoming materials
- monitored the production process and verified that it is in accordance with the documented process
- evaluated the process for management of nonconformities
- checked that equipment has been properly tested and calibrated
- undertaken to carry out the above measures on a regular basis through a surveillance process, to verify that the specifications and quality control being operated by the manufacturer are being maintained.

## 3 Delivery and site handling

- 3.1 Rolls are delivered to site individually wrapped in polythene foil with a label bearing the product name, mass per unit area and the BBA logo incorporating the number of this Certificate.
- 3.2 The rolls should be stored flat or on end, on a clean, level surface and kept under cover.

## **Assessment and Technical Investigations**

The following is a summary of the assessment and technical investigations carried out on COROTOP Breather Membranes for use in cold non-ventilated roofs.

<sup>(2)</sup> Aged in accordance with BS EN 13859-1:2014, Annex C.

## **Design Considerations**

#### 4 Use

4.1 COROTOP Breather Membranes are satisfactory for use as permeable roof tile underlays in dwellings with non-ventilated tiled and slated pitched roofs of any conventional plan and size. Features<sup>(1)</sup> assessed comprise:

- (1) For roofs incorporating other features, or unconventional roof geometries or construction materials, the advice of the Certificate holder should be sought.
- (2) Where a room-in-roof results in part of a pitch being insulated (ie a warm roof), design and detailing of that part of the roof should comply with the relevant guidance given in Product Sheet 1 of this Certificate.
- (3) Timber sarking, Scottish practice: the membrane is laid over open jointed timber planks (nominally 150 mm wide with a 2 mm gap) and fixed with galvanized clout nails. Slates are nailed through the membrane on the sarking without battens.
- (4) Timber sarking planks, tiled roofs: counterbattens of 12 mm minimum thickness should be used to provide a drainage path beneath the tiling battens. The membrane may be laid directly over the timber planks or draped over the counterbattens.
- (5) Sheet sarking materials should not be used.
- 4.2 It is important that the designers, planners, contractors and/or installers ensure that the roof and ceiling are constructed in accordance with the Certificate holder's instructions and the information given in this Certificate.
- 4.3 The products can be installed by draping over rafters and securing with tiling battens or installed taut over rafters and secured with counterbattens and tiling battens.
- 4.4 In conventionally ventilated roof constructions, energy loss by ventilation can account for up to 25% of the total heat lost through the roof. The non-ventilated system will significantly reduce this heat loss.
- 4.5 In non-ventilated roof systems, the risk of condensation is equivalent to, or less than, that of conventionally ventilated cold roof systems (see section 7).

# 5 Practicability of installation

The products are designed to be installed by competent slaters/tilers experienced with these types of products.

## 6 Weathertightness



- 6.1 The products are classified as Class W1 in accordance with BS EN 13859-1: 2014 and will resist the passage of water, wind-blown snow and dust into the interior of a building under all conditions to be found in a roof constructed in accordance with the relevant clauses of BS 5534: 2014.
- 6.2 The products resist penetration of liquid water and consequently may be used as temporary waterproofing prior to the installation of slates or tiles. The period of such use should, however, be kept to a minimum. Further information is given in BBA Information Bulletin 2 *Permeable Roof Tile Underlay Guide to Good Site Practice*.

#### 7 Condensation



- 7.1 For design purposes, the products' water vapour resistance may be taken as not more than 0.25 MN·s·g<sup>-1</sup>, and for roofs designed in accordance with BS 5534 : 2014 or BS 5250 : 2021, they may be regarded as Type LR underlays.
- 7.2 The complete roof construction, ceiling boards to roof tiles, must be considered as a total system with regard to condensation risk. It is important that the products are laid in accordance with the Certificate holder's instructions and this Certificate to minimise the risk of condensation.
- 7.3 The risk of condensation is highest in new-build construction during the first heating period, where there is high moisture loading owing to wet trades, such as in-situ cast concrete slabs or plaster. The risk of condensation

diminishes as the building naturally dries out. See BBA Information Bulletin No 1 Roof Tile Underlays in Cold Roofs during the Drying-out Period.

- 7.4 All penetrations into and out of the roof space must be properly sealed in accordance with the Certificate holder's instructions, which include the use of the Certificate holder's recommended sealing tape. In addition, such features as vent stacks and boiler flues passing through the roof space must be sealed.
- 7.5 It is essential to minimise water vapour transfer into the loft space from the dwelling below. Appropriate measures include:
- ventilating the dwelling below, in accordance with national Building Regulations and Standards for the dispersal
  and rapid dilution of water vapour, particularly from rooms that may experience high humidity (such as kitchens,
  utility rooms and bathrooms)
- covering all water tanks in the loft space and lagging pipework
- sealing penetrations in the ceiling and making loft hatches convection-tight by using a compressible draught seal
- · ensuring that there is continuity of jointing with walls (and behind wall linings) at ceiling perimeters
- ensuring that masonry wall cavities do not interconnect with roof cavities.
- 7.6 For additional protection, the use of a vapour control layer/vapour check plasterboard can be considered.

## 8 Wind loading

8.1 Project design wind speeds for the roof in which the products are installed should be determined, and wind uplift forces calculated, , by a suitably experienced and competent individual in accordance with BS EN 1991-1-4: 2005 and its UK National Annex.

#### Unsupported

8.2 The products are satisfactory for use in unsupported systems in the Geographical Wind Zones given in Table 2, where a well-sealed ceiling, as defined in BS 9250: 2007, Clause 3.7, is present and the roof has a ridge height up to 15 m, a pitch between 12.5 and 75°, and a site altitude up to 100 m, and where topography is not significant. For all other cases, the required uplift resistance should be determined using BS 5534: 2014 and the Certificate holder's declared wind uplift resistances in Table 3.

Table 2 Zones of applicability of COROTOP underlays according to BS 5534: 2014, clause A.8, with battened laps, integral and taped laps

Product	≤ 250 mm batten gauge <sup>(1)</sup>	≤ 345 mm batten gauge	≤ 250 mm batten gauge with integral taped laps	≤ 345 mm batten gauge with Integral taped laps	≤ 345 mm batten gauge with single taped laps
COROTOP Light	Zones 1 to 5	Zone 1	Zones 1 to 5	Zones 1 to 5	Zones 1 to 5
COROTOP Smart	Zones 1 to 5	Zones 1 to 2	Zones 1 to 5	Zones 1 to 5	Zones 1 to 5
COROTOP Classic	Zones 1 to 5	Zones 1 to 5	Zones 1 to 5	Zones 1 to 5	Zones 1 to 5
COROTOP Blue	Zones 1 to 5	Zones 1 to 5	Zones 1 to 5	Zones 1 to 5	Zones 1 to 5
COROTOP Strong	Zones 1 to 5	Zones 1 to 5	Zones 1 to 5	Zones 1 to 5	Zones 1 to 5

<sup>(1)</sup> Underlays with a wind uplift resistance at a 250 mm batten gauge that satisfy the minimum design wind pressure of 820 Pa for Zone 1 are deemed to satisfy the requirements for use at 100 mm batten gauge in all Wind Zones.

Table 3 Declared wind	d uplift resistance (Pa)		batten gauge with untegral taped laps <sup>(1)(2)</sup> laps <sup>(2)</sup> - 1828		
Product	≤ 250 mm batten gauge <sup>(2)</sup>	≤ 345 mm batten gauge <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	batten gauge with integral	Integral taped	≤ 345 mm batten gauge with single taped laps <sup>(2)</sup>
COROTOP Light	1510	854	_	1828	1828
COROTOP Smart	2698	1132	_	2556	2556
COROTOP Classic	1914	1761	≤3790	1832	1887
COROTOP Blue	2698	1664	_	2691	2691
COROTOP Strong	_	1716	_	2826	2826

<sup>(1)</sup> Underlays with a wind uplift resistance at a 250 mm batten gauge that satisfy the minimum design wind pressure of 820 Pa for Zone 1 are deemed to satisfy the requirements for use at 100 mm batten gauge in all Wind Zones.

#### Supported

8.3 Timber sarking, such as square-edged butt jointed planks, are not considered to be airtight and the underlay is treated as unsupported.

# 9 Strength

The products will resist the loads associated with installation of the roof.

# 10 Properties in relation to fire



- 10.1 The products are classified as Class  $E^{(1)}$  in accordance with EN 13501-1 : 2018.
- (1) Report reference 90-21-0335-CR, issued by TSUS on 13 September 2021. Report is available from the Certificate holder upon request.



10.2 In England and Wales, the products, when used in pitches of greater than 70°, should not be used on buildings that have a storey at least 18 m above ground level and which contain: one or more dwellings, an institution, a room for residential purposes (excluding any room in a hostel, hotel or boarding house), student accommodation, care homes, sheltered housing, hospitals or dormitories in boarding schools.



10.3 In Scotland, the products, when used in pitches greater than 70°, excluding upstands, should not be used on domestic or shared residential buildings in Scotland that have a storey more than 11 m above ground level or are less than 1 m from a boundary.

- 10.4 When the products are used unsupported, there is a risk that fire can spread if they are accidentally ignited during maintenance works, eg by a roofer's or plumber's torch. As with all types of underlay, care should be taken during building and maintenance to avoid the material being ignited.
- 10.5 When the products are used with timber sarking, such as square-edged butt jointed planks, the reaction to fire will be primarily determined by the sarking.

#### 11 Maintenance

As the products are confined within a roof structure and have suitable durability (see section 12), maintenance is not required. However, any damage occurring before enclosure must be repaired (see section 17).

<sup>(2)</sup> Mean of test results.

# 12 Durability



The products will be virtually unaffected by the normal conditions found in a roof space and will have a life comparable with that of a traditional roof tile underlay, provided they are not exposed to sunlight for long periods (see section 14.4). Advice regarding exposure can be obtained from the Certificate holder.

# 13 Reuse and recyclability

The products contain polypropylene, which can be recycled.

#### Installation

## 14 General

- 14.1 COROTOP Breather Membranes for use in cold non-ventilated roofs must be installed and fixed in accordance with the Certificate holder's instructions, the provisions of this Certificate and the relevant recommendations of BS 5534: 2014, BS 8000-0: 2014 and BS 8000-6: 2013. Installation can be carried out under all conditions normal to roofing work.
- 14.2 The products have a high coefficient of friction, either wet or dry, giving a slip-resistant surface for increased safety during the installation of the tiles or slates.
- 14.3 The products are installed with the coloured or printed side uppermost and lapped to shed water out and down the slope.
- 14.4 Overlaps must be provided with the minimum dimensions given in Table 4. It is recommended that vertical joints in the membrane are avoided. Where required, any possible vertical laps should be completed carefully. The edges of both strips of the membrane should be glued together, curled up, and fixed with staples directly to the rafters.

Table 4 Minimum over	laps				
Roof pitch (°)	Horizontal	Horizontal laps (mm)			
	Not fully supported	Fully supported	<ul> <li>Vertical laps (mm)</li> </ul>		
12.5 < 15	225	150	100		
≥15	150	100	100		

14.5 Where possible, eaves guards should be used to protect the products from sunlight and to direct water into the gutter.

#### 15 Procedure

#### **Draped and loose laps**

15.1 The products can be installed as an unsupported system and fixed in the traditional method for roof tile underlays, ie draped between the rafters, with the coloured printed side uppermost.

## **Taut**

15.2 The products should be laid horizontally and must be pulled taut and not allowed to drape. Each sheet should be fixed to hold it in position prior to the counterbattens being fixed. Counterbattens (minimum thickness 25 mm) are then fixed to the rafter.

## Timber plank sarking

15.3 For fully supported roofs (traditional Scottish practice), the slates can be nailed through the products into the timber plank sarking, normally 150 mm wide with a 2 mm gap. The underlay must be fixed to the sarking board using galvanized clout nails.

15.4 For fully supported roofs (where battens are used), counterbattens of minimum thickness 12 mm should be installed either above or beneath the underlay for drainage purposes.

# 16 Finishing

- 16.1 Detailing of abutments, verges and hips must be in accordance with the Certificate holder's instructions.
- 16.2 To minimise the risk of condensation, it is important that the details stated in sections 7.3, 7.5 and 7.6 are maintained.
- 16.3 Tiling and slating must be carried out in accordance with the relevant clauses of BS 5534: 2014, BS 8000-0: 2014, BS 8000-6: 2013 and the Certificate holder's instructions, especially when using tightly jointed slates or tiles, ie where a ventilated batten space should be provided.

# 17 Repair

Damage to the products can be repaired prior to the installation of slates or tiles by replacing the damaged areas by patching and sealing correctly. Care should be taken to ensure that the watertightness of the roof is maintained.

# **Technical Investigations**

#### 18 Tests

18.1 An assessment was made of data to BS EN 13859-1: 2014 in relation to:

- dimensions
- mass per unit area
- tensile strength and elongation
- resistance to tear
- dimensional stability
- resistance to water penetration
- resistance to artificial ageing
- water vapour transmission
- reaction to fire.

18.2 Tests were carried out to determine:

- slip resistance
- resistance to streaming water
- Mullen burst strength
- resistance to wind loads

in order to assess:

- safety during installation
- performance under typical service conditions
- robustness during installation
- properties when installed.

# 19 Investigations

- 19.1 The manufacturing process was evaluated, including the methods adopted for quality control, and details were obtained of the quality and composition of the materials used.
- 19.2 Using computer modelling, cold non-ventilated roofs were analysed for risk of condensation.

# **Bibliography**

BS 5250: 2021 Management of moisture in buildings. Code of practice

BS 5534: 2014 + A2: 2018 Slating and tiling for pitched roofs and vertical cladding — Code of practice

BS 8000-0: 2014 Workmanship on construction sites – Introduction and general principles

BS 8000-6: 2013 Workmanship on building sites — Code of practice for slating and tiling of roofs and walls

BS 9250: 2007 Code of practice for design of the airtightness of ceilings in pitched roofs

BS EN 1991-1-4 : 2005 + A1 : 2010 Eurocode 1 — Actions on structures — General actions — Wind actions NA to BS EN 1991-1-4 : 2005 + A1 : 2010 UK National Annex to Eurocode 1 — Actions on structures — General actions — Wind actions

BS EN 13501-1: 2018 Fire classification of construction products and building elements — Classification using test data from reaction to fire tests

BS EN 13859-1: 2014 Flexible sheets for waterproofing — Definitions and characteristics of underlays — Underlays for discontinuous roofing

# **Conditions of Certification**

## 20 Conditions

#### 20.1 This Certificate:

- relates only to the product/system that is named and described on the front page
- is issued only to the company, firm, organisation or person named on the front page no other company, firm, organisation or person may hold or claim that this Certificate has been issued to them
- is valid only within the UK
- has to be read, considered and used as a whole document it may be misleading and will be incomplete to be selective
- is copyright of the BBA
- is subject to English Law.

20.2 Publications, documents, specifications, legislation, regulations, standards and the like referenced in this Certificate are those that were current and/or deemed relevant by the BBA at the date of issue or reissue of this Certificate.

20.3 This Certificate will remain valid for an unlimited period provided that the product/system and its manufacture and/or fabrication, including all related and relevant parts and processes thereof:

- are maintained at or above the levels which have been assessed and found to be satisfactory by the BBA
- continue to be checked as and when deemed appropriate by the BBA under arrangements that it will determine
- are reviewed by the BBA as and when it considers appropriate.

20.4 The BBA has used due skill, care and diligence in preparing this Certificate, but no warranty is provided.

20.5 In issuing this Certificate the BBA is not responsible and is excluded from any liability to any company, firm, organisation or person, for any matters arising directly or indirectly from:

- the presence or absence of any patent, intellectual property or similar rights subsisting in the product/system or any other product/system
- the right of the Certificate holder to manufacture, supply, install, maintain or market the product/system
- actual installations of the product/system, including their nature, design, methods, performance, workmanship and maintenance
- any works and constructions in which the product/system is installed, including their nature, design, methods, performance, workmanship and maintenance
- any loss or damage, including personal injury, howsoever caused by the product/system, including its manufacture, supply, installation, use, maintenance and removal
- any claims by the manufacturer relating to CE marking.

20.6 Any information relating to the manufacture, supply, installation, use, maintenance and removal of this product/system which is contained or referred to in this Certificate is the minimum required to be met when the product/system is manufactured, supplied, installed, used, maintained and removed. It does not purport in any way to restate the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, or of any other statutory, common law or other duty which may exist at the date of issue or reissue of this Certificate; nor is conformity with such information to be taken as satisfying the requirements of the 1974 Act or of any statutory, common law or other duty of care.