

CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF Sika-Trocal® MEMBRANES

Access

Sika-Trocal® waterproofing sheets are not intended to be trafficked surfaces, but will accommodate reasonable and considerate access, i.e. for occasional maintenance, footwear should be soft soled with a good robust tread pattern for grip.

Where walkways are provided, these should be used whenever possible.

To avoid personal accidents, care should be taken when walking over exposed Sika-Trocal® waterproofing sheets, particularly on slopes and in wet conditions with certain footwear. Access should not be attempted when ice or snow is lying on the roof.

When the occasional use of ladders is required from Sika-Trocal waterproofed surfaces, a 'load spreader' or a suitable sized plank of wood should be used to avoid damage to the insulation boards and/or waterproofing.

Inspections

Sharp or rough edged foreign matter such as screws, metal off cuts, broken glass etc, should be removed from the roof during the biannual inspections, which should check on the state of all edge details, noting particularly disruptions to flashings and pointing.

Vegetation

Sodium Chlorate solution can be used as a weed killer on ballasted roofs, but the solution must be rinsed off exposed surfaces of Sika-Trocal® Type S, SG or SGK as the combined influence of UV light and the solution may create a detrimental effect.

Vegetation is readily removed from exposed un-ballasted Sika-Trocal® Type S or SGK, without any need for weed killer, because the roots cannot penetrate the membrane.

Rainwater Outlets

Rainwater outlets, gullies, spouts and gutters can become blocked, and as with any type of roof waterproofing, the blockage needs to be removed to ensure the roof drainage system is able to perform as designed.

Solar Gain

Exposed surfaces of Sika-Trocal roof waterproofing are generally light grey (Sika-Trocal® Type S, SG and SGK) and therefore do not require painting to reduce solar gain. It should be noted that if colours darker than light grey have been specified they will naturally be subjected to higher solar gain.

Painting

The use of paint on the membrane surfaces is not recommended. Spots, drips and spillage of paint onto Sika-Trocal® materials are to be avoided as the solvents in paints may adversely affect the life expectancy of the sheets, as can oil, pitch, tar, bitumen, solvents and other hydrocarbon based materials.

Repairs

If, in spite of all precautions, damage does occur to the waterproofing, the sheet can be restored to its original watertight conditions simply by welding on a patch of the appropriate fresh material of the same type. The patch must have rounded corners and be larger than the damaged area by at least 50mm in each direction. Water that has entered through the damaged area should be removed; residual dampness will in most instances be able to be 'breathed out' from under the waterproofing. Note that bituminous materials are not compatible with the Sika-Trocal® membrane and are not therefore suitable for effecting repairs. All repairs must be carried out by Sika-Trocal® Licensed Contractors.

The surfaces to be welded must be clean and dry. Contamination can generally be removed with warm soapy water. Very stubborn soiling can require the sparing use of Sika-Trocal® L100 cleaner.

Alterations

The addition of new or replacement items of roof furniture, roof lights, services equipment, extractor fans, cables to cameras and satellite dishes, etc that will necessitate connection to, penetration of, or alterations to, the existing Sika-Trocal waterproofing must be executed by a Sika-Trocal Licensed Contractor in accordance with the Sika-Trocal® Technical Manual.

Cleaning

It is possible to clean the surface of the roof membrane if required by using water mixed with a little washing up liquid and the use of a large headed soft broom. The roof can be rinsed afterwards with a hose running at normal domestic pressure. High-pressure washers and fire hoses are not to be used.

Note that the use of soapy water will make the membrane more slippery.

Sika-Trocal® Liquid Detailing System

Additional top coat of the Sika-Trocal® Liquid Applied Detailing System can be installed to prolong the life. Such work must be undertaken by a suitably trained Sika-Trocal® Licensed Contractor and correct preparation of the surfaces to receive the coating, is essential.

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