

Project Profile



Project

Warehouse Specialists, Inc.
Neenah, Wisconsin

Owner

Warehouse Specialists, Inc.
Appleton, Wisconsin

Roofing Contractor

Premier Roofing, Inc.
Green Bay, Wisconsin

Roofing System

Metal Retrofit System,
Sarnafil® S327 60 mil
membrane in
EnergySmart Roof®
white color

Project Size

102,050 square feet

Completed

August 2005

A Transportation Hub Takes Shape

When Warehouse Specialists, Inc. was looking for a new roof to cover the existing metal roof on their Neenah, Wisconsin facility, they wanted a solution that would provide three things: protection from the elements, protection from the elements, and protection from the elements.

The building's 34-year old standing seam metal roof was rusting "from the inside out" and leaking in numerous areas, according to Kevin Wentland, project manager at Appleton, Wisconsin-based Warehouse Specialists. In addition, there was very little insulation on the roof, offering little protection from Wisconsin's bitterly cold winters. Finally, because of the building's location, it needed a roof with a high wind warranty.

Sika Sarnafil's Metal Retrofit System

After looking at various systems and options, Wentland decided he wanted to go with a single-ply roofing system. "I wanted to add more insulation to increase the R-Value and eliminate condensation within the roof," Wentland explained. "I knew it would be difficult to do that with most roofing systems, because of the additional weight.

That's why I decided to go with a lightweight single-ply system."

Wentland was not going to go with just any single-ply system, however. "I was looking for a manufacturer who could offer a long-term commitment and who would stand behind their single-ply system." Sika Sarnafil met his requirements because, in addition to providing high-quality roofing systems, Sika Sarnafil also offers an experienced technical staff that can assist in every aspect of the installation process — from determining the best fastening pattern for that specific roof, to conducting a thorough inspection once the roof installation is completed. This hands-on approach enables Sika Sarnafil to ensure the quality and long-term performance of the roof.

As Scott Paral, vice president of Green Bay-based Premier Roofing, Inc., a Sarnafil-authorized applicator and the roofing contractor on the Warehouse Specialists project said, "Our experience with Sika Sarnafil has always been excellent. Their technical staff is very pleasant and knowledgeable, and they always come up with a solution to tough problems. Plus, our customers have only good things to say about Sika Sarnafil's products. That's

Sika®

Sarnafil®

one reason why, in 2005, Premier Roofing installed 300,000 square feet of Sika Sarnafil roofing.”

The Sika Sarnafil system that Warehouse Specialists selected was the Metal Retrofit system. This mechanically-attached system features the proven Sarnafil S327 vinyl membrane, which is polyester-reinforced for high breaking and tearing strength.

Warehouse Specialists opted to use the S327 in the white, EnergySmart Roof color, which reflects the sun’s rays, reducing cooling costs. Sika Sarnafil’s EnergySmart membrane has a solar reflectance of 82%, one of the highest for products listed in the ENERGY STAR® program.

A Tricky Installation

The first step in the roof installation was mechanically fastening the two layers of EPS flute filler and one layer of Sarnatherm EPS SP cover board. Because the metal pans were tapered, the bottom layer of the flute filler was factory cut to be 19 inches, while the layer above it was 22 inches.

After the flute filler and cover board were installed, the Sarnafil membrane was mechanically fastened into the metal building’s structural purlins for maximum wind uplift resistance.

There were other challenges as well. “The wind was a big issue,” Paral stated. “This building sits up higher than the surrounding area so sometimes the wind would build up and it would get quite windy on the roof. As a result we had to start work on the roof very early in the morning so we could get the membrane sheets rolled out and weighted down before the wind kicked up.”

Finally, as with all jobs, Premier Roofing wanted to be sensitive to the needs of the building’s occupants, which in this case was a paper conversion company.

“When you are working on a metal roof, dust and other debris under the



Premer Roofing employees fasten the cover board over the EPS flute filler.

roof are disturbed and can fall down on the building’s occupants and furnishings,” Paral explained. “We tried to be sensitive to that and covered the underside of the roof with plastic to avoid inconveniencing the tenants.”

Paral said Premier Roofing also worked with the tenant’s dispatcher to find out which of their loading docks were going to be in use at any given time, so that Premier’s workers and equipment didn’t get in the tenant’s way.

“I think it worked out very well for the tenant, and in the end they were very pleased with how we kept things running,” Paral added.

Wentland appreciated Premier Roofing’s efforts in working with the tenant. “Even though it was a pretty tight facility in terms of staging, Premier was able to coordinate things very well,” he said.

A “Best Dressed” Roof

In addition to offering a watertight, energy saving roof, the Sika Sarnafil Metal Retrofit roof offered another benefit — it is also very attractive. “Not only did the roof eliminate all our leaks, but it is also very aesthetically pleasing,” Wentland said. “It is very visible from the highway and the roof is very striking compared to the roofs of nearby buildings.”

Wentland is so pleased with his experience with Sika Sarnafil’s Metal Retrofit System that he is planning to use it on additional buildings in the future. Obviously for Warehouse Specialists, Sika Sarnafil roofing is a “good fit.”

Worker hot-air welding vinyl seams.



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