BRANZ Appraised
Appraisal No. 884 [2020]

FIBERTITE ROOFING SYSTEMS

Appraisal No. 884 (2020)

This Appraisal replaces BRANZ Appraisal No. 884 (2015)

BRANZ Appraisals

Technical Assessments of products for building and construction.

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Product

1.1 FiberTite Roofing Systems are fully bonded, ketone ethylene ester (KEE) based waterproofing membranes for roofs and decks.

Scope

2.1 FiberTite Roofing Systems have been appraised as roof and deck waterproofing membranes on buildings within the following scope:

- the scope limitations of NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraph 1.1; or,
- the scope of limitations of NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraph 1.1 with regards to building height and floor plan area when subject to specific structural design; and,
- with substrates of plywood or suspended concrete slab; and,
- with minimum falls for roofs of 1:30 and decks of 1:40; and,
- with deck size limited to 40 m^2; and,
- situated in NZS 3604 Wind Zones, up to, and including Extra High.

2.2 FiberTite Roofing Systems have also been appraised as roof and deck waterproofing membranes on buildings within the following scope:

- subject to specific structural and weathertightness design and,
- with substrates of plywood or suspended concrete slab; and,
- situated in specific design wind pressures up to a maximum design differential ultimate limit state (ULS) of 6 kPa; and,
- with the weathertightness design of junctions for each specific structure being the responsibility of the building designer.

2.3 Roofs and decks waterproofed with FiberTite Roofing Systems must be designed and constructed in accordance with the following limitations:

- nominally flat or pitched roofs and decks constructed to drain water to gutters and drainage outlets complying with the NZBC; and,
- with no steps within the deck level, no integral roof gardens and no downpipes directly discharging to the deck; and,
- with the deck membranes continually protected from physical damage by a pedestal protection system.

2.4 The design and construction of the substrate and movement and control joints is specific to each building, and therefore is the responsibility of the building designer and building contractor and is outside the scope of this Appraisal.

2.5 The membranes must be installed by Rooflogic approved applicators.

Building Regulations

New Zealand Building Code (NZBC)

3.1 **In the opinion of BRANZ, FiberTite Roofing Systems, if designed, used, installed and maintained in accordance with the statements and conditions of this Appraisal, will meet the following provisions of the NZBC:**

Clause B2 DURABILITY: Performance B2.3.1 (b), 15 years. FiberTite Roofing Systems meet this requirement. See Paragraphs 10.1 and 10.2.

Clause E2 EXTERNAL MOISTURE: Performance E2.3.1 and E2.3.2. FiberTite Roofing Systems meet these requirements. See Paragraphs 13.1 - 13.9.

Clause F2 HAZARDOUS BUILDING MATERIALS: Performance F2.3.1. FiberTite Roofing Systems meet this requirement and will not present a health hazard to people.

Technical Specification

4.1 Materials supplied by Seaman Corporation are as follows:

- **36 mil FiberTite** - is a ketone ethylene ester based membrane, reinforced with 840 x 1,000 denier weft reinforced polyester knit fabric. It is supplied as a 0.91 mm thick light grey sheet membrane in rolls either 1.88 m or 2.54 m wide and 30.48 m long.
- **36 mil FiberTite-FB** - is a ketone ethylene ester based membrane, reinforced with 840 x 1,000 denier weft reinforced polyester knit fabric and has a non-woven polyester felt heat bonded to the underside. It is supplied as a 0.91 mm thick light grey sheet membrane in rolls either 1.88 m or 2.54 m wide and 30.48 m long.
- **45 mil FiberTite** - is a ketone ethylene ester based membrane, reinforced with 840 x 1,000 denier weft reinforced polyester knit fabric. It is supplied as a 1.14 mm thick light grey sheet membrane in rolls either 1.88 m or 2.54 m wide and 30.48 m long.
- **45 mil FiberTite-SM** - is a ketone ethylene ester based membrane, reinforced with 840 x 1,000 denier weft reinforced polyester knit fabric. The underside of the membrane has a slightly modified version of the KEE compound. It is supplied as a 1.14 mm thick, light grey sheet membrane in rolls either 1.88 m or 2.54 m wide and 30.48 m long.
- **45 mil FiberTite-SM-FB** - is a ketone ethylene ester based membrane, reinforced with 840 x 1,000 denier weft reinforced polyester knit fabric. The underside has a slightly modified version of the KEE compound and a heat bonded non-woven polyester felt. It is supplied as a 1.14 mm thick light grey sheet membrane in rolls either 1.88 m or 2.54 m wide and 30.48 m long.
- **FTR 101** - is a general purpose, single component, moisture curing polyether sealant. It is coloured white and supplied in 330 ml cartridges.
- **FTR 190e** - is a low VOC solvent borne contact adhesive for bonding the non-fleece back FiberTite membranes. It is an amber colour and supplied in 5US Gallon pails (18.9 lt).
- **FTR 490** - is a high performance, polymeric water borne adhesive for bonding the FiberTite fleece back membranes. It is coloured white and supplied in 5US Gallon pails (18.9 lt).
- **FiberTite CR-20 Polyurethane Foam Adhesive** - is a 3M™ polyurethane foam insulation and fleece back membrane adhesive. It is a two component adhesive.
- **FiberClad Coated Metal** - is a heat weldable, polymeric coated sheet metal flashing used with all FiberTite Roofing Systems. It is supplied as 1.2 m x 3.0 m sheet, 0.50 mm thick.
- **Flashing Accessories** - are pre-moulded and sheet form, non-reinforced accessories to be used with the FiberTite Roofing Systems.
- **Fixing Accessories** - a range of washers and fasteners for the various application of FiberTite Roofing Systems.

Handling and Storage

5.1 Handling and storage of all materials whether on or off site is under the control of the Rooflogic approved applicators. Dry storage must be provided for all products and the rolls of membrane must be stored in an upright position.

Technical Literature

6.1 Refer to the Appraisals listing on the BRANZ website for details of the current Technical Literature for the FiberTite Roofing Systems. The Technical Literature must be read in conjunction with this Appraisal. All aspects of design, use, installation and maintenance contained in the Technical Literature and within the scope of this Appraisal must be followed.

Design Information

General

7.1 FiberTite Roofing Systems are fully bonded, single layer systems for use on roofs, decks, gutters and parapets. There are five membranes available, refer to Paragraph 4.1 for options. They are used where an impervious waterproof membrane is required to prevent damage to building elements and adjoining areas. The products can be used on new or existing buildings. Rooflogic should be consulted as to the suitability of any existing substrates prior to using FiberTite Roofing Systems.

7.2 The effective control of internal moisture must be considered at the design stage due to the impermeability of the membranes. Refer to BRANZ publication "Good Practice Guide - Membrane Roofing".

7.3 All the systems require a pedestal protection system for when anything other than irregular maintenance foot traffic is expected. Rooflogic should be consulted for the best system to meet the design requirements.

Structure

8.1 FiberTite Roofing Systems as fully bonded single layer systems are suitable for use in areas subject to maximum wind pressures of 6 kPa Ultimate Limit State.

Substrates

Plywood

9.1 Plywood must be treated to H3 (CCA treated). LOSP treated plywood must not be used. Plywood must comply with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraphs 8.5.3 and 8.5.5. Where specific design is used (i.e. outside the scope of NZBC E2/AS1) the plywood thickness and fixing size may increase and centres may decrease to meet specific wind loadings. Timber framing must comply with NZS 3604, or where specific engineering design is used, the framing shall be of at least equivalent stiffness to the framing provisions of NZS 3604, or comply with the serviceability criteria of AS/NZS 1170. In all cases, framing must be provided so that the maximum span of the substrate as specified by the substrate manufacturer is met and all sheet edges are fully supported.

Concrete

9.2 Concrete substrates must be to a specific engineering design meeting the requirements of the NZBC, such as concrete construction to NZS 3101.

Existing Construction

9.3 A thorough inspection of the substrate must be made to ensure it is in fit condition and does not contain any materials that will adversely affect the performance of the membrane.

9.4 Repairs must be undertaken, where applicable, to ensure the substrate is sound, the joints are sealed, and the flashings are sound. Plywood substrates must be checked for screw fixings, and if necessary refixed as for new plywood.

Durability

Serviceable Life

10.1 FiberTite Roofing Systems are expected to have a minimum durability of at least 15 years, with an expected serviceable life of 25 years, provided they are designed, used, installed and maintained in accordance with this Appraisal and the Technical Literature.

Chemical Resistance

10.2 Industrial air pollutants and windborne salt deposits should not significantly affect the durability of the membranes. However, the long term properties of the material may be affected by contact with low molecular weight petroleum distillates.

Maintenance

11.1 The membrane roof and deck systems must be regularly (at least annually) checked for damage, rubbish and debris. Damage, such as small punctures and tears must be repaired as recommended by Rooflogic.

11.2 Special care must be taken when inspecting the membrane roof systems to ensure the continuing prevention of moisture ingress, and repairs must be undertaken where required.

11.3 Drainage outlets must be maintained to operate effectively.

Prevention of Fire Occurring

12.1 Separation or protection must be provided to FiberTite Roofing Systems from heat sources such as fire places, heating appliances, flues and chimneys. Part 7 of NZBC Acceptable Solutions C/AS1, C/AS2 and NZBC Verification Method C/VM1 provide methods for separation and protection of combustible materials from heat sources.

External Moisture

13.1 Roofs and decks must be designed and constructed to shed precipitated moisture. They must also take account of snowfalls in snow prone areas. A means of meeting code compliance with NZBC Clause E2.3.1 is given by the Technical Literature which aligns with details in NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1.

13.2 When installed in accordance with this Appraisal and the Technical Literature, FiberTite Roofing Systems will prevent the penetration of water and will therefore meet code compliance with Clause E2.3.2. The membranes are impervious to water and will give a weathertight roof.

13.3 Roof and deck falls must be built into the substrate.

13.4 The minimum fall to roofs is 1 in 30, decks 1 in 40 and gutters is 1 in 100. All falls must slope to an outlet. Inadequate falls will allow moisture to collect and increase the risk of deterioration of the membrane. *Note: Where possible a fall of 1 in 60 in the gutters is preferred.*

13.5 Allowance for deflection and settlement of the substrate must be made in the design of the roof to ensure falls are maintained and no ponding of water can occur.

13.6 FiberTite Roofing Systems are impermeable therefore a means of dissipating construction moisture must be provided in the building design and construction to meet code compliance with Clause E2.3.6.

13.7 Drainage flanges must be used for any outlet and must be fitted with a grate or cage to reduce potential sources of blockages. An overflow must be provided where the roof does not drain to an external gutter or spouting.

13.8 Penetrations and upstands of the membranes must be raised above the level of any possible flooding caused by the blockage of roof drainage.

13.9 The design of details not covered by the Technical Literature is subject to specific weathertightness design and is outside the scope of this Appraisal.

Installation Information

Installation Skill Level Requirement

14.1 Installation of the membranes must be completed by approved applicators, approved by Rooflogic.

14.2 Installation of substrates must be completed by tradespersons with an understanding of roof construction, in accordance with instructions given within the Rooflogic Technical Literature and this Appraisal.

Preparation of Substrates

15.1 Substrates must be dry, clean and stable before installation commences. Surfaces must be smooth and free from nibs, sharp edges, dust, dirt or other materials such as oil, grease or concrete formwork release agents. All surface defects must be filled to achieve an even and uniform surface.

15.2 The relative humidity of concrete substrates must be 75% or less before membrane application. The concrete can be checked for dryness by using a hygrometer, as set out in BRANZ Bulletin No. 585.

15.3 The moisture content of the plywood and timber substructure must be a maximum of 20% and the plywood sheets must be dry at time of membrane application. This will generally require plywood sheets to be covered until just before the membrane is laid, to prevent rain wetting.

Membrane Installation

16.1 The installation of this membrane system is very complex and limited to trained applicators only. The Rooflogic Applicator's Manual should be referred to in all instances for the correct procedures.

Inspections

17.1 Critical areas of inspection for waterproofing systems are:

- Construction of substrates, including crack control and installation of bond breakers and movement control joints.
- Moisture content of the substrate prior to the application of the membrane.
- Acceptance of the substrate by the membrane installer prior to application of the membrane.
- Installation of the membrane to the membrane marketer's instructions.

Health and Safety

18.1 Safe use and handling procedures for FiberTite Roofing Systems are provided in the Technical Literature. The products must be used in conjunction with the relevant Material Safety Data Sheets for each membrane.

Basis of Appraisal

The following is a summary of the technical investigations carried out:

Tests

19.1 Testing of FiberTite Roofing Systems has been undertaken by the following organizations:

- British Board of Agrément - tensile strength, elongation, resistance to tear, dimensional stability, water vapour transmission, water absorption, resistance to water pressure, resistance to folding at low temperature, static indentation over concrete, dynamic indentation over perlite, fatigue cycling (500 cycles at -10°C), peel resistance of welded joint, shear strength of welded joint
- International Code Council Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) has issued an ESR Report. The report states that the materials have been assessed based upon satisfactory independent test results to the requirements of AC75-2010.

19.2 BRANZ has reviewed the information and has found it to be satisfactory.

Other Investigations

20.1 A durability opinion has been provided by BRANZ technical experts.

20.2 Installation of the membranes has been assessed by BRANZ for practicability and found to be satisfactory.

20.3 The Technical Literature has been examined by BRANZ and found to be satisfactory.

Quality

21.1 The manufacture of the FiberTite Roofing Systems has not been examined by BRANZ, but details regarding the quality and composition of the materials used were obtained by BRANZ and found to be satisfactory.

21.2 The quality of supply of the product to the market is the responsibility of Rooflogic.

21.3 Quality on site is the responsibility of the Rooflogic approved applicators.

21.4 Designers are responsible for the substrate design, and building contractors are responsible for the quality of construction of substrate systems in accordance with the instructions of the substrate supplier, Rooflogic and this Appraisal.

Sources of Information

- AS/NZS 1170: 2002 Structural Design action - general principles.
- AS/NZS 2269: 2012 Plywood - Structural.
- BRANZ Good Practice Guide - Membrane Roofing, 2nd Edition, 2015.
- NZS 3101: 2006 Concrete structures standard.
- NZS 3604: 2011 Timber-framed buildings.
- ICC-ES - AC75 - Membrane roof covering systems, July 2010.
- Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment Record of amendments - Acceptable Solutions, Verification Methods and handbooks.
- The Building Regulations 1992.

BRANZ

In the opinion of BRANZ, FiberTite Roofing Systems are fit for purpose and will comply with the Building Code to the extent specified in this Appraisal provided they are used, designed, installed and maintained as set out in this Appraisal.

The Appraisal is issued only to Seaman Corporation, and is valid until further notice, subject to the Conditions of Appraisal.

Conditions of Appraisal

1. This Appraisal:
   a) relates only to the product as described herein;
   b) must be read, considered and used in full together with the Technical Literature;
   c) does not address any Legislation, Regulations, Codes or Standards, not specifically named herein;
   d) is copyright of BRANZ.
2. Seaman Corporation:
   a) continues to have the product reviewed by BRANZ;
   b) shall notify BRANZ of any changes in product specification or quality assurance measures prior to the product being marketed;
   c) abides by the BRANZ Appraisals Services Terms and Conditions;
   d) warrants that the product and the manufacturing process for the product are maintained at or above the standards, levels and quality assessed and found satisfactory by BRANZ pursuant to BRANZ's Appraisal of the product.
3. BRANZ makes no representation or warranty as to:
   a) the nature of individual examples of, batches of, or individual installations of the product, including methods and workmanship;
   b) the presence or absence of any patent or similar rights subsisting in the product or any other product;
   c) any guarantee or warranty offered by Seaman Corporation.
4. Any reference in this Appraisal to any other publication shall be read as a reference to the version of the publication specified in this Appraisal.
5. BRANZ provides no certification, guarantee, indemnity or warranty, to Seaman Corporation or any third party.

For BRANZ

Chelydra Percy
Chief Executive

Date of Issue:
27 May 2020