

Application Report No. A 12-5e
Cleaning of Corrugated Eternit Roofs
(Asbestos cement roof panels)

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Status: 11/2004

S.Smets

Roof plates made of asbestos cement weather strongly after 15-20 years. The problem which then arises is that the asbestos material in the eternit panels is blown away by the wind and pollutes the environment. Asbestos fibres are a considerable health hazard as they are respirable and can cause cancer.



A Surface Cleaner was designed especially for this application and the roof panels were cleaned with high pressure water (400 - 600 bar). After the cleaning process the panels can be recoated and painted as required.

The suppliers of the coating materials are only prepared to give a guarantee of 10 years on their products when the underground surface is absolutely clean and adequately roughened. Our method fully satisfies these requirements. This application has been successfully in use in Germany and Austria since 1995.

Rate of surface preparation (on average) : **300 - 400 m² / h**

Of course, the above-mentioned performance rate is dependent on the condition, and size of the roof surface.

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Surface Cleaner with special rubber seals (undulating-profile) in operation.
The Surface Cleaner is guided up and down by a rope from the ridge of the roof.



One of our customers in Austria is running a complete system based on KAMAT "know-how", as shown in the diagram on the left.

The dirt and debris (asbestos fibres) washed off in the cleaning process must be dealt with in an ecologically-sound manner. The waste water is led off via the roof drainage system into a collection vehicle. The sludge containing asbestos particles is drained off and fed into a mixer and is then mixed with cement. The mixing process is controlled and recorded on a weighing machine.

The mixture of sludge and cement is poured into blocks and can then be disposed of in an environmentally-friendly manner. For example, the blocks can be used for securing dumpsites.

