



INNOVATIONS FOR LIVING®

OptiLiner™ Banded Liner System Fall Protection

The Facts about Banded Fabric Liner System Fall Protection in Metal Building Roofs

There are many claims made relative to the fall protection provided by Banded Liner Systems in the market today. During the development of the Owens Corning™ Banded Liner System, we conducted extensive testing against the current OSHA standards (OSHA 1910 subpart D, OSHA 1926.500 – 1926.503, and OSHA 1910.66, Appendix C, Section I). For expert guidance on interpreting these standards, we hired Ellis Fall Safety Solutions - an industry leading company in the area of fall prevention safety. Ellis helped us work through the testing protocol and provided oversight for our testing process.

We quickly learned that there are challenges to provide a banded liner roof system that truly delivers leading edge fall protection. To meet the OSHA Fall Protection Standard the installed roof system must withstand the force of a 400 lb. bag dropped from 42" above the walking surface (i.e. the top of the purlins). The bag must not fall through to the floor. Using materials similar to those used in systems today, the Owens Corning system passed the test when the bag was dropped in the center of a roof bay. The system held the bag and there was very little tearing since energy was dissipated over the length of the purlins, banding and fabric. It was a different story, however, when the bag was dropped

Diagram A

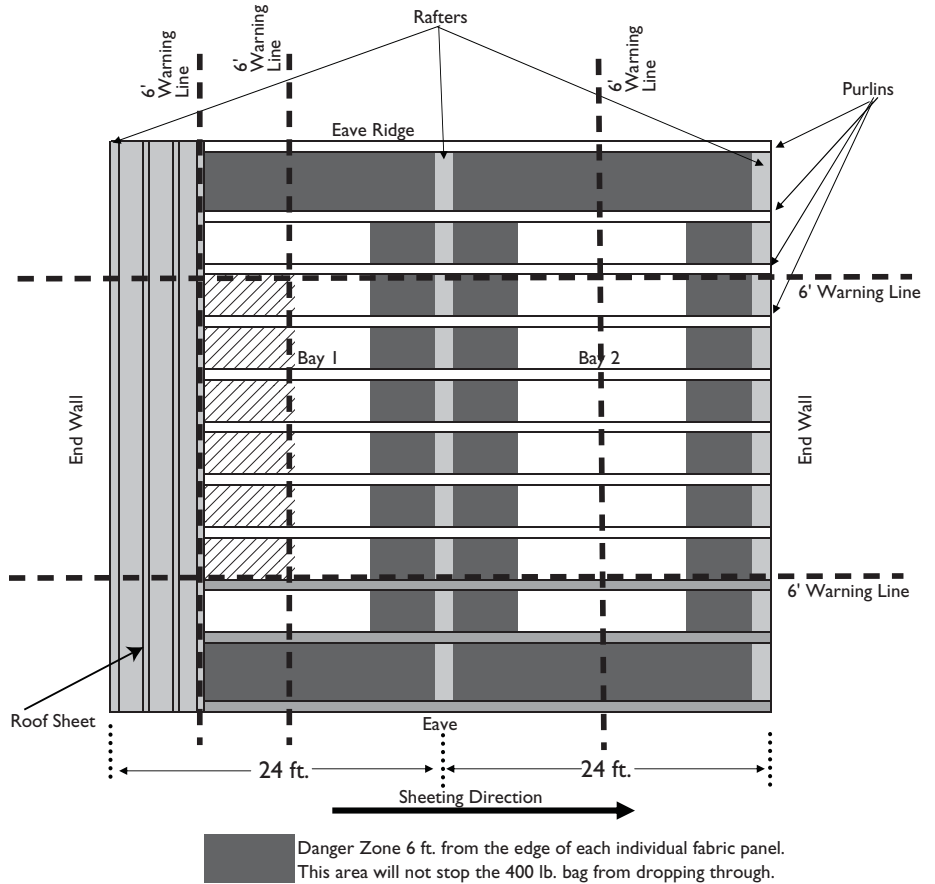


Diagram A shows the bag drop results that were completed with Ellis. The unhatched areas are at risk of the 400 pound bag dropping through.

near the eave or a rafter. The bag stressed the fabric, broke the bands and ultimately ripped through the fabric and fell to the ground. These results were consistent and dramatic (diagram A). Owens Corning evaluated alternative fabric, banding, screw and adhesive options without significant improvements in performance when testing the system near the rafter and eave. We also tested a competitive system that claims fall protection and the results were the same.

The competitive system failed when the bag was dropped near edge areas in the roof structure.

Owens Corning will not promote our system in a way that may give an installer a false sense of security relative to fall protection performance. Therefore, the new Owens Corning™ Banded Liner System does not claim to provide fall protection, leading edge or otherwise. Workers using the system will need to tie off and follow a comprehensive site-specific safety plan.



INNOVATIONS FOR LIVING®

OptiLiner™ Banded Liner System Fall Protection

Owens Corning notified OSHA of our findings on April 7, 2009. We are waiting for an official response to our questions on current systems that claim fall protection.

Banded Fabric Liner Systems offer the ability to maximize thermal performance in metal building roofs and walls, but do not provide complete fall protection.

If you have questions, please contact Owens Corning at 1-800-GET-PINK®.



INNOVATIONS FOR LIVING®

OWENS CORNING INSULATING SYSTEMS, LLC
ONE OWENS CORNING PARKWAY
TOLEDO, OHIO 43659

1-800-GET-PINK™
www.owenscorning.com



Pub. No. 10011971. Printed in U.S.A. January 2010. THE PINK PANTHER™ & ©1964-2010 Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios Inc. All Rights Reserved. The color PINK is a registered trademark of Owens Corning. ©2010 Owens Corning.