



For Immediate Release

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RESULTS OF EPDM HAIL RESISTANCE PERFORMANCE STUDY PRESENTED AT RCI CONVENTION

Presentation Shows High Degree of Hail Resistance of New and Aged EPDM Membrane

BETHESDA, MD., March 19, 2009 – The results of a recently completed study, commissioned by the EPDM Roofing Association (ERA), the trade association of the manufacturers of the EPDM roofing membrane, demonstrating the high degree of hail resistance by non-reinforced EPDM roof assemblies, were presented at the 24th RCI International Convention and Trade Show, at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas.

Tom Hutchinson, a principal in Hutchinson Design Group, Ltd. of Barrington, Ill., delivered the presentation on March 14, along with Jim Koontz, whose company, Jim D. Koontz & Associates, of Hobbs, N.M., conducted the tests on behalf of ERA.

The 24th RCI International Convention and Trade Show occurred from March 12 – 17. The convention included more than 25 hours of educational programs, along with networking opportunities. RCI Incorporated is an international association of professional consultants, architects, and engineers who specialize in the specification and design of roofing, waterproofing and exterior wall systems.

The joint presentation provided detailed technical data based on the results of the professionally conducted laboratory tests, which used various samples of new and aged membrane over a variety of substrates. It also incorporated anecdotal evidence gathered by Hutchinson, Koontz and other professional sources to demonstrate that EPDM has an outstanding performance record against hail damage to show that these results continue throughout the life of the membrane.

The EPDM material was fully adhered to various 4'-0" x 4'-0" substrates: mechanically fastened polyisocyanurate insulation, mechanically fastened wood fiber board and ½" plywood. Hailstones ranging in size from 1.5 to 3.0 inches were propelled at the membranes by a hail gun, applying National Bureau of Standards technical data to determine approximate "impact energy."



Jim D. Koontz & Associates, Inc. provides laboratory testing of all types of roofing materials. Testing is performed in accordance with ASTM and other federal and industry standards. To find out more about the company, go to <http://www.jdkoontz.com/>.

A full report on this study can be found on ERA's Web site, at www.epdmroofs.org. ERA representatives are available to provide this presentation to interested professional organizations. To find out more or to schedule a presentation, please contact ERA.

With more than 45 years of success as a roof system of choice for low slope applications, EPDM is the leading roofing choice of architects, roof consultants and contractors for both new construction and replacement roofing projects, with more than 20 billion square feet of EPDM installed on more than 500,000 warranted roofs.

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***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.*