

Introduction

The proper application and performance of Promat Cafco Sprayed Fire Resistive Materials (SFRMs) is dependent upon many variables associated with project sequencing and scheduling. Promat recommends the following scheduling practices, in order to minimise problems on site and to provide a cost effective and efficient application of the Cafco SFRM.

These recommendations will help to avoid any delays in the project's progress and completion.

1 Structural steel protection

1.1 Identify / specify the correct primer types at an early stage

Unprimed steel is suitable for direct application of SFRM, often with minimal surface preparation.

Where there is a requirement for steels to be delivered to site with a protective primer or paint system applied (for example, as is often the case for steels that are transported by sea) it is important to identify the origin of these steels at an early stage of the project to ensure that unsuitable primer or paints (such as polyurethanes) are not applied. Removal of such unsuitable finishes at site will involve additional time and effort and add to project costs.

It is therefore important to specify compatible primers which will meet both the clients' and / or engineers anti corrosion requirements, as well as providing a suitable surface for the application of the Cafco SFRM.

1.2 Coordination and scheduling of the fire protection work with other trades

Coordination of the sprayed fire protection work on any project is a key factor in minimising project delays. Clips, hangers, supports or any other attachments which are required to be fitted to the steels, for the support of services or ductwork, should be fixed by the other trades before application of the Cafco SFRM. This will avoid the need for cutting-away the installed SFRM to allow these fixings to be made at a later date and avoid the need for the SFRM to have patching repairs carried out around any attachments to reinstate the fire protection.

1.3 Installation of mechanical attachments / hanger supports

Once the mechanical attachments / supports for ductwork or other services have been installed onto the structural steels, the application of the Cafco SFRM should commence *before* the ductwork and services are attached to the mechanical supports.

This will allow the application of the SFRM to be done freely without the applicator being hindered by restricted access, or by the need to protect ductwork and services from overspray.

2 Steel floor decks

Cafco SFRMs should not be applied onto the underside of floor decking before the completion of concrete work on that deck. Installation of the SFRM before the concrete application is complete can result in poor adhesion, or delamination of the SFRM, due to deflection of the deck.

3 Steel roof decks

The application of Cafco SFRM's onto the underside of a roof deck shall not commence until the roof is completely installed and water tight, all penthouses are complete, all mechanical units have been placed and construction foot traffic has ceased. Where periodic access is required to the roof, suitable access walkways shall be provided to distribute loads as roof constructions are also susceptible to deflection which may lead to poor adhesion or delamination of the SFRM.

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