

# Application hints for aluminium foil tape

PPC Aluminium Foil tapes have a pressure sensitive adhesive, i.e. they must be applied using pressure – the more pressure applied, the more surface contact is achieved and the better the result.

The best way to apply this pressure is with the plastic 'squeegee' contained in the carton.

Follow the contours of the material. Do not try to flatten the contours out with the tape. Let the tape relax into and conform with the irregularities of the surface, then rub down (see Figures 1 and 2).

When sealing angled joints in longitudinal direction, the tape should be applied in short sections to one side of the joint, rubbed down as far as possible into the joint and then applied to the other side (see Figure 3).

So that maximum pressure can be exerted with the plastic 'squeegee', the material should be arranged so that there is a hard, unyielding surface behind each joint.

Care should also be taken to ensure that the material joined by the tape is not liable or subject to movement. Flapping of the two surfaces joined by the tape creates enormous pressure on the joint and can lead to tape breakdown.

It is important that the surface to which the tape is to be adhered is clean and free from any contamination such as dust, dirt, oil or silicones. If uncertain, clean surface with a clean rag and mineral turpentine, than wait until dry before applying.

Oxidisation of aluminium foil or leaching of plasticisers or similar from polymeric substrates can adversely affect the adhesive bond of the tape to that substrate.

The smoothness of the material to be joined is also a factor – the more uneven the surface, the wider the tape should be and the greater the care in application.

These tapes are not to be used as mechanical joining devices.

Where possible, the length of the tape used should not only exceed the length of the joint, but continue around the next edge to provide an 'anchor point' (see Figure 4). With pipework, there should be one complete revolution, then at least 50% revolution overlap (see Figure 5).

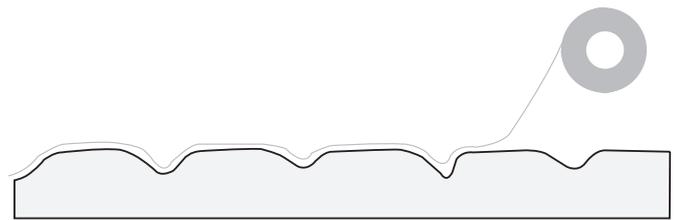


FIGURE 1

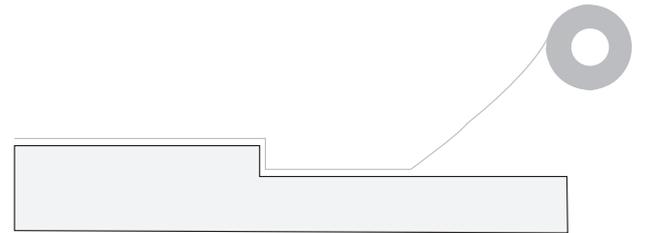


FIGURE 2

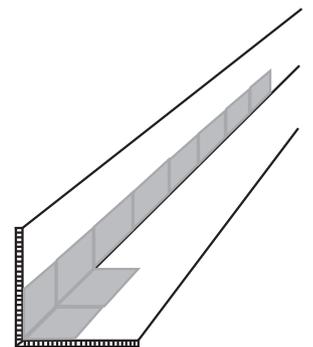


FIGURE 3

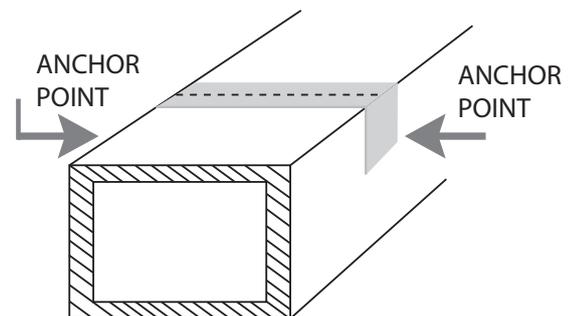


FIGURE 4

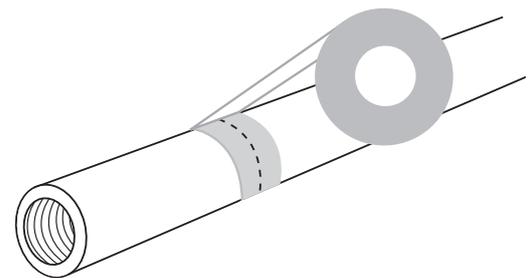


FIGURE 5

