2.4 REROOFING

Reroofing requires special considerations, primarily involving evaluation of the condition of the existing roof(s) and preparation.

It is the sole responsibility of the building owner and contractor to determine if the existing roof, any insulation present, and the deck are sound and undamaged. If the deck is in need of repair, this repair must be completed before the new roof application is started. Often the need for reroofing is addressed only after the existing roof has failed. A complete evaluation should be made, including: examination of core samples to determine why the existing roof failed and to evaluate the suitability of reroofing over the existing roof. It must be determined that there is not trapped moisture within the system which can damage the new roof system.

If, through the core sample or a moisture device, it is determined that the existing insulation is wet or damaged. This insulation must be replaced before the new roof membrane is applied.

In reroofing, as in new construction roofing, local code requirements must be considered. Even if the existing roof, insulation, and deck are in excellent condition, many areas restrict the number of "roofs" which a building may have applied. Additionally, it is the roofing contractor's and building owner's sole responsibility to calculate the weight of the new Dibiten roof system and to determine whether or not the structure can easily accommodate the added weight.

Further, the Dibiten warranty will not cover any damage or failure of its roofing membrane to perform properly, when installed over an unsuitable existing roof or substrate. Attempts to install a new roof over a moisture soaked or otherwise unsuitable existing roof can result in damage to the new roof system and lead to the premature failure of the system.

Once the determination has been made that the existing roof is suitable to recover, the following preparation procedures must be followed prior to the application of the Dibiten membrane.

Reroofing Preparation

It the existing roof is covered with gravel, the gravel must be removed. Any blisters or buckles should be cut and repaired using a strip of smooth surfaced Dibiten membrane. Because a certain amount of gravel is permanently embedded and cannot be removed, a minimum 1/2" thick recover board, insulation, or plywood must be installed (fastened in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and U.L. 580 and F.M 1-90 wind uplift requirements) over the existing roof. An appropriate base sheet is required over the existing roof or insulation, if the insulation is not JM DuraBoard. Dibiten membrane may be installed directly to JM DuraBoard.

When reroofing over "smooth surfaced" or mineral surfaced cap sheet roofs, an appropriate base sheet, mechanically fastened, is recommended to assure adhesion. The base sheet is also recommended as a divorcement layer between the existing roof and the Dibiten membrane.

Any blisters or buckles must be repaired before the new roof is applied. The blisters or buckles must be cut and nailed, and a strip of Dibiten membrane heat welded over the area.

In reroofing, expansion joints should be positioned as for new construction unless conditions of the existing roof indicate that additional expansion joints are necessary.

If a "ponding" (inadequate drainage) problem exists on the roof, it should be corrected through the installation of additional drains or tapered insulation.

Reroofing Terminations:

Once the preparation work is completed, application guidelines for reroofing are the same as for new roofing work. Terminations must be properly counterflashed using Dibiten smooth surfaced membrane and appropriate metal.

At the shingle roof transition, the Dibiten membrane must extend fully up under a minimum of the first three courses of shingles.

Roof Membrane Split Repairs:

Repairs of splits in existing roof membrane must be made before the reroofing process begins, as with blisters or buckles described in *Reroofing Preparation*. In the case of a split, a minimum 9" wide strip of Dibiten smooth surfaced membrane is loose laid over the split; over this a minimum 19 1/2" (half roll width) strip of Dibiten Poly/4 is heat welded applied, fully adhered, over the split area.