

PVC Roof Recycling Specification Language – CSI Format

[Note to Specifier: PVC roofs have a proven track record of being recycled into new roofing products and other products/applications. If you have an **existing mechanically attached PVC roof** and you plan to remove the PVC roof, it is an ideal candidate for recycling. Recycling the PVC roof membrane requires a little bit more planning and coordination. In most cases there is a slight increase in labor cost associated with the bundling and packaging of the original PVC roof membrane, which can be somewhat reduced by dumpster and landfill savings. You can build the recycling into your overall cost, or you can ask for a recycling cost to be broken out as a separate line item. Insert the language below into your project specifications.]

Part 1 – General Conditions

Description

A. Scope

- Removal and recycling of an existing mechanically attached or induction welded PVC roof membrane and replacement with _____.
- If you are unsure of the thermoplastic roof membrane type (PVC or TPO), send a sample to your PVC roofing manufacturer for their determination.
- The roofing contractor shall facilitate a meeting/discussion with the building owner, and PVC roofing manufacturer involved with the new roof to discuss roof top recycling steps, staging, safety and logistics. This could be part of the normal pre-construction meeting.
- Where possible, reuse the pallets and cardboard tubes that came with the new membrane to help facilitate the recycling of the old roof and minimize construction debris to landfill.

B. Related Work

Removal and preparation of existing PVC roof membrane for transportation to recycling facility.

- Roofing contractor responsible for existing roofing system disassembly, removal of membrane from roof, safely packaging of PVC roofing membrane, and loading on to flatbed trailer.
- Roofing contractor responsible for contacting PVC roofing manufacturer or recycler a minimum of 3 days prior to day needed for pick up.
- Options may be available where the PVC roofing manufacturer or recycler is responsible for coordinating and/or partially paying for shipment of old membrane to the recycling facility. Maximizing the amount of PVC roof that is safely loaded onto flatbed is a key factor of recycling costs. Full truckloads are needed. Partial trucks could be charged for.

Part 3 - Execution

Substrate Preparation

The existing PVC roof membrane shall be removed and packaged for shipment to a recycling facility.

- Sweep or blow loose debris from the roofing membrane.
- Slit membrane between the rows of fasteners and plates or cut around the induction welding plates.
- Membrane must be free of excessive dirt or large debris.
- Membrane must be free of all metal.

There are a number of acceptable ways to package/bundle the old PVC roof:

1. Roll method: Cut the membrane on the roof in manageable sizes and using the cardboard tubes and pallets from the new membrane, stack the rolls in a pyramid or 4 across configuration.
2. Log Cabin method: Cut the membrane on the roof in manageable sizes and roll up (without cardboard tubes) and position rolls all in one direction on top of provided pallets. Start another layer in perpendicular direction on top of the first layer. Continue with this stacking method until the pallet is at acceptable bearing weight.
3. Cut and Stack method: Cut the membrane on the roof to match the size of the pallets that will be used. Stack the cut pieces of membrane to maximize what can be put on a pallet (weight wise).
4. Ribbon Candy method: Ribbon folding the old roof membrane onto the pallet is another effective method of maximizing weight on a pallet.
5. Super Sack method: Membrane can be cut and rolled up and inserted into supersacks that can be lifted by crane off roof and onto flat beds. Can be used with or without pallets.
6. Contractor Fabricated Wooden Gaylords method: Built mostly out of pallet and wood provided with new PVC membrane delivered to jobsite. Cut membrane on the roof in manageable sizes and roll up and insert into fabricated gaylord.
7. Dumpster method: Using 10-, 20-, and 40-yard dumpsters is acceptable for projects near recycler within allowable transport distance for dumpster.

Consult with your PVC roofing manufacturer or recycler to determine the best method of packaging/bundling the PVC roof for your project. In all cases, metal straps/bands should be used to effectively secure the membrane to the pallets and then strapped to the truck bed for safe transportation to recycler.

The CFFA Vinyl Roofing Division website, www.vinylroofs.org, is a great source of information for PVC roof manufacturers, recycling history and statistics, and packaging/bundling instructions for contractors.