



## Technical Bulletin

May 2020

# VistaBond for Firestone Fully Adhered Systems

### Introduction

As an alternative to the BetterSpreader please note that a new (European) version, the VistaBond Spreader, is available for the automatic application of Firestone BA-2012 adhesive. The VistaBond has the same benefits as other Spreader installation tools (gravity fed, high coverage, lightweight, easy to use)<sup>1</sup> however it's designed for a perfect fit of the BA-2012 20L pails. VistaBond Spreader is available in one size and its manufacturer has also a handy Hole Piercing device in its product range for a more safe and user-friendly application:



**14" VistaBond Spreader**  
14" rollers (35 cm)



**VistaBond HP Tool**  
(Hole Piercing Tool)

### Coverage

Using this equipment the adhesive will be more evenly spread over the surface, resulting in a reduced amount of adhesive required without affecting the performance. On mid-size to large projects and on a smooth substrate, under normal weather conditions, the coverage rate using this apparatus will be approx. 60-70 m<sup>2</sup> per 20 liter pail. On rougher substrates (bitumen renovation) and/or in more extreme weather conditions (very hot temperatures) coverage rate will be approx. 50 m<sup>2</sup> per 20 liter pail. An adhesive with a higher viscosity, like the BA-2004(T), may in fact be preferable in these conditions<sup>1</sup>. The coverage rates will also depend on applied settings during usage (see below instructions).

<sup>1</sup>

#### Note

Because of the specific lid of the BA-2004(T) and the TPO Bonding Adhesive as well as the higher viscosity of these adhesives, Firestone still recommends using the SuperSpreader with these adhesives.



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## Application

One man can operate the VistaBond Spreader whilst a second one follows behind with a hand roller to avoid puddles or areas with no adhesive. You should increase or reduce the walking speed in order to achieve the proposed coverage rate. Also the size of the holes and the distance between these holes in the BA-2012 pail can be adjusted to optimize coverage rate. Note that the viscosity of the adhesive depends on its temperature, so the above parameters may need to be adjusted during the day. This two-man operation significantly reduces installation time and labor costs.



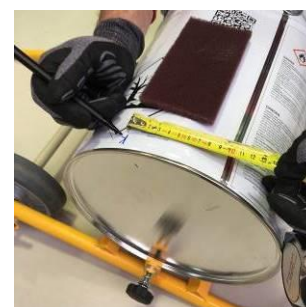
## Set-up guidelines

- Before you start, refer to manufacturer's instructions guidelines, Technical Information Sheets and all related safety regulations. Wear protective gloves, clothing and eye/face protection.
- Use 20 liter pails of BA-2012.
- Open the pail and mix the adhesive sufficiently. Close the pail, ensuring that the lid is secure and tightly sealed. Open the frame of the VistaBond and position the pail of BA-2012 with its bottom directed towards the side of the frame containing the pin screw (to make an air-hole, see further).



TIP: Position the pail in such a way that its seam falls together with the bolts (see next step), i.e. with QR barcode facing upwards.

- Close the framework properly with the toggle clamp and make sure the adhesive pail is properly fixed.
- Put the VistaBond Spreader in "use" mode in order to verify and mark the underside of the pail. If above tip was followed, this should be app. 75 mm from pail seam.
- Put the VistaBond Spreader in "stand-by" mode again, re-opening the framework.
- Mark the holes, through which the adhesive will flow once the VistaBond Spreader is in use mode, **approx. each 15-25 mm** (i.e. about 12-18 holes); Use the Vistaco HP Tool for a safe and user-friendly way doing this. In conjunction with the users experience you can determine the optimal distance between the holes under various conditions.



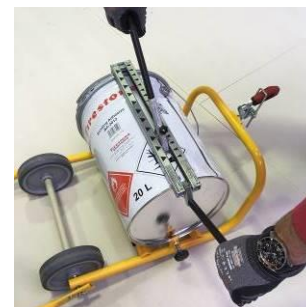
TIP: the closer the distance between the holes, the less back-rolling will be needed.



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Pierce the holes using the Vistaco HP Tool<sup>2</sup> using nails of **4-5 mm diameter**. Under good weather conditions (between 10 °C and 20 °C) the recommended diameter to start with is 4.5 mm. Adjust the diameter according the onsite weather conditions, for example: smaller holes in extreme hot temperatures (**min. 4 mm diam.**); larger holes in colder weather conditions (**max. 5 mm diam.**). The Vistaco HP Tool comes with a set of nails containing different diameters. You can simple replace the nails of the Vistaco HP Tools.



- Finally close the framework properly with the toggle clamp and make sure the adhesive pail is properly fixed.
- Always try to prepare a big enough roof surface to be adhered (50-70 m<sup>2</sup>) as a complete pail will have to be used in each process!
- Set VistaBond Spreader in “use” position. Use the pin screw attached on the VistaBond frame to make an air-hole in the adhesive pail (in order to avoid creating a vacuum inside the pail). Leave this hole closed till the spreader is in use.
- Start applying the adhesive and gradually open the pin screw of the air-hole during first meters of usage. If the air hole is opened immediately, the adhesive flow will quicken, and therefore walking speed will also need to be faster. However, the BA-2012 flow will gradually reduce, due to the lower pressure of the pail running empty, and walking speed will also need to be reduced.
- Make sure the adhesive is uniformly spread over substrate (first) and (then) membrane. Back rolling might be necessary to achieve this! This will optimize drying time of the adhesive.
- In case you need to put the VistaBond Spreader back into stand-by position whilst the pail is not empty, ensure to close all hole(s). This can be temporarily done by adhering a piece of roofing membrane over the holes, considering these are facing upwards.

## <sup>2</sup> **Caution!**

When using a flammable liquid with the VistaBond Spreader, care should be taken to avoid creating a spark. Electric drills should NOT be used. Utilize a non-sparking tool to open the holes in the pail of adhesive by impact. Please refer to Safety Data Sheets. Using the Vistaco HP Tool considerably reduce these risks.



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- Pour the rest of the Bonding Adhesive into another pail if it's not going to be used immediately after.
- Monitor coverage rate and adjust above settings if necessary.
- When adhesive is completely dry (perform the touch-push test procedure), mate the two adhesive surfaces and apply pressure with a broom to ensure full contact.



## Further helpful Tips

- Assemble the VistaBond Spreader based on the assembly instructions provided by the manufacturer.
- Spray wheels and all frame parts which could come into contact with adhesive sufficiently with a silicone spray prior to each use. This will ease maintenance after use. Do not allow silicon spray to contaminate membrane directly.
- The VistaBond frame should be regularly cleaned to remove Bonding Adhesive residue (after each use).
- After each use, wrap the with adhesive saturated roller in a plastic sheet or a piece of membrane to prevent drying, disassemble from the VistaBond and temporarily stored in a dry and cool environment. If necessary, use an insulated box to maintain the adhesive at moderate temperatures during transport to the job site, before and during the application.
- The application roller needs to be replaced regularly. Make sure enough spare rollers are available on the jobsite.



## Order data

Please contact your local Firestone Authorized Distributor or Sales Representative.