

ES Report  
Weather Watch® and StormGuard®  
ESR-1322

Product Evaluation

Updated: 8/08



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From North America's Largest Roofing Manufacturer™*

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**DIVISION: 07—THERMAL AND MOISTURE PROTECTION**  
**Section: 07305—Roofing Felt and Underlayment**

**REPORT HOLDER:**

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**EVALUATION SUBJECT:**

**WEATHER WATCH® LEAK BARRIER AND  
STORMGUARD™ LEAK BARRIER**

**1.0 EVALUATION SCOPE**

**Compliance with the following codes:**

- 2006 *International Building Code*® (IBC)
- 2006 *International Residential Code*® (IRC)

**Properties evaluated:**

- Physical properties
- Water resistance

**2.0 USES**

Weather Watch® and StormGuard® are self-adhering membranes used as alternateS to the ice dam membrane specified in Chapter 15 of the IBC and Chapter 9 of the IRC.

**3.0 DESCRIPTION**

**3.1 Weather Watch®:**

A nominally 73-mil-thick [0.073 inch (1.85 mm)], fiberglass mat-reinforced, SBS-modified bitumen membrane with mineral fines on the top surface. The membrane is backed with a release film to protect the membrane adhesive. The membrane is black in color and is produced in rolls of varying size.

**3.2 StormGuard™:**

A nominally 55-mil-thick [0.055 inch (1.39 mm)], fiberglass mat-reinforced, SBS-modified bitumen membrane with a polymeric film on the top surface. The membrane is backed with a release film to protect the membrane adhesive. The membrane is black in color and is produced in rolls of varying size.

**4.0 INSTALLATION**

Installation of the Weather Watch® and StormGuard™ membranes must comply with this report and the manufacturer's published instructions. The installation

instructions must be available at the jobsite at all times during installation. In the event of a conflict, this report governs.

Prior to application, the deck surface must be free of frost, dust and dirt, loose nails, and other protrusions. Damaged sheathing must be replaced. Installation is limited to plywood substrates. The membrane is to be applied only when the ambient air and surface temperatures are above 45°F (7.2°C) and below 120°F (48.9°C).

The membranes are cut into lengths and rerolled into 10- to 15-foot (3048 to 4572 mm) lengths for Weather Watch® and an 18-foot (5486 mm) length for StormGuard™. The release paper is peeled back approximately 2 to 3 feet (610 to 916 mm) and the membrane is aligned with the lower edge of the roof and set in place. The remainder of the membrane is applied directly to the roof deck by removing the film and firmly pressing the membrane into place. The end seams must be overlapped a minimum of 6 inches (152 mm). Edge seams must be overlapped 3 inches (76 mm). The subsequent courses of membrane are applied parallel to the eave, from the lower edge of the roof upwards in a shingle-lap manner. The membrane must be installed in sufficient courses so that it extends up the roof a minimum of 24 inches (610 mm) beyond the interior line of the exterior wall.

If the membrane becomes misaligned, the roll is to be cut and restarted. The membrane is pressed firmly into place, from the center to edge. After application, the membrane must be inspected, and any defects repaired. "Fish mouths" are slit, pressed flat, and covered with a patch of membrane of sufficient width and length to overlap each side and end of the slit a minimum of 3 inches (76 mm). Flashing around protrusions or metal drip edges must be over the membrane, to prevent water backup.

Installation of the roof covering can proceed immediately following application of the membrane. The membrane should be covered by an approved asphalt shingle roof covering within the period established by the membrane manufacturer. For reroofing applications, the same procedures apply after removal of the existing roof covering and roofing felts to expose the roof deck.

**5.0 CONDITIONS OF USE**

The GAF Material Corporation Weather Watch® and StormGuard™ membranes described in this report comply with, or are suitable alternatives to what is specified in, those codes listed in Section 1.0 of this report, subject to the following conditions:

- 5.1** Installation must comply with this report and the manufacturer's published installation instructions. In the event of a conflict, this report governs.
- 5.2** Installation is limited to use on plywood substrates on structures located in areas where nonclassified roof coverings are permitted.

- 5.3 Installation is limited to roofs with a slope of 2:12 (16.67%) or greater.
- 5.4 Installation is limited to use with roof coverings that do not involve hot asphalt or coal-tar pitch.
- 5.5 Installation is limited to use with roof coverings that are mechanically fastened through the underlayment to the sheathing or rafters.
- 5.6 Installation is limited to roofs with ventilated attic spaces complying with the requirements of the applicable code.
- 5.7 The membranes is manufactured at the GAF Materials Corporation plants located in Mount Vernon, Indiana, and North Branch, New Jersey, under a quality control program with inspections provided by Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (AA-668).

## 6.0 EVIDENCE SUBMITTED

- 6.1 Data in accordance with the ICC-ES Acceptance Criteria for Roof Underlayment for Use in Severe Climate Areas (AC48), dated October 2005 (editorially revised August 2007).
- 6.2 Data in accordance with ASTM D 1970.

## 7.0 IDENTIFICATION

The Weather Watch® and StormGuard™ membranes described in this report must be identified by a label, on the container of each roll of membrane, bearing the GAF Materials Corporation name, the product name, the manufacturing location, the evaluation report number (ESR-1322) and the name of the inspection agency (Underwriters Laboratories Inc).