



Tech Corner



Roof Surfacing in Colorado

History and background:

I'll begin with the history of traditional roof surfaces in Colorado.

The surfacing of low slope roofs in Colorado by the contracting community have been fairly simple and followed a criteria of adhered or loose and how much stone.

The performance of the stone aggregate surfacing has provided good to excellent results. This is primarily due to a good supply of raw materials.

The smooth surfaced BURS have never gained much favor or market share. The flexible sheet systems particularly EPDM and Polymer modified systems maintain the largest market share and existing inventory of applied roofs.

Present and future:

As we move to the present roof surfaces in Colorado, the roofing community is now experiencing rapid changes to our traditional surfacings. Building Owners and/or clients are now placing value on roof maintenance and energy savings. Reflective roof surface and roof restoration are filling this need.

Contractors must prepare for the future by becoming more knowledgeable as it relates to Leeds's certification, Energy Star products and Cool Roof Ratings.

The Contractor Challenge:

Successful contractors will need to meet challenges beginning with the basics. They must educate themselves thoroughly and gain knowledge of all the different technologies. They must begin to partner with those suppliers of products and equipment that go beyond what the client expects.

If you have not already, you will begin to hear a variety of terminology that Contractors in other states, where incentives, rebates and code compliance exists, have been wading through -- new terms and definitions such as:

1. Thermal emittance (CRRC)
2. Near normal emittance (LEEDS)
3. Reflectance (CRRC)
4. Solar reflectance (Energy Star)

The liquid applied reflective roof surface (LARRS) is an opportunity.

The roof in a bucket mind set must change. I suggest that you please visit your suppliers web sites for valuable information to start planning your future success.

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