Sarnafil®
Roofing Systems

Technical Bulletin

TECHNICAL BULLETIN 2-93

To: Authorized Applicators
Sarnafil Technical Staff
Sarnafil Sales Staff & Sales Reps
Sarnafil Customer Service Staff
Sarnafil Services Staff

From: Technical Service Department

Date: October 22, 1993

Re: SEAM PROBING TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES

Sarnafil has historically recommended only one method for probing seams; that method has been the use of a rounded, #3 size blade screwdriver pulled along the edge of the seam with light pressure applied on the screwdriver handle both downward (with the thumb) and inward (with the palm of the hand). This method has continued to be effective.

Many individuals use a cotter pin extractor with the end of the extractor ground down to a blunt, rounded tip. After a certain amount of seam probing the end of the extractor "re-sharpens" and the tip must again be ground down to a blunt, rounded shape in order to avoid damage to the seam. Problems arise because often the roundness/bluntness of the tip is not monitored and maintained and users also do not place the extractor against the seam correctly. Under these circumstances the sharpened tip then slices the edge of the membrane, damaging otherwise good seams. To our knowledge this problem has not occured with the screwdriver.

Effective January 1st, 1994 our technical policy will be that the rounded (blade) screwdriver is the only tool to use to check lengths of seam. The Technical staff will only teach the use of the screwdriver method.

We remind all readers that seam probing does not replace the requirement to take seam cuts during welding. Seam cuts are the best method to confirm seam integrity, ensuring that the weld is complete and the width is beyond the outside edge of the seam.

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