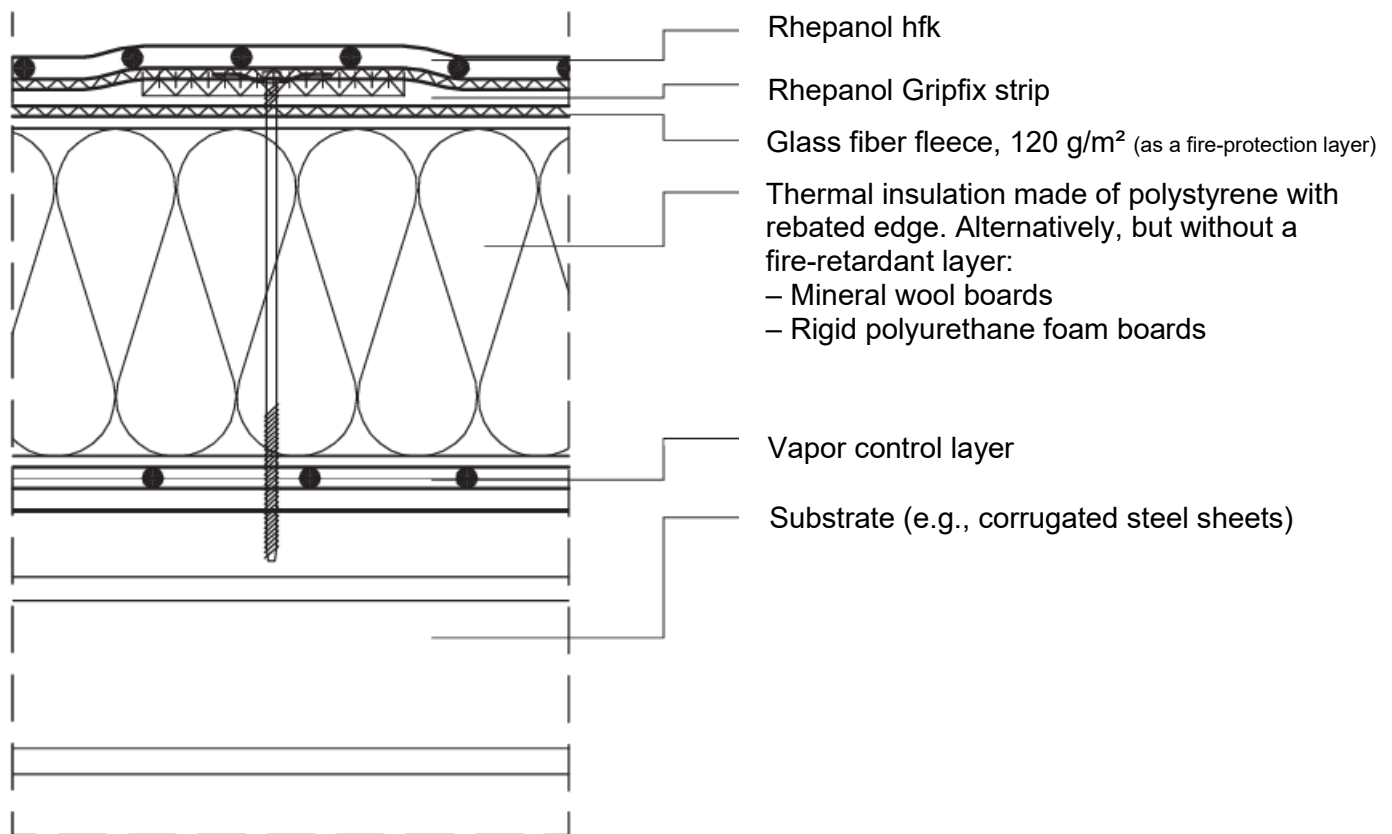


TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Application Guidelines for the Rhepanol Gripfix System

Rhepanol hfk can be mechanically fixed in the seam overlap, the Gripfix system, or a combination of both methods. The membrane seams are joined together homogeneously by hot-air welding.

The Rhepanol Gripfix system is made up of the Rhepanol hfk roofing membrane, the Rhepanol Gripfix strip, and the appropriate fasteners and washers.



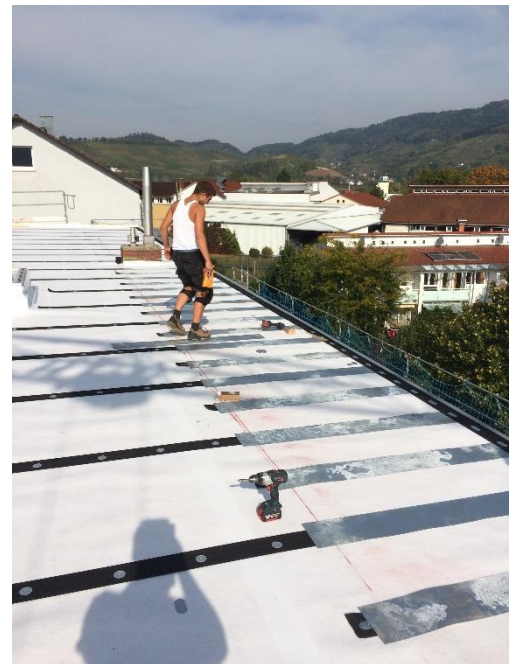
When calculating the number of fasteners and their arrangement, the wind loads in accordance with EN 1991-1-4, the design load of the fastener used and, in the case of Gripfix strips, the maximum load per meter are the determining factors. To calculate the required number of fasteners, project-specific wind uplift calculations are carried out as using computer software.

Method of Application

The Gripfix strips are placed on the substrate according to the wind load calculation and mechanically fastened. The spacing of the Gripfix strips can be adjusted continuously to meet the wind load requirements in the different roof areas (corners, perimeters, and inner areas).



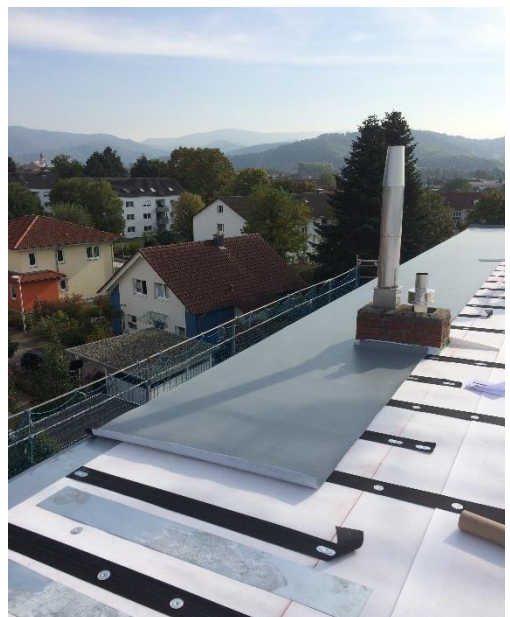
The Gripfix strips are covered with metal sheets or membrane strips approximately 2 m long; a strip width of at least 0.18 m is recommended to prevent immediate connection to the Rhepanol hfk fleece-backed roofing membrane.



The Rhepanol hfk roofing membranes are then laid loosely and aligned, with a 5 cm overlap across the Gripfix strips.

We recommend welding the roofing membranes together before pulling the cover strips out from under the seam. This helps prevent wrinkles, especially in summer temperatures.

After welding the two roofing membranes together, pull the metal sheets or membrane strips further out along the Gripfix strip so that the next roofing membranes can be laid in place.



Proper Gripfix attachment is achieved by

thoroughly rolling the roofing membrane onto the Velcro strip using the Rhepanol universal roller (item number 10 10 600).

Important: At least 2 times forward and 2 times back!

The quality of the attachment is crucial to ensuring that the wind uplift protection works properly.

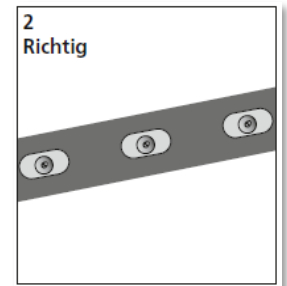
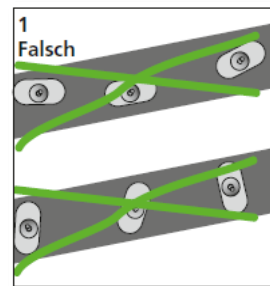


Placing the fasteners on the Gripfix strip

Do not position the fasteners off-center from the center line of the Gripfix strip, and do not rotate the washer (Figure 1).

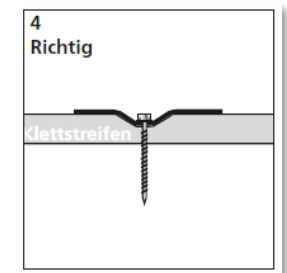
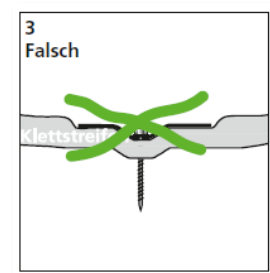
Position the fastener in the center of the Gripfix strip and align the washer (with its long side) parallel to the Gripfix strip (Figure 2).

When using round washers, alignment is generally easier.



It is essential to avoid the formation of indentations caused by over-tightening the fasteners (Figure 3).

Screw the fasteners in only far enough so that the washer lie flat and flush with the roof surface (Figure 4).



Gripfix Strips - Alignment on the Surface

Different fasteners are used depending on the substrate to which they are to be fixed. On corrugated steel sheets and wooden formwork, the Gripfix strips must be installed perpendicular to the top flange or boards to ensure that wind loads are distributed as evenly as possible into the structure. On a board surface, the Gripfix strips can be laid and fixed lengthwise or crosswise.

Combination of seem fixing and Gripfix system

In general, the Gripfix system can also be used in combination with the fixation in the seam overlap. The 1.50 m wide Rhepanol hfk roofing membranes are laid loosely and mechanically fastened at the overlapping edge of the membrane. If additional fasteners are required in the corner and perimeter areas, these can be installed as center fasteners using Gripfix strips placed beneath the roofing membranes. Narrower roofing membranes in the corner and perimeter areas, or fixings through roofing membrane in the center which need to be welded over with additional strips, are not required in this case.

Rules and Limitations on Use

- The Gripfix strip connects immediately and permanently to the fleece-backed roofing membrane upon contact. Non-destructive separation or subsequent correction (multiple connection) is not possible. The overlap between roof membrane seams must be at least 5 cm.
- The Gripfix strip and the fleece backing of the roofing membrane must always be kept clean and dry during installation, as moisture and dirt can adversely affect the connection.
- Fixing intervals on the Gripfix strip: min. 15 cm, max. 60 cm.
- Depending on the wind load, the maximum spacing between the Gripfix strips is 1.0 m.
- The spacing between fasteners on the same top flanges should not be less than approx. 20 cm in the case of corrugated steel deck.
- Fasteners with plates no more than 5 cm wide must be used. If the width of the plate is 5 cm, the seam overlap must be increased accordingly.
- The maximum permissible design load for the fastener – and thus for the connection between the fastener and the substrate, as well as between the Gripfix strip and the fastener – is 0.5 kN on corrugated steel deck and 0.4 kN on concrete or timber substrates.
- For the Gripfix connection, the maximum wind load per metre of Gripfix strip is 1.5 kN/m.
- For thermal insulation materials made of mineral wool, sleeve fixings must be used.
- **No exposed locations** (e.g. open countryside, coastline, lakes, etc.)

Benefits of the Gripfix system

- With this fastening system, the entire roof can be covered using the maximum roofing membrane width.
- Narrower membranes are not required in the corner and perimeter areas, as is typically necessary when using the seam fixing method.
- With the Gripfix system, there is also no need for fixing through the center of the roofing membrane, which would otherwise require additional membrane strips to be welded over them.
- The Gripfix system can also be used horizontally in the parapet area, for example, when intermediate fasteners are required for parapet heights exceeding 50 cm.

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