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LONGITUDINAL JOINING OF INITIAL COVERING MEMBRANES (ICM)

Longitudinal connections of strips of **vapour-permeable membranes applied as initial covering membranes**, further referred to as **ICM**, installed on roof truss beams should be made either on roof rafters or before their installation on flat and clean surface. There are a lot of methods of realization of such connections, but it is always important to make sure that the connected strips do not get separated under the influence of longitudinal forces caused by wind and rain after installation of ICM, before and during installation of roof covering.

**Rys.1 do instr. 16.tifAdvised connecting methods on rafters.**

1. Simple connection with small overlap with staple fixing always demands usage of sealing tapes: a) double-sided (MARMA N2) inserted into the overlap between connected strips (pic. 1); b) sealing tape placed under counter-battens (MARMA K1 – with or without double-sided tape).
2. With wide overlap with cut (it is the easiest and most reliable connecting method – pic. 2 and 3). In this method, double-sided tape (MARMA N2) or counter-batten sealing tape (MARMA K1) can also be used.

**pic.1**Rys.3 do instr. 16.tifRys.2 do instr. 16.tif

**pic.2 pic.3Łaczenia gotowe 1.tif**

**pic.4**

**Pre-prepared connection**

During unfavorable weather or building conditions, it is advised to connect the strips on the ground or under the roof. For this purpose, double-sided tapes, one-sided tapes or glues can be used (pic. 4). The strips should be connected with overlap with length of ca. 1 meter, so that by application of ICM on the roof truss, the overlap is always pressed by the counter-batten (pic. 5) or in extreme cases by two counter-battens (by smaller rafter spacing).**Łaczenia gotowe 3.tif**

**pic.5**

It is best to perform such connection by means of double-sided tapes (MARMA N2), because there will be no need to turn connected strips as in case of using one-sided tapes, as one tape connects only on one side of strips.

**Connecting on rigid ground – on sheathing (boards, OSB, MFP, etc.)**

Strips should be connected with overlap with length depending on the possible deviations from flatness. Minimum should have 50 cm and if concavities in the place of connection are visible, then the overlap should be bigger. Strips should be connected with staples, it is best if they are located under the overlap (side or front) or with staples and double-sided tapes (MARMA N2).

**Connecting on rigid ground – on PIR/PUR boards.**

Just like by sheathings, on PIR/PUR boards, strips should be connected on overlaps with length depending on possible deviations from flatness, but only by means on self-adhesive tapes (MARMA N2, MARMA W1).

**COMMENTS**

1. Sealing of the side and front connections of **ICM** strips should be made according to the regulations defining tightness classes described in Roofing Guidelines of Polish Association of Roofers based on guidelines of IFD – International Federation for the Roofing Trade.
2. The way of ventilation of thermal insulation and roof construction depends on diffusivity (ability to pass water vapour) of the ground where **ICM** is laid. Installation of thermal insulation on touch with sheathing sealed by **ICM** is possible only if it is made of narrow boards (with width of max. 11 cm) or if the fixing of boards is openwork. On sheathings with vapour-insulating properties (OSB or MFP boards, etc.), the space between those boards and thermal insulation should be ventilated. 

**Instruction written according to the state of knowledge from May 2019.**

Additional information on websites:

[www.marma.com.pl](http://www.marma.com.pl) and [www.dachowa.com.pl](http://www.dachowa.com.pl) .