

Exposure to the Elements

ROCKWOOL insulation is water repellent and vapor permeable, with a water vapor permeability of approximately 30 perm. Despite being water repellent, good construction practice calls for the insulation to be adequately protected to minimize direct exposure to the elements, which may include but are not limited to wind, rain, snow, hail, and physical damage or contamination.

ROCKWOOL insulation should be covered by the exterior cladding as soon as possible after installation, as the cladding will protect the insulation. Should the installation of the exterior cladding not be possible immediately after installation of the insulation, ROCKWOOL recommends that the insulation be protected using a waterproof membrane such as a tarp, allowing for ventilation.

If ROCKWOOL insulation products are left exposed to the weather for an extended period after installation, surface wetting may occur. Insulation that has been exposed to moisture should be allowed to dry prior to closure of the system. Once fully dry, the insulation will retain its stated performance, provided there is no physical damage or contamination, and that it did not experience freeze and thaw cycles. Such cycles may impact mechanical properties.

ROCKWOOL stone wool insulation that has been exposed to the elements should be inspected prior to the closure of the system;

- The product should be dry to the touch and not liberate water when gentle pressure is applied.
- There should be no evidence of foreign material in the insulation or around the insulation inside the system.
- The product should be free from physical damage. If insulation is missing or the surface is indented below system design thickness, it should be replaced.

For more information, please contact ROCKWOOL Technical Services at the phone number or email address below.

ROCKWOOL Technical Services

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