

# Project Profile



## **Project**

Culinary Arts and Hospitality  
Management Institute  
Pulaski Technical College  
Little Rock, Arkansas

## **Owner**

Pulaski Technical College

## **Roofing Contractor**

Freedom Roofing Solutions, Inc.  
Vilonia, Arkansas

## **Architect**

TAGGART Architects  
North Little Rock, Arkansas

## **General Contractor**

Kinco Constructors, LLC  
Little Rock, Arkansas

## **Roofing System**

Mechanically-attached 60 mil  
Sikaplan® membrane in white,  
with 72 mil Sikaplan used for  
high traffic areas surrounding  
rooftop mechanical equipment

## **Project Size**

31,497 square feet

## **Completed**

May 2013

## **Sikaplan Roof Brings the Right Ingredients to Culinary Institute**

The Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management Institute at Pulaski Technical College in Little Rock, Arkansas, recently opened a brand new facility that can accommodate 600 students who will be offered the chance to study baking and pastry, culinary arts, hospitality management, and wine and spirits. The Institute is the only American Culinary Federation Education Foundation accredited school in Arkansas, and is also accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Programs in Hospitality Administration, making it one of the few colleges in the country with dual accreditation. The Wine and Spirits Studies program is also accredited by the Wine and Spirits Education Trust (London, England).

Like many of the meals prepared at the Institute, the new, \$16 million building of glass, aluminum and metal panels, and brick is a work of art. The 57,000 square-foot facility boasts 10 commercial grade teaching kitchens built for specific purposes such as baking, butchery, and candy making. There is also a wine cellar with more than a thousand wine bottles

and a 128 seat celebrity chef theater with Viking Range kitchen appliances for live cooking demonstrations. Dispersed throughout the teaching kitchens are 32 flat screen television monitors that can display an instructor's cooking demonstration or other audio-visual information. Hospitality students can attend class in a large suite with a fully operational hotel room with a bedroom on one side of the room and a hotel front desk on the other side.

The building is also LEED® certified and the first zero-waste culinary school in the nation.

## **A Recipe for Success**

Selecting the right roofing system for this energy-efficient building required a careful look at the "ingredients" of the roof. "We originally specified a modified bitumen single ply roof," said Mike Callahan, AIA, project manager at TAGGART Architects of North Little Rock, Arkansas. "But when the project was put out to bid we received a request from the roofing subcontractor to substitute the modified bitumen roof with Sika Sarnafil's Sikaplan PVC roof. This was a great roof for this building, and the white roof's high solar reflective index was a big contributor to this building being LEED

**Sika**®

**Sarnafil**®

certified. Installing this superior Sika Sarnafil roof at a comparable price to a modified bitumen roof was a win-win situation for both the owner and the contractor.”

“The entire team decided the Sika Sarnafil roof was the best application for this project,” added Jose Aldebot, project manager at Kinco Constructors, LLC of Little Rock, the general contractor for the building. “It offers important features such as low maintenance, reflectivity, and durability.”

“Another advantage of the Sikaplan roof was that it would be easier to install,” remarked Brian Kirk, a co-owner along with Keith Williams of Freedom Roofing Solutions, Inc. of Vilonia, Arkansas.

### A Blend of Technique and Talent

Freedom Roofing faced many challenges when installing the new roof system, which consisted of a metal deck, fully tapered polyisocyanurate insulation with an R-30 value, ¼ inch gypsum board, and the mechanically attached membrane. “The exterior of some parts of the building was made up of aluminum composite material (ACM) panels, so we had to coordinate with the ACM contractors to install the two systems together,” Kirk explained. “We shared flashing details for each product and then worked with each manufacturer’s technical department.”

Access to the building was also tricky. “The building was close to existing campus buildings and Interstate 30,” Kirk said. “This was also a multi-story building so building access was tight. We had to basically stage the uploading and downloading of materials around the other contractors. Our job superintendent Oscar Jimenez deserves a lot of credit for ensuring this installation went smoothly.”

Both Callahan and Aldebot stated that the numerous penetrations through the roof membrane also posed a challenge. “Not only did we have the penetrations for all the mechanical equipment, but also for the refrigeration equipment, the kitchen hoods, the exhaust fans, and all the conduit piping,” Callahan explained. “The Sikaplan membrane worked extremely well around these



penetrations. It also made some flashing details very simple to install. It worked out great. This project had some of the nicest looking flashing details I’ve ever seen.”

Sika Sarnafil’s technical support personnel were very helpful with all the details. “Whenever we had to submit details to them they were very quick to come up with a solution and send it back to us,” Kirk stated.

Aldebot added, “The Sika employees were very helpful with any questions that were raised before, during and after construction.”



Freedom Roofing was also praised for the quality of their work. “Freedom Roofing did an excellent job,” Callahan said. Aldebot remarked, “Freedom Roofing is one of our favorite roofing contractors and they performed as expected. They are committed to meeting our schedule and produce excellent quality.”

### A Pleasing Aftertaste

Despite being tested by some severe Arkansas summertime thunderstorms, the roof on the Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management Institute is “performing extremely well,” according to Callahan. “We have had no leaks or problems.”

“Pulaski Tech is very pleased with the roof,” said Kirk. “It is functioning well and looks good. I believe Sika Sarnafil roofing products have stood the test of time, and have proven over the years that it is a good product. I have done some work on some Sika Sarnafil roofs that are more than 30 years old, and the roof membrane is still performing well and easy to work with even after that length of time. That’s what’s sold me on Sika Sarnafil roofing systems.”

Aldebot simply stated, “I would definitely recommend a Sika Sarnafil roof again because it is my favorite roof.”

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