



Walkable Roof Deck Membrane Comparison: United States May 2007

United States approvals (as of May 1st, 2007)

Manufacturer	Membrane	ICC Evaluation	CAN/CGSB 37.54-95	ASTM E108	QC Program	Wind Uplift (engineered)
Duradek (US) Ltd.	Duradek Ultra	ESR-2151*	yes	class "A" & "C"	yes	yes
Global DEC-K-ING Systems	DEC-K-ING Roofseal	ER-5286*	CGSB-37-54M *	class "A" & "C" *	yes	

* = see comments below

ICC's website was used as a basis for membrane selection. See <http://www.icc-es.org>
Information gathered from public domain websites on or before May 1, 2007

Duradek (US) Ltd. Duradek Ultra

ICC Evaluation: Duradek Ultra is listed in section 07180 as a Traffic coating & in section 07540 as a Thermoplastic Membrane Roofing in compliance with current 1997 Uniform Building Code, 2003 International Building & Residential Codes.

Global DEC-K-ING Systems DEC-K-ING Roofseal

ICC Evaluation: DEC-K-ING Roofseal is listed as in section 07180 as a Traffic coating & in section 07530 as a Elastomeric Membrane Roofing in compliance with current 1997 Uniform Building Code, 2000 International Building & Residential Codes.

CAN/CGSB 37.54-95: CGSB - 37 - 54M is an out of date standard.

ASTM E108: class "A" is achieved on a non-combustible concrete substrate only.

Duradek is not privy to approvals & test results not posted on websites like ICC, UL, ITS etc. When specifying a Walkable Roof Deck Membrane request confirmation letters from a third party evaluation or testing company.

To view digital version with links of Techtalk 135 visit www.duradek.com and go to Techtalk #135. Most approval notes are linked to appropriate website.

Duradek - the approval testing CHAMP & still the CHAMP! dam it's hard to be humble!

Well, we're at it again. Both the United States & Canadian governments have introduced new building codes. The 2003 International Building Codes (US) & the 2005 National Building Code of Canada are now being enforced. Our Duradek Ultra membranes have been evaluated by ICC in the US & are being evaluated by CCMC in Canada to the new code requirements.

For Duradek Ultra ICC Evaluation Report see http://www.icc-es.org/reports/pdf_files/UBC/ESR-2151.pdf
For Duradek Ultra CCMC Evaluation Report see http://irc.nrcnc.gc.ca/ccmc/registry/07/481/13134_e.pdf

At Duradek we try to maintain current approval standards & have all our approvals accessible on our website for all our dealers & their customers to view. See <http://www.duradek.com/Duradek.asp>.

In this month's newsletter we have prepared a technical bulletin that addresses what Government approvals are required for walkable roof deck membranes & what approvals Duradek Ultra & our competitor's membranes have. A digital copy of this technical bulletin will be maintained on our website where there will be appropriate links to substantiate the different facts noted in the bulletin. The links are to manufacturer's website & to appropriate 3rd party testing & evaluation public domain web sites. Information is current as of May 1st, 2007.

The competitive edge – buyer beware!

To be honest, trying to review our competitors so-called approvals was a chore for us. For the average consultant it would be downright confusing.

Case in point: We were contacted by a knowledgeable site superintendent for a restoration contractor working on a project in Richmond, BC. His firm usually uses Duradek installed by a certain Vancouver based Duradek dealer, but in this case, they awarded the contract to another contractor & product because of a substantial cost saving. The contract called for a roof grade walkable membrane.

*When the site superintendent picked up a sample of the product being installed, he noticed it didn't feel as thick as 60 mil Duradek Ultra membrane. It mic'd out at or about 48 mils overall thickness. He then called Duradek to see what ammunition we could supply to help him address his situation. **We told him that we are not privy to all testing & approvals of our competitors product but as a user or specifier of a product you have the right to ask the membrane manufacturer to provide test reports or evaluations conducted on their membrane by a third party evaluation or testing company like ITS, ULC, ICC or CCMC. Either a product meets the requirements or it doesn't — period.***

In this case, the manufacturer could not provide the appropriate documentation & the membrane was removed & replaced with the appropriate membrane at the contractor's and/or manufacturer's expense. It does not seem that is an isolated case or occurrence. The same scenario is being played out on other jobs in both Vancouver & Toronto with the same manufacturer. We will keep you updated.

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