



A SINGLE SOURCE FOR SINGLE-PLY ROOFING

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Dear Roofing Professional,

With the recent spate of major hail storms that have affected the central part of the U.S., there will be many building owners looking to acquire more hail resistant roofing systems. After a strong storm hit Amarillo on May 29th, Brandon Roberts of West Texas Roofing stated "It is the worst damage I have ever seen and it doesn't even compare to the 2004 hailstorm, which was the costliest hailstorm in Amarillo's history."

EPDM roofing membranes have had a great track record of resisting hail damage and keeping water out of buildings which can cut down on the owners' financial losses considerably. Non-Reinforced EPDM's ability to elongate over 400% is one of the primary reasons EPDM has great hail resistance. EPDM stays flexible throughout its lifecycle providing good hail resistance even at the end of its warranty term.

Ballasted EPDM performs especially well in hail storms, as the rock serves to break the ice balls upon impact and protects the substrate from being damaged. Ballasted EPDM roofs are energy efficient in both warm and cold climates and are one of the most sustainable roofing systems available.

Adhered systems with a minimum 60-mil non-reinforced EPDM membrane have been shown to resist up to 3" simulated hail impact without fracture or damage to the membrane regardless of whether the membrane was new, heat aged or field weathered for 15 years. A 2009 report prepared by Jim Koontz and Tom Hutchinson states, "The results of this research clearly indicate that non-reinforced EPDM...offers a high degree of hail resistance...field and heat aged EPDM membrane... retains the bulk of its impact resistance as it ages."

Ric Vitiello of Benchmark Services, another veteran of roofing industry hail research, has documented his findings in a 15 page report he prepared for the EPDM Roofing Association in 2007. He commented, "Based on field and test data, it is clear that EPDM outperforms other roof systems." Vitiello additionally stated, "EPDM systems are much more hail-resistant even without special treatment."

I've enclosed copies of both the Koontz/Hutchinson report and Ric Vitiello's report for more in-depth information.

Sincerely,

Ronald L. Goodman
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