



March 18, 2015

RE: Snow/Ice Loads on Shingle Roofs

The recent weather conditions have resulted in heavy, possibly dangerous, accumulations of snow and ice on many roofs. The determination of how much is too much is a structural issue and well beyond IKO's area of responsibility. However, if it is determined by others that a snow load is to be removed from a roof, or if there is concern that there is potential damage from ice formation, please consider the following:

- Only remove as much snow as possible to relieve the weight load without scraping the shingle surface. Allow the remainder to melt away under warming weather conditions.
- If there is ice formation, do not hammer, scrape, chop, or otherwise forcibly remove the ice. If removal is deemed necessary, application of calcium chloride salt can be used. Be aware that this may leave a whitish residue on the shingles. It is best to allow the ice to melt away naturally.
- Once the roof is clear, the shingles should be carefully inspected. Any damaged shingles should be replaced, and any shingle that has had the sealant bond broken should be manually resealed with asphalt plastic cement. Use an approximate one inch dab of cement per foot of unsealed length.

More information may be found in the CASMA Technical Bulletins number 10: 'Preventing Problems From Ice Dams', and number 15: 'Severe Icing of Asphalt Shingle Roofs'. These bulletins can be found on the CASMA website at <http://www.casma.ca/technical-bulletins/#.VQI-6uER16A>.

Thank you for considering IKO products.

Sincerely,

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Manager – Technical & Industry Affairs

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