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Wet Film Thickness (Test Procedure) for Internal, Balcony, and Rooftop Waterproofing

Objective: To determine the wet film thickness of the waterproofing membrane during the application process to ensure it meets the specified requirements and provides effective protection against water ingress.

Materials Required:

- Wet film thickness gauge
- Waterproofing membrane material
- Applicator (brush, roller, or spray equipment)
- Clean measuring container
- Clean cloth or paper towels

Procedure:

1. **Surface Preparation:**
 - Ensure that the surface to be waterproofed is clean, dry, and free from any contaminants, debris, or irregularities that may affect the membrane's adhesion and performance.
2. **Waterproofing Membrane Preparation:**
 - Mix the waterproofing membrane material thoroughly following the manufacturer's instructions. Ensure the membrane is well-dispersed and of uniform consistency.
3. **Application:**
 - Apply the waterproofing membrane to the surface using the chosen applicator method (brush, roller, or spray). Follow the manufacturer's recommended coverage rate and application thickness.
4. **Use of Wet Film Thickness Gauge:**
 - Take the wet film thickness gauge and place it perpendicular to the coated surface. Gently press the notched side of the gauge into the wet membrane until the substrate is reached.
 - Remove the gauge from the membrane, and any excess membrane on the gauge can be wiped off with a clean cloth or paper towel.
 - Observe the teeth of the gauge; the wet film thickness is the highest value where the membrane material remains in the notches.
5. **Record Measurement:**
 - Record the wet film thickness measurement in micrometers or mils at several locations on the coated surface. Take multiple measurements to ensure accuracy.
6. **Calculate Average Thickness:**
 - Add all the measured wet film thickness values together and divide by the number of measurements taken to calculate the average wet film thickness.
7. **Compare with Specified Requirements:**
 - Compare the average wet film thickness to the specified requirements provided by the waterproofing membrane manufacturer or project specifications. Ensure it meets the minimum and maximum thickness range.
8. **Adjustment (If Necessary):**
 - If the wet film thickness does not meet the specified requirements, adjust the application rate of the waterproofing membrane accordingly. Either increase or decrease the application rate as needed to achieve the desired thickness.
9. **Protection of Surrounding Areas:**
 - During the application of the waterproofing membrane, use plastic or other protective measures to prevent the membrane from coming into contact with sensitive surrounding areas like internal timber flooring.
10. **Clean-up:**
 - Clean the wet film thickness gauge, measuring container, and any application tools promptly after use to prevent the waterproofing membrane material from curing on the equipment.

Note: Conducting the wet film thickness test is crucial to ensure proper waterproofing performance and adherence to building codes and regulations. Following the recommended application thickness helps ensure the waterproofing membrane's effectiveness and longevity.

Please remember to follow the specific recommendations provided by the waterproofing membrane manufacturer for accurate and reliable results tailored to the product you are using.