

November 14, 2023

To: Carlisle SynTec Systems' Manufacturer's Representatives, Distributors, and Authorized Applicators

Re: Cold Weather Tips – Flexible FAST™ Dual Tank Adhesive, CAV-GRIP® III, and CAV-GRIP PVC

As temperatures across the country are beginning to drop, this reference will provide information you can share with your crews to achieve the best results on cold weather projects using Carlisle's Flexible FAST Dual Tank Adhesive, CAV-GRIP III, and CAV-GRIP PVC Adhesives.

Bottom end temperature:

Flexible FAST Dual Tanks can be installed down to 25°F (-4°C) ambient. Plan your workday to allow spraying above these temperatures. See Product Data Sheet for all requirements when using Flexible FAST Dual Tanks.

CAV-GRIP III can be installed down to 25°F (-4°C) when bonding TPO or EPDM and 15°F (-9°C) when used as a primer; 35°F (2°C) for **CAV-GRIP PVC**. See Product Data Sheet for vapor barrier storage requirements when using CAV-GRIP III as a primer in cold weather. Plan your workday to allow spraying above these temperatures.

Storage:

Flexible FAST Dual Tank Adhesive, CAV-GRIP III, and CAV-GRIP PVC: Whether at a distributor's shop or on the jobsite, always store the adhesive in a heated space with temperatures maintained between 70-90°F (21-32°C). Adhesive thickens, causing spray/pressure to weaken when tanks are below 70°F (21°C). Place the tanks on a pallet or piece of insulation to avoid contact with a cold steel or concrete deck that will act as a "heat sink." Do not store or heat Flexible FAST tanks in areas where temperatures reach 120°F (48°C) or higher. Do not store or heat CAV-GRIP III and CAV-GRIP PVC cylinders where temperatures reach 110°F (43°C) or higher.

Jobsite hot boxes:

Maintain hot box cylinder temperature around 90°F (32°C), so the cylinder stays above 70°F (21°C) when in use. Storing at 90°F (32°C) provides a safety factor, as cylinders will begin to cool once removed from the hot box. Keep the spray gun and hoses in the hot box before use. Remove the cardboard packaging to enhance the cylinder's ability to get warm in the hot box.

Heat blankets:

PowerBlanket Lite Heat Blankets are primarily used to maintain the temperature of a pre-warmed cylinder during installation. They should not be used in place of storing adhesive in a heated space, as they are not intended to bring cold tanks up to a usable temperature. Insulating the spray hose is an excellent way to help maintain adhesive temperature to the spray gun. Do not use standard heat bands, as they don't have temperature controls and can overheat the tanks.

Swap out tanks that become cold:

Flexible FAST Dual Tank Adhesive: If the spray gun begins to spit, sputter, or lose the spray pattern, you may have cold material. Rotate cold tanks back into the hot box and swap them with a preheated set. **A 90°F (32°C) hot box will raise the material temperature of a cold tank by 1°F per hour.**

CAV-GRIP III and CAV-GRIP PVC Adhesive: If the spray gun begins to spit, sputter, or lose the spray pattern, you may have cold material. Rotate a cold cylinder back into the hot box and swap it with a pre-heated cylinder. If sputtering continues, refer to the CAV-GRIP Guns & Hoses cleaning procedures.

Check for string time with Flexible FAST:

Variations with ambient and substrate temperatures impact the reaction time of low-rise adhesives. For example, if material, substrate, and ambient air are 70°F (21°C), string time should occur around 2 minutes. When the substrate and ambient air temperatures are reduced to 25°F (-4°C), with the material temperature at 70°F (21°C), string time could take up to 8 minutes.

Activate propellant with Flexible FAST Dual Tank Adhesive:

Shaking the tanks for 30 seconds or 30 shakes is required to activate the propellant. Shaking the tanks once every hour will ensure that propellant is mixed with the adhesive. **Note:** *A properly shaken, "mixed" tank will have a thud sound when tapped with an object. A tank that requires additional shaking will have a ping sound.*

Check for blushing with CAV-GRIP Adhesives:

As adhesive flashes off on cool days, it can lower the surface temperature below the dew point, causing moisture to form on the surface of the adhesive. After adhesive flashes off, slide a dry hand across the surface of the adhesive to ensure moisture has evaporated and the surface is dry prior to installing the membrane.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your Carlisle Manufacturer's Representative.