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3M[™] VentureClad[™] Insulation Jacketing Products on Insulation Ducts

Recommended Installation Guide

Duct Insulation Jacketed with Factory and Field Installed 3M[™] VentureClad[™] Products



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Product Key		
1577CW	Smooth silver aluminum with adhesive	
1577CW-E	Embossed silver aluminum with adhesive	
1577NA	Smooth silver aluminum without adhesive	
1577CW-CM/WM/BM	Smooth silver aluminum, white, or black with adhesive and a membrane	
1579GCW	Heavy duty, smooth silver aluminum with adhesive	
1579GCW-E	Heavy duty, embossed silver aluminum with adhesive	
1579GNA	Heavy duty, smooth silver aluminum without adhesive	
1579GCW-CM/WM	Smooth silver aluminum and white with adhesive and a membrane	

1. Scope

- a. Using 3M[™] VentureClad[™] products 1577CW, 1579GCW, and 1579GNA, the following recommended installation guidelines apply when installing these materials to rigid or semi-rigid duct insulation materials. It will apply to either factory or field jacketing. "CW" products have a pressure sensitive adhesive, covered with a release liner, over their entire inside surface. "NA" products have no adhesive.
- b. 1577CW, 1579GCW, and 1579GNA are suitable for both indoor and outdoor applications but not for below ground, buried applications. It is recommended that either 1577CW pressure sensitive tape be used for sealing all 1579GCW and 1579GNA seams, whether they are lap or butt joints, or the more flexible 1578CW tape. The 1577CW tape may be used for both securement and sealing the 3M[™] VentureClad[™] that is part of the insulation sections /segments against both water and water vapor intrusion. The 1578CW tape is only to be used for sealing the 3M[™] VentureClad[™] that is part of the insulation sections / segments against water and water vapor intrusion in recommended locations. 4-inch wide seaming tape should be considered the standard if not recommended otherwise.
- c. Although the figures within this manual show the 3M[™] VentureClad[™] and 3M[™] Venture Tape[™] products with an embossed and smooth aluminum finish, they are also available in other colors.
- d. Insulation materials for which these procedures are applicable include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following: polystyrene, polyisocyanurate, phenolic foam, cellular glass, flexible elastomeric, polyolefin, faced or unfaced fiberglass, mineral wool, molded expanded perlite, flexible aerogel, and calcium silicate.
- e. These procedures assume the ducts will operate at below ambient temperatures and therefore include sealing against water vapor intrusion. For below ambient applications, where condensation control is required, it may be beneficial to select a 3M[™] VentureClad[™] product with a high emittance (i.e., > 0.5) to reduce the insulation thickness required to prevent surface condensation. Since all the 3M[™] VentureClad[™] products covered by this manual will have a low water vapor permeance, no additional vapor retarder needs to be used so long as the 3M[™] VentureClad[™] is sealed tightly at all locations.
- f. The maximum use temperature of the Natural Aluminum 3M[™] VentureClad[™] products is 300°F (149°C). The maximum use temperature of the Membrane 3M[™] VentureClad[™] products is 248°F (120°C). The pipe service temperature itself may be much higher on above ambient service. In those cases, the exposure temperature of the 3M[™] VentureClad[™] should be controlled to below 300°F by the design and installation of the insulation system.
- g. Proper adhesion of the materials is paramount in the long term success of the jacketing and the tape products. It is recommended that for both the 3M[™] VentureClad[™] and the 3M[™] Venture Tape[™] installation, the installer keep the adherent surfaces free of dust, dirt, grease, and water, including water from surface condensation. It is recommended that the application is to seal immediately once this adhesive is exposed by removing the release liner.

2. Notes that apply to the installation of 3M[™] VentureClad[™] jacketing on insulated air handling ducts:

Note 1: The guidelines in this manual do not purport to address all engineering issues associated with the use of 3M[™] VentureClad[™] jacketing products and duct insulation system design. It is the responsibility of the facility owner to have (1) qualified structural engineers perform calculations, as required, to make certain that the duct securement is sufficient, accounting for the weight of the insulation system; (2) qualified mechanical engineers determine the insulation meets the required thermal requirements and (3) qualified corrosion engineers to specify type and thicknesses of insulation materials and coatings to protect the metal surfaces from corrosion under insulation.

Note 2: Users of this manual should use only trained, skilled, and experienced insulation workers. The guidelines included in this manual are not of sufficient detail to advise the installer of all techniques required to install insulation systems correctly.

Note 3: The guidelines in this manual do not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with the use of 3M[™] VentureClad[™] Products. At a minimum, 3M recommends that the insulation workers wear safety goggles and protective gloves for all work with 3M[™] VentureClad[™] and 3M[™] Venture Tape[™]. However, it is the responsibility of the user of this manual to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

Note 4: 3M strongly recommends the facility owner/operator to conduct regular duct insulation system maintenance. Outdoor, damaged insulation systems can perform poorly allowing ingress of water from rain or melting snow or, on below ambient systems, water vapor intrusion with subsequent condensation. Wet insulation will not perform thermally on a par with that provided by the insulation material's manufacturer; further, it can lead to corrosion under insulation. The best prevention of these problems is a proactive insulation system maintenance program that includes sealing of the $3M^{TM}$ VentureCladTM jacketing.

Note 5: 3M generally recommends the use of either 3M[™] Venture Tape[™] 1577CW or 1578CW as a seaming tape, where necessary, with 3M[™] VentureClad[™] 1579GCW products. In situations where extremely tight corners are required, the more flexible, 3M[™] Venture Tape[™] 1578CW product is acceptable.

Note 6: Water shed, for North America only—3M recommends that air duct designers follow the guidelines given in Section 3.4 (page 6.5) of SMACNA's "HVAC Duct Construction Standard—Metal and Flexible" for sloping of the top surface for the purposes of rain water drainage. In lieu of this, the insulation workers can insert dowel rods between the top horizontal duct surfaces and the bottom of the insulation boards, insulating those top surfaces, to create a slope, prior to applying the 3M[™] VentureClad[™]. The rods can be placed on one edge for smaller ducts or in the middle of larger ducts. Contractors in other countries should follow their local industry guidelines and requirements for insulated outdoor ducts.

3. Insulated Rectangular Ducts

Prior to adding 3M[™] VentureClad[™], ducts should first be insulated. Typically, they are insulated with a fiberglass board faced with FSK or some other factory applied facing. Before applying 3M[™] VentureClad[™], all seams should first be taped with an aluminum foil based 3M[™] Venture Tape[™] such as 1525CW FSK tape, 1520CW aluminum foil tape, or 1517CW aluminum foil tape. These boards are also typically first installed and held in place using pins and speed washers (as shown on Figure 1 below). Be certain that the pins have been cut as close as possible to the speed washers. The 3M[™] VentureClad[™] should be applied over top of the pins and washers after first applying 3M[™] Venture Tape[™] foil tape over each pin-washer combination. See Figure 2.



































Figure 17 shows a first section of 3M VentureClad applied to the insulated duct. Note the joint reinforced with 1577CW 3MTM Venture TapeTM is only necessary when using 1579GCW 3MTM VentureCladTM. The next step will be to duplicate this process on the duct section adjacent to this section. Note that the more flexible 1578CW 3MTM Venture TapeTM may also be used to seal the 3MTM VentureCladTM seams.









4. Insulated rectangular duct reducers















Figure 26 shows the location for the application of the cut 3M[™] VentureClad[™] to bottom of the insulated rectangular duct reducer. Note that there will be a 3 inch (75mm) overlap of each of the bottom faces of both the larger and smaller insulated duct sections.



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5. Insulated Rectangular Duct, 90° Elbows





 $3M^{\text{TM}}$ VentureCladTM for a horizontal duct with 4 pieces of cut $3M^{\text{TM}}$ VentureCladTM. Hence, each rectangular elbow has two sides (Sections 1 and 2), a bottom or throat (Section 3) and a top or heel (Section 4). In the case of one vertical duct transitioning to a horizontal duct, the sequence is the same.





















 $3M^{\text{TM}}$ VentureCladTM. Note that the heel and throat edges, as well as the butt joint between the straight rectangular duct and the elbow, must all be sealed with $3M^{\text{TM}}$ Venture TapeTM (either 1577CW or 1578CW). Feather the $3M^{\text{TM}}$ Venture TapeTM as necessary to get it to lay down on the elbow sides.

6. Insulated Rectangular Duct Supports

























7. Repairs to rips and tears in 3M[™] VentureClad[™] Product on Insulated Ducts

Figure 61: Sometimes the 3M[™] VentureClad[™] on a duct develops a rip or tear. When it does so, it should be repaired as soon as possible using 3M[™] Venture Tape[™]. Fortunately, doing so is relatively easy.





8. Using caulk to seal penetrations



Figure 64 shows a couple of penetrations of $3M^{\text{TM}}$ VentureCladTM jacketing on the side of an insulated duct. $3M^{\text{TM}}$ Venture TapeTM cannot be effectively used to seal this electrical box and conduit bracket. So, there are gaps surrounding those components that need to be sealed.



Figure 65 shows 3M's recommendation, namely that a suitable outdoor caulk can be applied to seal the four sides of the electrical box and the conduit bracket. 3M also recommends that the caulked seams be inspected once a year and, if the caulk is found to have cracked and / or separated from the $3M^{\text{TM}}$ VentureCladTM, that it be removed and replaced with fresh caulk.

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