



# SIKA AT WORK

## REPUBLIC PLUMBING DISTRIBUTION BUILDING FRAMINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

SIKA SOLAROOF SYSTEM

**Sarnafil**

**BUILDING TRUST**



# SIKA SOLAROF HELPERS REPUBLIC PLUMBING'S CASH FLOW

If anyone knows anything about avoiding leaks, it's a plumbing company. So when Republic Plumbing, a 75-year-old, family owned plumbing, heating, and industrial supply company was looking for a solar solution for the roof of its distribution facility in Framingham, Massachusetts, it wanted a system that would not only deliver energy savings, but also could be attached without any roof penetrations that could cause leaks. "We are committed to sustainability and have recycling programs in all of our nine branches for recycling paper and cardboard products," said Bill Duggan, president of Republic Plumbing. "We wanted a 56-kW solar system that would save energy and that we could trust to perform well."

That's why Republic Plumbing chose the Sika SolaRoof system. The Sika SolaRoof system is a non-penetrating, integrated solar solution for Sarnafil PVC systems that offers many advantages over a traditional solar system. SolaRoof incorporates the proven performance of a Sarnafil Roof System with the Sika SolarMount 1 – an innovative, non-penetrating, engineering solution for long-term securement of solar rooftop photovoltaic. The system is lightweight because it requires no ballast and is hot-air welded to the Sarnafil roofing membrane with the Sika SolarClick welding flange, which is made with the same formulation as the membrane to avoid compatibility issues. And since both the PVC roofing membrane and solar mounting system are from Sika, they are covered up to 20 years by a single-source warranty.

## A PROVEN PERFORMER

"We have a long history with Sika Sarnafil, and trust their products," remarked Duggan. "The roof we had on this building before was a Sika Sarnafil roof that lasted 35 years!"

When Republic Plumbing decided to replace that roof in 2016, it decided to go with the Sarnafil RhinoBond system. The Sarnafil RhinoBond system uses Sarnafil's proven PVC roof membrane, which is attached using RhinoBond's advanced induction welding technology. RhinoBond secures the membrane directly to specially coated plates that are used to secure the insulation to the deck, all without penetrating the roofing membrane. The result is a roofing system with improved wind performance that requires 25 to 50 percent fewer fasteners and plates.

## GOING WITH THE FLOW

Six months after the RhinoBond system was installed, Centroplan of Cambridge, Massachusetts got to work installing the Sika SolarMount 1 racking system. Sika partnered with Centroplan to provide an "all-inclusive" solar system package, and to use the expertise of both companies to develop a solar roof tailored to the customer's needs.

"A partnership between a solar company and a roofing company

### PROJECT

Republic Plumbing Distribution Building  
Framingham, Massachusetts

### OWNER

Republic Plumbing

### SOLAR CONTRACTOR

Centroplan USA LLC  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

### SOLAR ROOFING SYSTEM

Sika SolaRoof system

### PROJECT SIZE

15,000 square feet

### COMPLETED

December 2016





is very rare, but by working together to design the right solar system for the customer, we can eliminate the worry that the solar rack installer might void the warranty of the roofing membrane manufacturer,” said Rocco Gerhardt, CEO of Centroplan. “Sika backs this up by including the solar racking system in its roofing warranty coverage. This is a good value for the building owner and is just one-way Sika is committed to making the world a better place by going ‘green.’”

The SolaRoof installation took place in December, so the installers had to deal with snowstorms and freezing temperatures. “The SolarMount is very easy and fast to install,” Gerhardt stated. “It took our crew of four workers less than a week to install.”

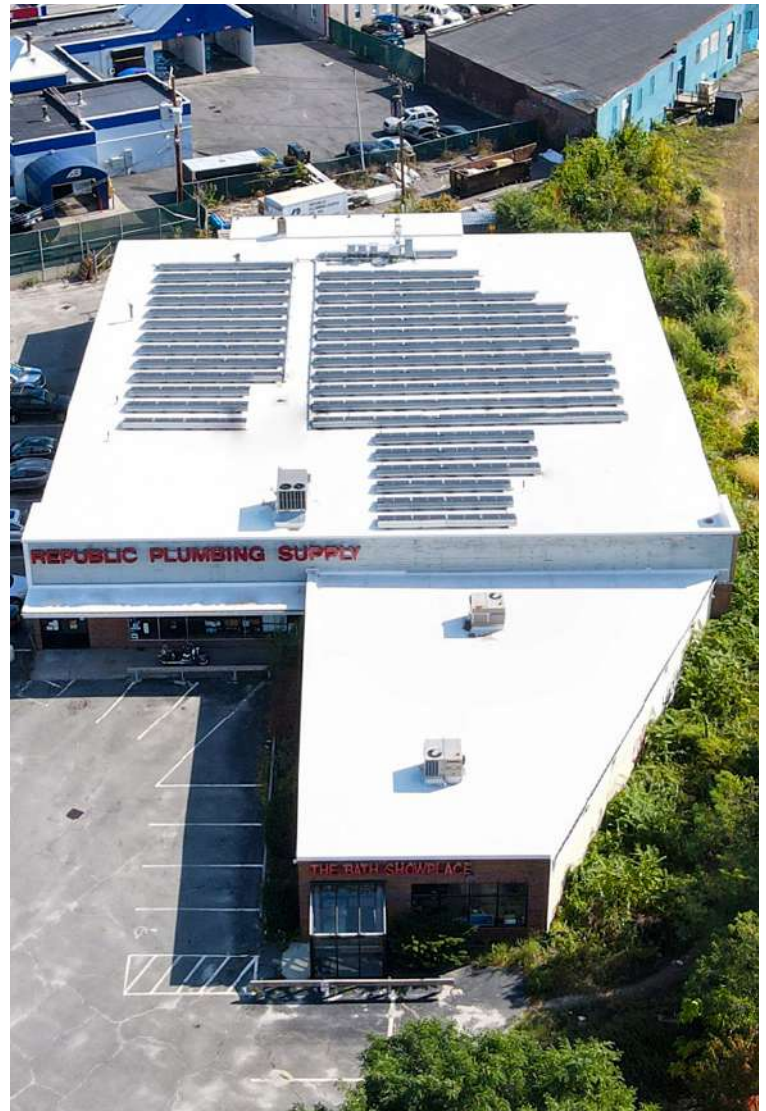
“Centroplan did a terrific job and were always in contact with me to keep me updated,” Duggan said. “Despite having to work around some snowstorms the SolaRoof installation went smoothly, and everything came out great.”

#### NO MONEY DOWN THE DRAIN

Republic Plumbing is incredibly pleased with the energy savings offered by the SolaRoof. “Every quarter we receive Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SREC) from Massachusetts, and we are now at the point where the system has actually paid for itself,” Duggan commented. “The roof is performing great, and we are going to be putting another SolaRoof on another branch soon. In fact, I wish we could put them on all our locations.”

He added, “We are thrilled with how everything turned out and feel that not only have we made a smart ‘green’ decision, but we have also increased the value of our building a great deal.”

And that’s no pipe dream.



# REPUBLIC PLUMBING DISTRIBUTION BUILDING



## WHO WE ARE

The commercial roofing industry has relied on thermoplastic single-ply membranes from Sika for more than 50 years to achieve sustainable roofing and waterproofing solutions.

Sika is a globally active specialty chemicals company. Sika supplies the building and construction industry as well as manufacturing industries (automotive, bus, truck, rail, solar and wind power plants, facades). Sika is a leader in processing materials used in sealing, bonding, damping, reinforcing and protecting load-bearing structures. Sika's product lines feature high-quality concrete admixtures, specialty mortars, sealants and adhesives, damping and reinforcing materials, structural strengthening systems, industrial flooring as well as roofing and waterproofing systems.

Our most current General Sales Conditions shall apply.  
Please consult the Product Data Sheet prior to any use and processing.  
ISO 14001: 2004-Compliant



ENERGY STAR® for roofing products is only valid in the United States  
ENERGY STAR is a trademark of the U.S. EPA.  
LEED® is a trademark of the U.S. Green Building Council.  
Green Globes® is a trademark of the Green Building Initiative

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