



For Immediate Release

Contact:

George Evanko
Axiom Communications
(703) 848-1655
gevanko@axcomgroup.com

ERA Announces Results of First Phase of Recycling Research Project

ALEXANDRIA, VA. November 7, 2007 – The EPDM Roofing Association (ERA) announced the completion of the first phase of its project to research the possible recycling of EPDM single-ply roofing material. In the project, conducted jointly by Firestone Building Products Company and Carlisle SynTec Incorporated, results indicate that it is logistically viable to remove EPDM from a roof and create a product from recycled membrane.

By the end of 2007, nearly one million feet of EPDM will have been located, removed, transported, ground and reused. The material was removed from roofs with loose-laid membrane covered by ballast or mechanically fastened systems. Recycled material from both Firestone and Carlisle has been used to make walkway pads for new or existing roofs.

“This project has generated the type of positive results we were seeking when we initiated it,” said Mike DuCharme, Director of Product Marketing, Carlisle SynTec, and chairman of ERA’s board of directors. “While there is still work to be done, we believe that we have developed a viable system for removing and reusing much of the EPDM membrane that will be ready for replacement in the coming years.”

The next phase of the project will focus on expanding the geographic range from which material will be gathered, adding other grinders, determining the amount of material that will be available on an ongoing basis and creating a likely cost structure.

“Given the widespread use of EPDM over the past 40 years, we recognize that a significant amount of membrane could end up in a recycling pipeline,” said Jim Jannasch, EPDM Product Manager for Firestone Building Products Company and a member of ERA’s Technical Committee. “We therefore need to determine what steps need to be taken to make sure the recycling effort fits the economic and logistic standards of contractors and building owners.”

In order to more swiftly offer this recycling benefit throughout the country, ERA requests that companies that are grinders or those that would have a use for rubber that has been ground to contact ERA offices, at (301) 654-5090 or info@epdmroofs.org.

EPDM roofing material accounts for more than one billion square feet of new roof coverings in the United States annually, with more than 500,000 warranted roof installations on 20 billion-plus square feet in place today. EPDM is the number one

roofing choice of architects, roof consultants and contractors for both new construction and replacement roofing projects according to market surveys from *Building Design and Construction*, and *Roofing/Siding/Insulation* magazines, and the National Roofing Contractors Association (NRCA).

###

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.