

FOILSKIN® Self-Adhesive Aluminum Jacketing

What is FOILSKIN®?

FOILSKIN® is an aluminum surfaced, self-adhesive jacketing. It is constructed of a rubberized bitumen compound which has been heat bonded to glass reinforced aluminum foil.

Where is it used?

It is used as a weather resistant, vapour barrier jacketing over exterior insulated ductwork, plenums and piping.

What makes the product so desirable?

Labour savings are a big factor when compared to metal or reinforced liquid coatings. FOILSKIN® is an easily installed peel and stick product, which is immediately weather resistant upon application. There is no priming or involved preparation. Simply adhere the product directly to a FSK (Foil/Scrim/Kraft) faced insulation board, which has been mechanically fastened in place. FOILSKIN® can be applied in cooler temperatures and performs at both cold and hot service temperatures. The aluminum foil provides excellent resistance to Ultra Violet Radiation and most chemicals.

What preparation is required?

The duct, plenum or piping to be jacketed must first have all joints completely sealed so that there is no leakage.

What happens if there is air leakage in a duct system?

The FOILSKIN® jacketing, when completed, will be weather and airtight. If there is leakage in the metal ductwork, pressure will build up below the surface of the jacketing and "billowing" of the FOILSKIN® may occur. The jacketing will retain its tightness, unless there is severe duct leakage, but will appear uneven, with loss of adhesion in places. Henry Canada cannot assume responsibility for this problem.

How does the application process begin?

The initial step is to install FSK faced insulation to the plenum or piping. (Install a F.S.K. facer if the insulation is unfaced). The insulation must be mechanically fastened; using weld pins or glued on perforated pins, with washer attached. Do not depress insulation layers with fastener washer. Spacing must be according to insulation specifications. Ensure drainage from top surface by sloping insulation. The prepared surface must be clean and dry and free of all oil films or contaminants, prior to installing FOILSKIN®.

Are there application temperature restrictions?

When temperatures fall below -5°C (25°F) use a heat gun on the bitumen surface. FOILSKIN® application sounds easy. Is there anything else to watch out for? Carrying laps to the underside or even approaching upside down can result in loss of adhesion - always terminate on vertical or less than vertical. Also care must be taken to provide "relief cuts" rather than trying to stretch the membrane or it will eventually go back to flat. Ensure that you lap a minimum of 2" (50 mm) any time the membrane goes through a change in direction, otherwise there won't be enough "grab" and loss of adhesion can result.

How do you tie into metal?

Many applications require tie-ins to metal HVAC units. FOILSKIN® will adhere to metal. FOILSKIN® and/or metal interface should also be sealed with a high quality sealant.

What is the application procedure for piping?

Wrap FOILSKIN® around the pipe and overlap 3" (75 mm), so that the overlap ends at the 3 o'clock position to shed water. Line up each piece and overlap 3" (75 mm), ending in the same position. Roll FOILSKIN® well with a steel or rubber laminate roller to ensure bond.

Are there any restrictions on pipe applications?

All bituminous membranes have a service temperature restriction, above which the compound will begin to melt. FOILSKIN® service temperature range is -40°C to 60°C (-40°F to 140°F). Ensure that the surface temperature, after installation, falls within this temperature range and that hot spots are not created at the joints where there is one layer of insulation. Insulated pipe exceeding 18" (451 mm) in diameter must also be banded on 12" (305 mm) centers, when the outside diameter exceeds 18" (451 mm).

How is Foilskin® applied on ducts?

Step 1: Cut the first piece of FOILSKIN® and install on the underside of the duct, extending 4" up the sides.

Tip: FOILSKIN® is best installed by removing the release paper/film from 6" to 10" (150 mm to 250 mm) at one end. Align the piece and set exposed self-adhesive compound in place, continue to remove release paper/film, and apply hand pressure to ensure contact and avoid wrinkles. Overlap each piece 3" (75 mm) and roll with a steel or hard rubber laminate roller or apply pressure with a "plastic tape applicator", to ensure bond.

Steps 2 & 3: Install 2nd and 3rd (side) pieces, extending 4" (100 mm) on to the top surface.

Step 4: Complete the installation with a top piece and extend 4" down the vertical surface.

Step 5: FOILSKIN® must be pinned on the underside of ducts wider than 2 feet. Cover the washer with a 4" (100 mm) square of FOILSKIN®.

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