



Solar panel installations

Recommendations for Solar Installations on roofs coated with silicone coating

Installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems on a roof can affect the roof in many ways, including: adding weight to the roof, increasing foot or equipment traffic across the roof, changing the flow of water to drains, increasing the profile of the building subject to wind, and changing where people are able to walk on the roof. Because each of these may affect the performance of the roof and the roof coating we offer the following suggestions for the building owner and roof coating contractor.

Note that if a Momentive Labor and Material Warranty is in place for the roof the owner is required to notify Momentive of the installation of solar equipment. An inspection of the roof, at the owner’s cost, is required after installation of the equipment to verify that any damage to the roof or roof coating has been repaired and that the roof coating warranty remains in force.

If a Momentive Product or Product Plus Warranty is in place for the roof the owner is strongly encouraged to follow these recommendations.

Before project begins	
Purpose	Action
To minimize damage to insulation, membrane or coating in areas of high foot traffic.	<p>Identify the pathways from where equipment will be loaded on the roof to where it will be placed. Plan for use of protective boards or special equipment to protect these temporary pathways during installation.</p> <p>Identify areas of the roof that will be the traffic path in between PV panels. Plan to apply coating along pathways in 2 or 3 passes to increase coating thickness to minimum 60 mils (1524 microns) dry film thickness. Consider application of granules in topcoat to reduce potential for slips.</p> <p>Identify where raised walkways or bridges may be needed to step over conduit or other equipment.</p>
Avoid creating dams or areas where water may pool or pond	Determine water flow and make sure that flow to the drains or scuppers will not be negatively affected by the solar equipment
Document condition of the roof before work begins	Prior to installation have a roof inspection done by an independent party.



Installation of solar equipment	
Purpose	Action
Minimize damage to the roof coating and roof assembly	Use protective boards on path from the point of access to the install location
Minimize damage to the roof coating and roof assembly	Use carts with inflatable or soft wheels to minimize damage to roof surface in between solar equipment where foot traffic will be concentrated.
Reduce risk of damage to the roof as wind acts upon the solar equipment that is ballasted	Ensure that the footpads of ballasted systems do not have sharp edges that touch the roof deck. Use pieces of TPO or other non-stick kind of membrane to protect the roof surface from puncture or damage

After installation	
Purpose	Action
To repair damage	Coating contractor to inspect roof and document areas of damage to the coating and roof. Coating contractor to repair damage areas with additional coating or with 3-course reinforcement.
Verify that the roof can remain in warranty	Have final inspection by 3rd party inspector to verify condition of the roof after installation and remedial coating repairs