

We claim:

1. An asphaltic sheet comprising:
an asphaltic component including an asphalt binder; and
a layer including expandable graphite, where said layer is adjacent to said asphaltic component.
2. The asphaltic sheet as claimed in claim 1, where the asphaltic component further includes a polymeric modifier dispersed within the asphalt binder.
3. The asphaltic sheet of any as claimed in claim 1, where the asphaltic component includes a textile fabric embedded therein.
4. The asphaltic sheet as claimed in claim 1, further including a polymeric layer laminated to said asphaltic component.
5. The asphaltic sheet as claimed in claim 1, where said asphaltic component is a planar body of asphalt material and includes first and second planar surfaces, and where said expandable graphite is deposited on said first planar surface, and further including a polymeric layer laminated to said first planar surface.
6. The asphaltic sheet as claimed in claim 1, further including a release film removably secured to said second surface.
7. The asphaltic sheet as claimed in claim 1, where the expandable graphite is characterized by an onset temperature of at least 130 ° C.
8. The asphaltic sheet as claimed in claim 1, where the asphaltic component further includes a flame retardant dispersed within the asphalt binder.

9. The asphaltic sheet as claimed in claim 1, where the thickness of the layer including expandable graphite is from about 10 μm to about 3 mm.
10. A composite sheet comprising:
 - a planar body including asphalt material, said planar body having first and second opposed planar surfaces;
 - expandable graphite deposited on said first planar surface.
11. The composite sheet as claimed in claim 10, further including a polymeric sheet laminated to said first planar surface of said planar body thereby sandwiching said expandable graphite between said plan body and said polymeric sheet.
12. The composite sheet as claimed in claim 10, further including a textile embedded within said planar body of asphalt.
13. The composite sheet as claimed in claim 10, further including a release film removably secured to said second planar surface of said planar body.
14. The composite sheet as claimed in claim 10, further including release agents deposited on said first planar surface.
15. The composite as claimed in claim 10, where said expandable graphite is held in place on said first planar surface by said asphalt material of said planar body.
16. The composite as claimed in claim 10, where said expandable graphite is adhered to said first planar surface by said asphalt material.
17. A method for producing an asphaltic sheet, the method comprising:

- a. providing an asphaltic sheet; and
 - b. applying expandable graphite particles to the asphaltic sheet.
18. The method as claimed in claim 17, where said step of applying includes dropping the expandable graphite onto a sheet that has been coated with molten asphalt, and where the expandable graphite is dropped at a rate and amount to create at least a partial layer of expandable graphite particles adjacent to the asphalt of the coated asphalt sheet.
19. The method as claimed in claim 17, where said step of applying includes at least partially embedding some of the graphite particles in to the asphalt such that the asphalt serves as a binder to hold the graphite particles in place or serves to adhere the graphite particles to the surface of the sheet.
20. The method as claimed in claim 17, where said step of applying includes dropping expandable graphite on to an asphaltic sheet after the asphaltic sheet is prepared from a molten asphalt composition and prior to a substantial cooling of the asphalt material.

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