

Division Opinion

Inquiry: 2008-10

Subject: Valley Linings (asphalt shingles)

Code: 2006 International Residential Code
2006 International Building Code
2007 Minnesota State Building Code chapters 1305 and 1309

Submitted By: 10,000 Lakes Chapter of the International Code Council
Uniformity of Inspections Committee

Approved By: Thomas Anderson, State Building Official

Issue Date: Aug. 1, 2008

Question: The code no longer addresses ice protection in the valleys. Can an inspector require it anyway?

Answer: No. Municipal inspectors must enforce the 2007 Minnesota State Building Code and may not be more restrictive than the minimum code requirements of the model codes adopted by reference and their amendments. See Minnesota Statute 16B.62 and Minnesota Rule 1300.0110.

Background Information: The 2006 International Building Code (IBC) and 2006 International Residential Code (IRC) provide minimum requirements regarding valley linings for open and closed valleys. The model codes identify ASTM standards applicable to the valley lining material and lining coverage requirements based on the style of the valley and a table of approved materials for exposed metal valley lining.

The previously adopted 2000 International Building Code (IBC) included basically the same language and intent. However, amended language to Section 1507.2.9.2 of the 2000 IBC included the following sentence, "Valley lining underlayment **may** consist of self-adhering polymer modified bitumen sheet complying with ASTM D 1970." The amendment did not mandate the use of an approved self-adhering material, but merely allowed the use a self-adhered material as an alternative.

Section 1508.2 of the 1997 Uniform Building Code (UBC) made reference that valley shingles be applied in accordance with the manufacturer's printed instructions. The same section also addressed metal valley flashing underlayment for roof slopes under 7 units vertical in 12 units horizontal (7:12) in severe climates. Minnesota was considered severe climate and required that the metal valley flashing underlayment for roof slopes under 7:12 be solid cemented to the roof underlayment.

The key language in Section R905.2.8.2 of the 2006 IRC and Section 1507.2.9.2 of the 2006 IBC is, "Valley linings shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions before applying shingles." Several of the shingle manufacturers require the installation of their brand of leak barrier (ice barrier) at valleys including exposed metal linings. It appears that several shingle manufacturer warranties may be based on their "roofing systems" for warranty coverage.