



Technical Bulletin 2022-01

Picture Framing of Modified Bituminous Membrane Applications

(March 24, 2022)

Modified bitumen membrane systems have a history of reliability and success when using mechanically fastened or hot applied (torched or mopped) base sheet and a torch applied cap sheet. However, the use of torch applied membranes adjacent to combustible substrates, (i.e. upstands, roof edges, penetrations, etc.) results in an increased risk of fire during the installation of the membrane. The industry has looked at alternative products and installation methods to mitigate this risk around these areas, one of which is known as “Picture Framing”.

MRGNB has researched available literature and recommendations from other provincial associations, membrane system manufacturers, and contractors relating to Picture Framing of modified bitumen membrane applications. We have identified common characteristics that form the basis of the recommendations herein.

General Picture Framing Recommendations:

- Typically, the installation of the vapor retarder, insulation and coverboard components will be in accordance with typical MRGNB roofing practices and project specification requirements, except for composite panel base sheets as noted below.
- Where the base sheet is factory laminated to the coverboard, the composite panel should be oriented as required for picture framing.
- All surfaces are to be primed or otherwise prepared as per project documents and/or manufacturer’s recommendations.
- Laps in the picture frame area and between the picture framing area and the adjacent field roof area should be oriented for water shedding or parallel to the slope, consistent with typical MRGNB recommendations.
- Field base sheet membrane applications, within the picture framed area, are to be executed without the use of torches (i.e. adhered with hot asphalt, mechanically fastened, pressure sensitive, or cold-applied adhesives, and/or hot air welding of leading edges).
- Field cap sheet membrane applications, within the picture framed area, are to be executed without the use of torches (i.e. pressure sensitive, or cold-applied adhesives, and/or hot air welding of leading edges).
- Base sheet and cap sheet membrane flashing applications are to be executed without the use of torches (i.e. pressure sensitive, or cold-applied adhesives, and/or hot air welding of leading edges).





Master Roofers Guarantee of New Brunswick Ltd. La Garantie des Maîtres Couvreur du Nouveau-Brunswick

1010 Fairville Blvd., Saint John, New Brunswick E2M 5T5 • Tel: (506) 652-7003 • 1 888 652-7003 • Fax: (506) 696-0380 • www.nbrca.ca

- Pressure sensitive and cold adhesive membrane application techniques are to be consistent with manufacturers' recommendations including hot air welding at the leading edges of side and end laps.

Specific Picture Framing Application Recommendations

- Picture Frame Field Base Sheet Membrane
 - Picture frame base sheet application to extend 1.5m +/- (1 ½ base sheet widths) from the curb
 - Picture frame base sheet applications to be oriented parallel with the curb
 - Picture frame base sheet plies to lap min. 150mm onto adjacent membrane plies
- Base Sheet Membrane Flashing
 - Lap min. 200mm onto picture frame field base sheet membrane
- Picture Frame Field Cap Sheet Membrane
 - Picture frame cap sheet application to extend 1m (1 cap sheet width) from the curb and lap min. 200mm onto the adjacent roof field cap sheet membrane
- Cap Sheet Membrane Flashing
 - Lap min. 150mm onto picture frame cap sheet membrane

Refer to the attached Figure 1 and 2 from Roofing Contractors Association of British Columbia (RCABC) for reference.

The use of torch free membrane applications including torch free membrane flashing and/or picture framing should be documented and approved by the design authority, if not included in the original project documents.

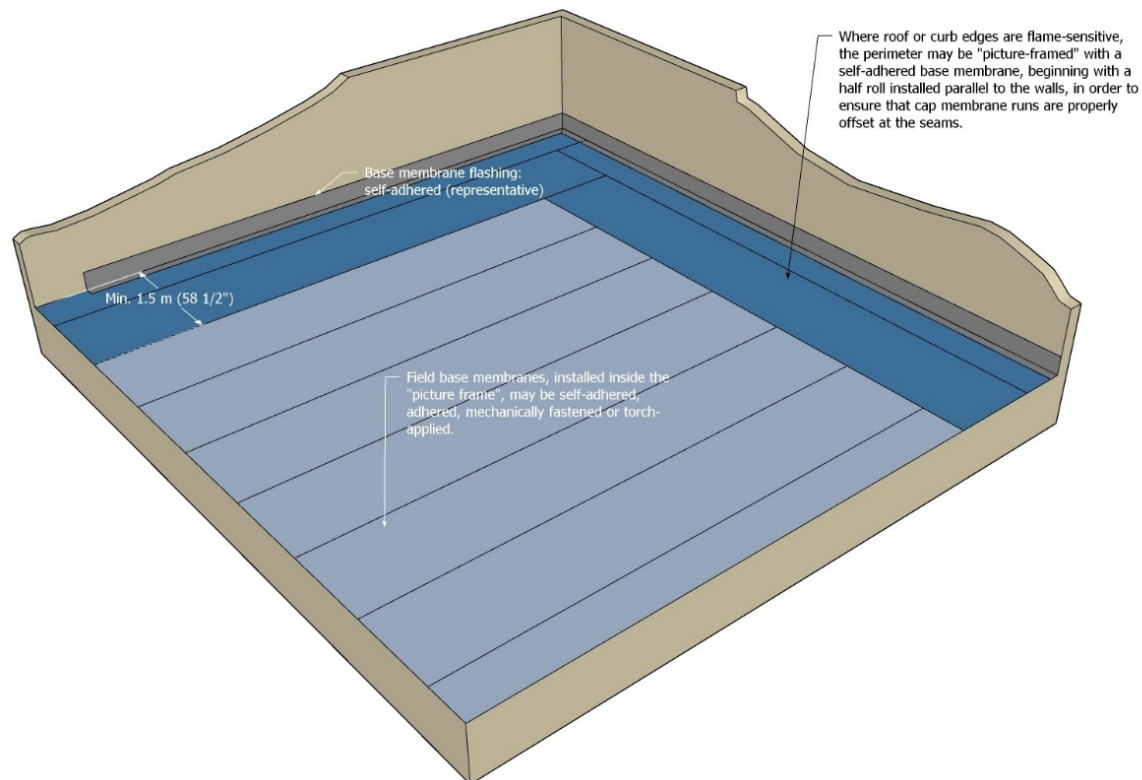
Please do not hesitate to contact the NBRCA/MRGNB Technical Managers if you have any questions, concerns or suggestion or would like to further discuss this topic. We are here to help you.





Master Roofers Guarantee of New Brunswick Ltd. La Garantie des Maîtres Couvreur du Nouveau-Brunswick

1010 Fairville Blvd., Saint John, New Brunswick E2M 5T5 • Tel: (506) 652-7003 • 1 888 652-7003 • Fax: (506) 696-0380 • www.nbrca.ca



© Copyright Roofing Contractors Association of British Columbia
NTS

Figure 1 - Base sheet membrane application reference





Master Roofers Guarantee of New Brunswick Ltd. La Garantie des Maîtres Couvreur du Nouveau-Brunswick

1010 Fairville Blvd., Saint John, New Brunswick E2M 5T5 • Tel: (506) 652-7003 • 1 888 652-7003 • Fax: (506) 696-0380 • www.nbrca.ca

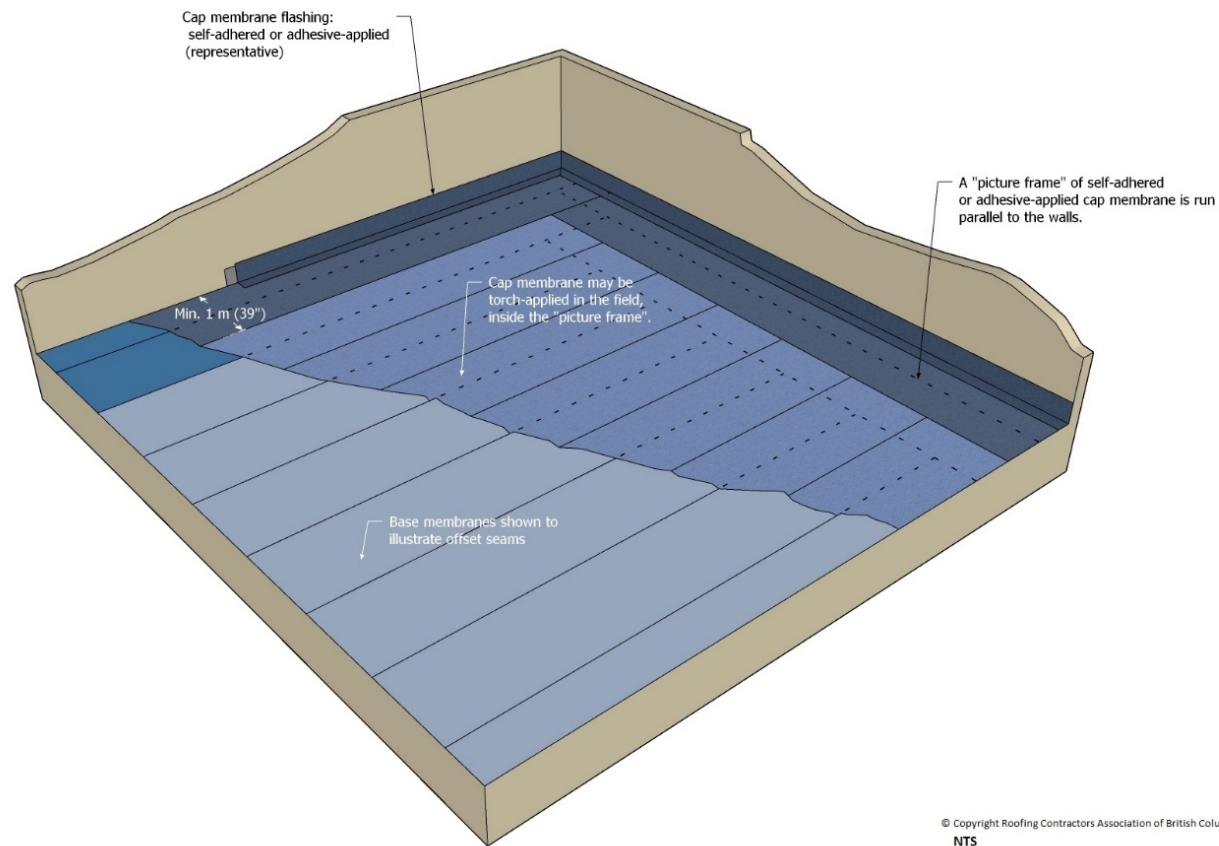


Figure 2 - Cap sheet membrane application reference

