



August 13, 2020

Attention: Dow Silicones Corporation Customer

Re: **Cold Weather Application of Dow Silicone Sealants**

The purpose of this letter is to address the cold weather installation of DOWSIL™ silicone building sealants.

### **Substrate Preparation**

When caulking at temperatures below the dew and frost point, 40°F / 4°C and lower, the surfaces must be clean, dry and frost-free.

No sealant should be installed immediately following or in anticipation of rain or snowfall. If unexpected snow or rain occurs, note it in the project log so field testing can be done on the potentially affected areas approximately two weeks later.

An open flame is not recommended to dry the joints. This may leave hydrocarbon deposits and excess moisture on the surface that can impede adhesion. Do not dry the joints with a heater or blow dryer. Heating can cause moisture condensation to occur on metal once it cools. A moisture meter should be used to assure the substrates are dry before caulking; a control sample can be kept in the job office for reference if there are any questions.

Isopropanol alcohol (IPA) and methylethylketone (MEK) are water soluble and may be more appropriate for winter cleaning, as they help in removing condensation and frost.

DOWSIL™ Silicone Building Sealants are not water based, so freezing temperatures above the limits given in the chart below will not cause the sealants to thicken excessively. This characteristic allows the sealants to be applied in cold weather.

In cold temperatures the cure rate may be slower because colder temperatures generally have lower humidity levels. DOWSIL™ one-part sealants require moisture in the atmosphere to cure. The sealants will ultimately cure to the same physical properties as they do when applied in warmer temperatures.

### **Cold Weather Application – Low Temperature Application Limit**

DOWSIL™ 790 Silicone Building Sealant -20° F (-29° C)  
DOWSIL™ 791 Silicone Weatherproofing Sealant -20° F (-29° C)  
DOWSIL™ 795 Silicone Building Sealant -20° F (-29° C)  
DOWSIL™ 995 Silicone Structural Sealant -20° F (-29° C)  
DOWSIL™ 756 SMS Building Sealant -20° F (-29° C)  
DOWSIL™ 758 Silicone Weather Barrier Sealant -20° F (-29° C)



On behalf of Dow, we appreciate your business and your commitment to silicone technology. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

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DOW HIGH PERFORMANCE BUILDING SOLUTIONS  
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