

Warranty records show EPDM performing well

A study that examined the warranty records of two major U.S. EPDM suppliers showed the costs of maintaining an EPDM roof for 10 years to be almost negligible.

The study, conducted by the EPDM Roofing Association (ERA) compared the warranty performance and costs of EPDM roof systems from the past 20 years. The study was initiated to determine the extent to which the EPDM rubber roofing membrane has improved its long-term life cycle costs. The study is available online at <http://www.epdm-roofs.org/pressroom/pressdocs/HoffWaranty.doc>

The study examined the warranty records of Firestone Building Products and Carlisle SynTec, which provided a statistically reliable analysis of roofs covering millions of square feet.

“Because warranty service records also identify when a roof was installed and when maintenance was performed, they can provide an accurate chronology of roof performance,” said Jim Hoff, vice president of marketing and technology at Firestone Building Products.

“Based on the maintenance records assessed during this study, the improvement in performance of EPDM over the past 20 years makes the costs of maintaining an EPDM roof for 10 years almost negligible.”

The study revealed that the performance improvement was most significant for EPDM systems used as recovers over existing roofs, given the escalating costs associated with roof tear offs. ■