1. PRODUCT NAME

Air Guard™ VPA

2. MANUFACTURER

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3. PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Air Guard VPA is a weather resistant barrier coating designed to coat and seal the exterior surface of the sheathing. It protects the sheathing material from the elements prior to the installation of the exterior cladding while allowing the transmission of excess water vapor from the structure.

Air Guard VPA is an essential component of a weather resistant barrier system which has been tested and is compliant with ICC ES AC 212 requirements for application to plywood, oriented strand board and impregnated fiberboard (blackboard) sheathing.

The Air Guard VPA system includes:

Air Guard VPA Membrane
Air Guard VPA Joint Sealant
Air Guard Joint Fabric
Air Guard Counter Flashing

Air Guard VPA is an environmentally friendly, water-based membrane. It does not contain any solvents and there are no storage, handling or VOC restrictions. It does not produce any odors, and it is safe for both the applicator and any other personnel employed at or visiting the job site. Air Guard VPA is installed by GMX Authorized Applicators to ensure the highest quality, professional application.

4. STORAGE & HANDLING

Air Guard VPA Membrane and Air Guard VPA Joint Sealant are water-based materials. They must be kept from freezing. Both materials should be stored off the floor at temperatures above 50 deg. F. Opened drums should be tightly sealed prior to storage to minimize film development on the top of the liquid.

Shipping water-based material during cold weather months can be problematic because the material can freeze during shipment. In cold weather months, the bill of lading will contain a Keep From Freezing notification and freeze tabs will be placed on the material containers. If the freeze tab is broken upon delivery, mark the bill of lading accordingly and notify GMX immediately. Maximum storage temperature should not exceed 100 deg. F, and the containers should not be exposed to direct sunlight. Typically, it is not necessary to mix Air Guard VPA membrane prior to use. If the applicator elects to mix Air Guard VPA, do so in a manner which will not introduce and entrain air into the coating. Avoid the use of paddle mixers and other mechanical means of mixing material.

Note: Air Guard VPA is a water-based material. KEEP FROM FREEZING DURING TRANSIT AND STORAGE.

5. INSTALLATION

Prior to the application of the Air Guard system, the applicator should confirm that the substrate is referenced in the system specifications and approved by the local code authority. The sheathing must be structurally sound, intact, securely fastened and free of loose material, voids, projections or other conditions that may interfere with the application of the Air Guard system.

The applicator should confirm that all rough openings are in place and properly sloped. The substrate must be sufficiently dry; there should be no visible water in any of the joints and the substrate should not be wet to the touch. Sheathing moisture content should not exceed 24% (measured with a moisture meter). The builder must be notified of any deficiencies; do not proceed with the application unless and until they are corrected.

The substrate should also be free of foreign materials such as oil, dust, dirt, paint, wax, water repellents, liquid water, frost, snow, ice and any other materials which could adversely impact adhesion. Dirt and mud can be removed with a scraper or brush. Some materials may require the use of soap and water to ensure that the substrate is properly cleaned. If soap and water are used, allow the substrate to dry before the application of the Air Guard system.

Air Guard membrane and joint sealant do not require the use of primers. If Air Guard joint sealant is not used, all joints should be sealed with Air Guard membrane and joint fabric. Air Guard membrane should be applied over and on each side of the joint to be sealed at a thickness of 20 wet mils. Air Guard joint fabric is then embedded into the base coat of Air Guard membrane. Ensure that the joint fabric is firmly embedded into the base coat. Standard construction staples may be required to ensure that the joint fabric is firmly embedded into the membrane. The Air Guard joint fabric is then top coated with Air Guard membrane applied at a rate of 20 wet mils. Brush or roll the top coat to ensure that the joint fabric is completely coated and fully adhered to the exterior surface of the sheathing. Do not apply more Air Guard joint fabric than can be completely coated and fully adhered in a day or before any precipitation.

Air Guard membrane and joint sealant are ready for application as is. In cooler weather, it may be necessary to heat Air Guard membrane for ease of application. Do not heat the material above 130˚F. Air Guard membrane should not be installed during rain or if rain is imminent. The vertical and

horizontal sheathing joints should be treated as outlined in the preceding paragraph. The sheathing should be fully and evenly coated with Air Guard membrane applied at a minimum thickness of 20 wet mils (approximately 80 sq. ft. per gallon). Air Guard membrane can be brush, roller or spray applied. The actual coverage rate may vary on individual installations due to the porosity of the surface, sheathing condition etc.

If Air Guard joint sealant is used in lieu of Air Guard membrane and Air Guard joint fabric to treat the joints, a general rule of thumb is that sealant usage is roughly 25 – 40% of the volume of Air Guard membrane used on the job. Air Guard membrane and joint sealant require 2 to 4 hours cure time at 70˚F, 50% relative humidity. Cool, damp conditions will retard cure time; hot, dry conditions will accelerate cure time. Air Guard membrane and joint sealant are subject to wash off if they are not sufficiently cured prior to the advent of inclement weather conditions. The Air Guard system should not be left exposed more than 120 days prior to being covered with exterior cladding.

Note: The Air Guard system is not designed to seal penetrations through the sheathing exterior such as window and door openings, utilities, electrical fixtures, vents etc. Sealing of penetrations is a separate action item which should be agreed upon by the installation contractor and the builder before the application of the Air Guard system. The builder, at his discretion, may opt to have another trade install the flashing and counter flashing around the various penetrations through the sheathing. In all cases, GMX recommends adherence to good construction practices in regard to installing flashing and counter flashing details.

6. WARRANTY

For specific warranty terms and conditions, contact your local GMX representative or the Cleveland or Charlotte office.

7. AVAILABILITY AND COST

GMX materials are produced in and shipped from our plants in Cleveland, OH and Indian Trail, NC. For the name and number of the nearest GMX representative, call us at 866-228-7743.

8. TECHNICAL SERVICES

Your local GMX representative is available to assist you in selecting the appropriate product and to provide on-site application assistance. For further information, please contact our Technical Service Dept. at 866-228-7743.

TECHNICAL DATA

The AirGuard system has been tested in accordance and is compliant with ICC-ES AC212 (Approved February 2015).

All of the results meet or exceed the standard.

Property	**Test Standard**
Tensile Bond	ASTM C 297
Tensile Bond Joint Treatment	ASTM C 297
Tensile Bond Flashing	ASTM c 297
Freeze - Thaw	AC 212
Water Resistance	ASTM D 2247
Water Vapor Transmission	ASTM E 96, B
Water Penetration	ASTM E 331
Transverse Load	ASTM E 1233
Racking, Post Transverse Load	ASTM E 72
Restrained Environment Cycling, Post Transverse Load	AC 212
Water Prenetration, Post Transverse Load	ASTM E 331
Weathering	AC 212
Post Weathering Hydrostatic	ASTCC 127

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