AEROFLEX

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

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Exterior Protection and Energy Codes

AEROFLEX® EPDM flexible closed cell elastomeric insulation, also known as cellular foam, is inherently UV-resistant. Unlike traditional nitrite butadiene rubber (NBR)/PVC cellular foam rubber products, EPDM will degrade from UV exposure at a slower rate over time than NBR/PVC. To optimize the performance and longevity of AEROFLEX®, the application of Aerocoat™ or Aerocoat LVOC™ (LEED® compliant) UV protective coating is recommended.

It is understandable that most building owners prefer not to incur the ongoing expense to maintain their cellular foam insulation with 2 coats of the insulation manufacturer's UV-protective coating every 3-5 years.

However, did you know that major U.S. national and state energy codes mandate solar radiation protection of all insulation, including cellular foam, for exterior applications?

ASHRAE 90.1-2019 6.3.2.I
"Insulation exposed to weather shall be suitable for outdoor service, e.g., protected by aluminum, sheet metal, painted canvas, or plastic cover. Cellular foam insulation shall be protected as above or painted with a coating that is water retardant and provides shielding from solar radiation."

IECC-2018 C403.11.3.1 Protection of piping insulation (Mandatory)
"Piping insulation exposed to the weather shall be protected from damage, including that caused by sunlight, moisture, equipment maintenance and wind, and shall provide shielding from solar radiation that can cause degradation of the material. Adhesive tape shall not be permitted."

California Title 24 - 2019 4.4.1.2.F.2
"Cellular foam insulation shall be protected as above or painted with a coating that is water retardant and provides shielding from solar radiation that can cause degradation of the material."

AEROFLEX® Aerocoat™ or Aerocoat LVOC® coating is specially formulated to protect AEROFLEX® EPDM insulation for exterior applications and meets these mandatory requirements.

To learn more about Aeroflex USA's AEROFLEX® installation system solutions, click here.

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