
Safe2Torch Checklist

It is recommended that anyone preparing a specification should complete this checklist and if any boxes are ticked avoid the use of a direct torch-on application in these areas.



N.B. This check list has been prepared with the installation of Reinforced Bitumen Membranes in mind. It must be emphasised that the same risks occur when other trades such as Single Ply, Liquid Applied & Hot Melt use gas torches, for example for drying off the surface of a combustible deck.

Disclaimer

It is always the responsibility of the contractor to carry out a risk assessment on all aspects of the contract. This check list is solely to provide assistance in the assessment of the risks where the use of gas torches is being considered.

Decks and insulation

- Timber / Other combustible materials
- Metal deck (refurbishment) where old materials may accumulate in the troughs
- Insulation - unless specifically designed and tested for use with torch-on membranes

Details

- Expansion joints with voids and/or combustible fillers
- Fibreboard or timber fillets
- Detail under all abutments to roof tiles, slates and thatch
- Detail under cladding/rendering
- All abutments with open cavities (open perpend)
- All timber substrates
- Change in level details with fixed timber or plastic fascias and/or all soffits, gutters or restricted spaces
- Window sills and frames, door sills, louvered vents, air ducts, intakes and outtakes
- Junctions to existing waterproofing with flammable insulation/deck materials
- Vulnerable plastic curbs, domes, pipes and the like
- Working when in close proximity to potentially flammable coatings

**Existing weathering components with concealed flammable materials.
These include:**

- Timber, DPC or sarking membranes beneath fixed metal capping systems
- Existing kitchen extraction plant coated in oils or fats
- Flammable wrapping to trunking/ducting
- Timber cladding
- Existing metal or plastic copings/cappings