

# Steep Slope Technical Point

TO: Steep Slope Sales Team,  
GAF-Elk Contractors, GAF-Elk  
Distributors.

FROM: Contractor Services

DATE: 10/1/07

No: I17-07

## SUBJECT: *Improperly Driven Nails*

<p><i>What Are Improperly Driven Nails?</i></p>	<p><b>Nails that are...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beneath the surface (granules) of the shingle</li> <li>• Left above the surface of the shingle</li> <li>• Driven in at an angle, cutting into the shingle</li> </ul>
<p><i>Over Driven Nails...</i></p>	<p><b>Over-driving nails...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can drive the nails right through the shingle</li> <li>• May barely hold the shingle to the roof deck, which will allow them to slide off of the roof deck</li> <li>• Can be caused when the nail gun is set to the wrong pressure</li> </ul>
<p><i>Under Driven Nails...</i></p>	<p><b>Under-driving nails...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• leads to nail "pop" when the deck moves (expands and contracts)</li> <li>• can lift the shingle away from the self-sealant</li> <li>• pre-disposes "lifted" shingles to blow off in a wind event</li> <li>• can create holes in the shingles above if the nail pops through it</li> </ul>
<p><i>Angled Nails...</i></p>	<p><b>Angled nails are not flush to the surface of the shingle and ...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will cut thru shingles</li> <li>• Are subject to deck movement</li> </ul>
<p><i>What Is The Remedy?</i></p>	<p><b>To repair improperly driven nails at time of installation...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove the nail</li> <li>• Properly install a new nail</li> <li>• Repair hole with plastic roof cement</li> </ul> <p><b>To repair improperly driven nails after installation...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carefully lift the overlaying shingle and remove improperly driven nail</li> <li>• Install a new nail in the proper location</li> <li>• Install roof cement over hole and to ensure proper sealing of the shingle above</li> </ul> <p><b>Check shingle application instructions...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To determine the number and location of the dabs of cement to be used for hand sealing. All GAF-Elk shingle application instructions have hand sealing procedures listed</li> <li>• Follow the instructions for the particular product to be sealed</li> </ul>
<p><i>Where Can I Get More Information?</i></p>	<p><b>Yes. GAF-Elk Technical Services can assist you...</b> with these and other questions you may have regarding your new roof installation. GAF-Elk Technical Services can be contacted <b>at 800-ROOF-411 (800-766-3411)</b>. Also, <i>the GAF-Elk website is a great resource</i> for just about any question you may have or for additional information you may require. That site is at: <a href="http://www.gaf.com">www.gaf.com</a></p>

