BLAIR RUBBER COMPANY

# *MARSEAL®* TIPS TO ADHERE BY

No lining material on the market is as forgiving or as easy to install as *MARSEAL®* membranes. However, there are many ways to insure successful installations. The first key to success is to read the directions printed in our current Standard Specification. Listed below are a few more tips on how to achieve successful applications.

## SHIPPING AND HANDLING

- Depending on quantity ordered, *MARSEAL®* membranes are packed in a corrugated paper carton or stacked on pallets and shrink-wrapped. All self-adhering *MARSEAL®* membranes (4000, 6000, 8000) have a release film applied in manufacturing which prevents the adhesive from coming in contact with the top surface of the membrane when each roll is produced.
- Be extremely careful when transporting *MARSEAL®*. The weight of the roll may loosen the tape seals at the ends of the box. Also, the roll can telescope out as it is lifted up.
- The box that the *MARSEAL®* was shipped in should be used to store the product's release film. If no boxes are available, discard film into large trash bags and put in dumpster.

## WEATHER

- When working with self-adhering *MARSEAL®* products during hot weather, it is advisable to keep the roll as cool as possible, either storing inside or in shade. Do not remove large sections of release film at once as it is very difficult to reposition the sheet once adhered in hot weather.
- When working with self-adhering *MARSEAL®* products in colder weather, the rolls should be kept as warm as possible to provide quicker bonding of the adhesive to the substrate. Where permissible, and if necessary, carefully use an open or closed flame devise to warm rolls prior to or during installation. If the substrate is to be warmed during colder weather applications, care should be taken to prevent overheating which might cause damage to the roll and the adhesive's properties. Ambient temperature should be 50° F and rising.

## APPLICATION

- For best results, utilize MRC's Design Details binder for watertight and airtight joints at directional changes, obstructions, and penetrations.
- The most efficient installation is typically achieved by installing sheets either end to end or side to side. Review specified installation procedures with MRC or your local representative. Have a chalk line handy for laying out the area and positioning of the rolls.

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- Do not apply self-adhering *MARSEAL®* products when the substrate is damp, wet, or when atmospheric conditions are such that moisture is imminent. This includes times of heavy fog, mist, dew, rain, etc. Wet or damp surfaces can cause vapor blisters in the system and will interfere with the adhesive coating forming a satisfactory bond to the substrate. If there is any question about the substrate being sufficiently dry, it is recommended that the "Plastic Sheet Test" (ASTM D 4263) be performed. Tape an 18" x 18" square of 10 mil polyethylene or other clear film to the substrate surface. If condensation appears on the underside of the film or if the substrate becomes visibly damp within 16 hours, the substrate is not dry enough to accept the self-adhered membranes. If moisture is present, repeat test after a drying period until no moisture is detected. If moisture persists, contact *MARSEAL®*.
- *MARSEAL®* will conform to, or "telegraph", the substrate to which it is going to be adhered. If gaps exist in floors, walls, pump bases or tank foundations the membrane will eventually drape itself into these cavities.
- Prime the substrate before installing *MARSEAL®*. Use *MARSEAL®* Primer #2 for best results. The primer can be applied by roller or sprayer at a rate of approximately 350-450 sq. ft. per gallon depending on the substrate texture. Normal dry time is one hour depending on the ambient temperature. The primer should be dry to the touch before any membrane is applied. Priming provides a surface that attracts the adhesive and promotes more secure bonding.
- When cutting the membrane, do not try to cut from the adhesive side. Leave the release film in place when cutting and cut from the membrane side to make cuts easier and extend knife blade use. Whenever cutting *MARSEAL®*, always cut on top of a protection board to prevent inadvertent damage to any underlying *MARSEAL®*. A hooked-blade knife available from MRC usually works best.
- Care is to be taken to place very little or no stress, or "stretch", on the *MARSEAL®* membrane during application. *MARSEAL®* membranes are elastomeric and have a "memory" of their original dimensions. Any stress or stretch imposed during application will be recovered later on as the membrane returns to its original dimensions. All *MARSEAL®* membranes should be unrolled and allowed to relax to the point of lying totally flat with no noticeable curl prior to application. The time required for this will depend on job-site weather conditions. After the membrane has relaxed, it may be loosely re-rolled for proper positioning and application.
- When installing self-adhering *MARSEAL®* membranes, after the membrane has relaxed and been loosely re-rolled as described above, properly position the roll with the release film still adhered to the adhesive coating. Once in place, fold approximately ½ the length of the membrane back upon the remaining half. Lightly score the release film and remove the release film from the half that has been folded back to expose the factory-applied adhesive. Care must be taken not to nick the backside of the membrane in the scoring process as this may cause membrane splits to appear in the future. Carefully re-lay the half with the exposed adhesive from the center back out to the end taking all precautions against trapping air under the membrane as the adhesive comes into contact with the substrate. Repeat the procedure for the other half of the membrane.
- Roll the membrane immediately after installing it. A linoleum roller or water-filled garden roller is recommended for floors, and a hand-held extension handle roller should be used for walls. Rolling the membrane will set the adhesive bond and minimize the appearance of air pockets. After following the procedures above, a few minor air pockets may remain. Unless moisture is trapped in the system, most of these will eventually dissipate.
- *MARSEAL®* membranes are watertight and provide chemical resistance. However, the adhesive backing does not provide chemical resistance. For optimal chemical protection, any exposed end laps are to be covered with a sealing strip.
- Absolute liner integrity is only achieved by the mandatory requirement to hot air weld all laps. This is accomplished by using either a hand-held welder or robotic welder that provides 1200°F temperatures. Welding must be immediately followed by rolling the seam. To obtain acceptable results, follow MRC publication on proper hot air welding techniques.

## FOLLOWING THE ABOVE "TIPS" WILL ENSURE A HIGH-QUALITY, LONG-LIFE INSTALLATION

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