



**IFOAM Specialty Products
Corporation**

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To: **ALL IPOLE-WPK CUSTOMERS**

re: **IPOLE-WPK** - Differences Between **IFOAM** Summer and Winter Formulas

Dear Customers:

This letter is to clear any confusion that your crews have regarding the differences in reaction times between our Summer and Winter formula **IPOLE-WPK** Woodpecker Hole Repair Kits. With each formula, the physical properties of the cured **IPOLE-WPK** Woodpecker Hole Repair are the same. The difference is in the amount of working time available and how long before the **IFOAM** hardens.

It is important to remember **THE AMOUNT OF WORKING TIME FOR BOTH IFOAM FORMULAS IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE TEMPERATURE OF THE IFOAM RESIN (BROWN SIDE) NOT TO THE OUTSIDE OR AMBIENT TEMPERATURE.**

A good rule of thumb to use is:

With **SUMMER FORMULA**, you have approx. 28 minutes of working time at a **RESIN TEMPERATURE OF 77°F**.

With **WINTER FORMULA**, you have approx. 14 minutes of working time at the same **RESIN TEMPERATURE OF 77°F**.

As with any polymer, the **WARMER** the **IFOAM** the **FASTER** the reaction. Similarly, the **COOLER** the **IFOAM** the **SLOWER** the reaction.

FOR EVERY 8-1/2°F change in IFOAM RESIN temperature, the working time either DOUBLES (when IFOAM is COOLED) or is CUT IN HALF (when IFOAM is WARMED).

As an example; with our Summer **IFOAM** formula, when the **IPOLE-WPK** kit is warmed to 85.5°F (77°F plus 8.5°F) the working time is 14 minutes (half of the 28 minutes). Warming **IFOAM** another 8.5°F to 94°F, the working time is again cut in half to 7 minutes. Conversely, cooling **IFOAM** to 68.5°F (77°F minus 8.5°F) the working time becomes 56 minutes (double the 28 minutes). Cooling **IFOAM** another 8.5°F to 60°F, the working time is nearly 2 hours (double the 56 minutes).

This same Working Time vs. **IFOAM** Temperature relationship holds true for the Winter **IFOAM** Formula as well. The only difference is that with Winter formula, the working times are generally half of those with Summer formula at the same **IFOAM** resin temperature

With **IFOAM**, the lineman can control the amount of working time simply by controlling the **IFOAM** resin temperature. To assist crews with the use of this product, we recommend they use an insulated soft-sided cooler or a **PECKER POUCH** to maintain the desired **IFOAM** temperature as well as to transport the **IPOLE-WPK** kits up the pole.

Over the years we have found that most utility crews are using Summer Formula year around. In the summer they have found the longer working time to be a definite advantage. In the winter the additional working time allows the resin to be warmed or softened for easier mixing without over-accelerating the chemical reaction. Ultimately the formula chosen is simply a matter of personal preference.

Please give your Sales Representative a call if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Phil Landers
President