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INAUGURAL ROOFING CONFERENCE PROVES SUCCESSFUL

The EPDM Roofing Association's (ERA) inaugural Roofing Technology Conference was held on November 17 at the J.W. Marriot Hotel Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, DC. Approximately 15 roofing professionals attended the day-long event, which provided information necessary for the selection and design of commercial roof systems.

Attendees who completed post-event questionnaires gave the event high overall marks. Nearly all agreed that the conference significantly increased their knowledge of roofing system performance and design options. The session was AIA accredited with six Learning Units available to qualified professionals.

According to ERA Board Chairman, Nick Shears, "The response to this event has prompted ERA to look at offering our Roofing Technology Conference at additional areas in the Northeast as well as in the Midwest and Pacific Northwest. We will announce a schedule as soon as the details have been worked out.

Topics for the conference were determined by marketplace demand and were customized to the specific needs of the Washington/Baltimore audience. Shears explained that the program will be further modified based on the suggestions offered by the Washington attendees, and that future sessions are expected to include more information on Green Roofs, existing roof repair options and vapor barrier technology.

More information is available on the ERA website at <http://www.epdmroofs.org/education/programs.shtml>.

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CONTACTS:

TONYA RIDEOUT, EPDM ROOFING ASSN.
(703) 684-5020
trideout@epdmroofs.org

BERNIE PISCZEK, PRB DESIGN
(407) 578-1259
bernie@prbdesign.com

About the EPDM Rubber Roofing Membrane

The EPDM (ethylene propylene diene terpolymer) rubber roofing membrane has been an appealing choice of the low-slope commercial roofing industry for over 40 years, with more than 500,000 warranted roof installations on 20 billion-plus square feet. Annually, EPDM accounts for over 1 billion square feet of new roof coverings in the United States, and is the most frequently used roofing material in the marketplace. *Building Design and Construction* magazine and the National Roofing Contractors Association (NRCA) confirmed in their 2002-2003 market surveys that EPDM continues to be the number one roofing membrane of architects, roof consultants and contractors for both new construction and replacement roofing projects.

The EPDM Roofing Association (ERA) is the first trade association solely representing the manufacturers of EPDM single-ply roofing products and their leading suppliers. ERA provides technical and research support to the public and the construction industry, and communicates the longstanding attributes, consistency and the value proposition of EPDM rubber membrane roofing materials.