

## Custom Covers Technical Guide (I)

### Snow

#### Snow Loading Guidance

- ❑ Custom Covers Marquees are not snow loaded. This follows common practice amongst European manufacturers which typically do not include snow loading in design calculations.
- ❑ If it snows active management is therefore required to keep any snow loading to a minimum
- ❑ Removal of the snow is required, especially wet snow as this builds up weight very rapidly
- ❑ Removal can be mechanical, by use of brushes from the outside or pushing from inside, but it is important to check the area where the snow will land is free of people and other obstructions
- ❑ Build up can be significantly reduced by heating the structure to at least 12 °C as this heats the PVC and melts the snow as it falls.
- ❑ When Clearing snow mechanically care is to be taken if operating from ladders
- ❑ Ropes thrown over the structure and pulled along the roof will also help loosen the snow allowing it to fall.
- ❑ Here is the Official MUTA Guidance on the subject:
  - In winter, where there is a danger of snow, clients should be advised of the need to heat the structure to prevent snow build-up endangering the structure's stability. This is a particular danger where adjacent structures form a valley.
  - 6.7.1 Very few tented structures have snow-load capacity and if snow is a possibility the structure must be heated in order to maintain a minimum temperature of 12°C to prevent build-up of snow on the roof.
- ❑ Valleys between tents and buildings or adjacent tents, can be a particular problem when snow builds up and clients should be made aware of the danger and the need to remove excess weight from these areas.