



TECHNICAL BRIEF #2020-01

Installation Of Compromised Roof Tiles And The Tile Roofing Contractor's Responsibilities

There are several factors that are the responsibility of the tile roofing contractor to help reduce or eliminate the installation of compromised concrete and clay roofing tiles.

Delivery - Concrete and clay roof tiles including trim pieces are typically packaged on pallets consisting of two to three hundred pieces per pallet. These roofing tiles are handled numerous times prior to installation beginning with transportation to delivery, that can include distributor yards as interim stops for roof loading. Each time these products are handled and shipped, it is possible that surface scuffing or chipping can occur.

Chipped tiles: chipped tiles should be replaced prior to installation or set aside as they may be utilized for valley cuts, side wall installations, around penetrations or any area of the roof in which cut tiles are required. The installation of chipped tiles is the sole responsibility of the roofing contractor. For more information on chipped tiles please see TRIA Technical Brief #99-002 https://tileroofing.org/wp-content/uploads/19TRIO36_99-002-chipped-tile_d2.pdf.

Color Variations: Concrete and clay roof tiles are produced from natural materials, therefore an element of color variation within a production lot is to be expected. Most products offered by concrete and clay roof tile manufacturers consist of secondary color streaks, flashes or complimentary ranges of color. Single color roof tiles are most susceptible to variations. These are aesthetic, and not indicative of the physical performance of the tile. It is important that the roofing contractor periodically views the active installation of concrete or clay tiles roofs from the ground to ensure the color meets the expectation of the owner and reducing potential color patterning. If for any reason the color delivered is deemed to be of concern, please contact your manufacturer representative prior to installation. The installation of roof tiles in a manner that is aesthetically pleasing to the owner is the sole responsibility of the roofing contractor.

Efflorescence: Efflorescence is a temporary surface discoloration common to concrete based roofing materials. Efflorescence is superficial and in no way detrimental to the overall quality, structural integrity, or functional properties of the roof tiles. For more information on efflorescence please see TRIA Technical Brief #2014-01 https://tileroofing.org/wp-content/uploads/19TRIO36_Technical-Brief-2014-01-Efflorescence_d2.pdf

Cut Dust: The existence of cut dust on a tile roof is often mistaken for efflorescence. The primary difference is that efflorescence is natural and temporary, while cut dust is the result of saw cutting tiles on the roof. Cut dust should be removed from the roof routinely over the course of the tile roof installation. The visual impact of cut dust left on the roof tiles can be permanent as the dust may become monolithic with the surface of the tiles and cannot be removed. Cut dust may also be tracked across the roof tiles – especially when mixed with moisture. It is the responsibility of the roofing contractor to routinely remove cut dust from the roof and to ensure that roof traffic does not spread the dust across the roof. It is the sole responsibility of the roofing contractor to ensure to minimize roof traffic around and through cut dust and that cut dust is removed routinely to avoid potentially impacting the aesthetic appeal of the new tile roof.

Additional code and product requirements can be found in our most recent installation guide for concrete and clay roofing tiles. Please download a copy at <https://tileroofing.org/industry/installation-guides/>

For more information on the proper installation of concrete and clay tile roofs, please visit our website at tileroofing.org. For specific inquiries email to info@tileroofing.org.

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