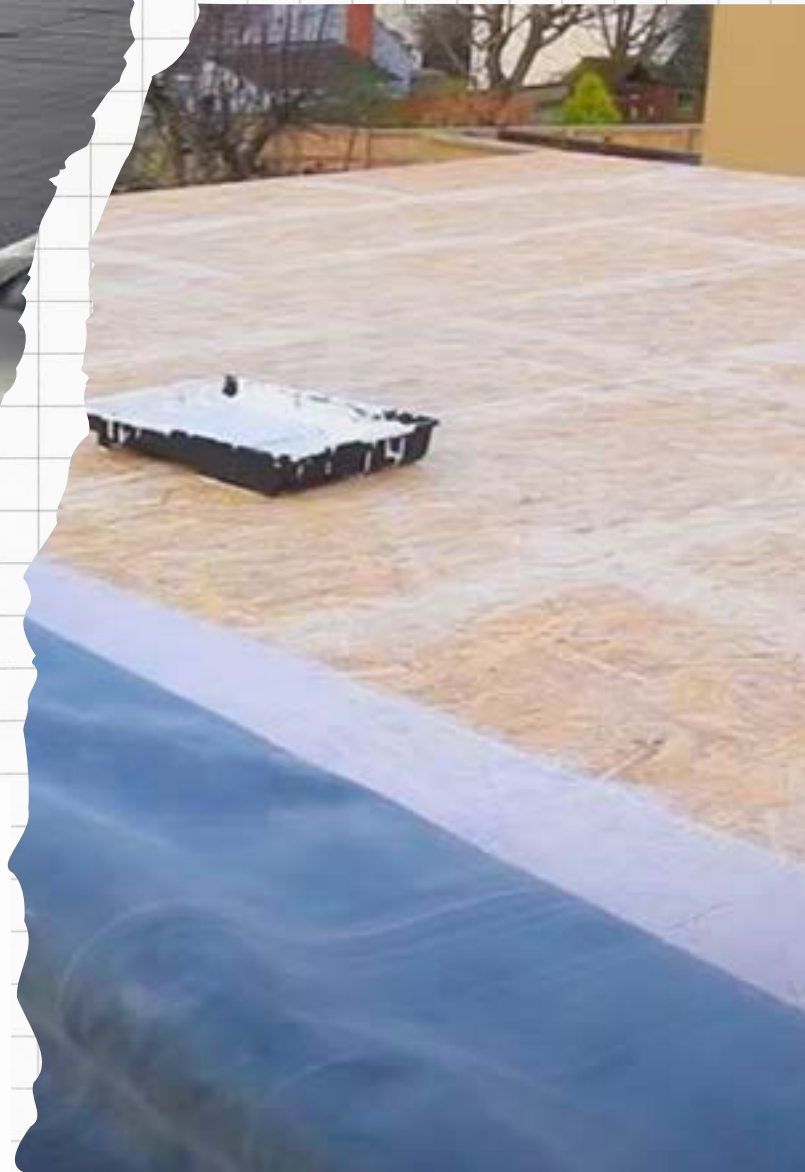


CAROLINAS CONTACTS

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THE CRSMCA MISSION STATEMENT

To promote and safeguard the common business interest of its members and to improve conditions by educating all persons concerning the roofing and sheet metal business and industry. To work for the development and progress of the roofing and sheet metal business industry and to work with individuals' organizations and governmental agencies toward the achievement of a stronger profession of the roofing and sheet metal industry.

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Carolinas Contacts address issues and concerns of the roofing industry. Technology, test, and building codes are constantly changing, and such changes may not be reflected herein. All information is presented for the benefit of our readers and does not necessarily reflect the views of CRSMCA. Press releases and product information presented do not reflect all available materials. Before purchasing, installing, using, or recommending any product, system, or method, readers should make independent evaluations.

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REGISTRATION FOR EACH MEETING CAN BE FOUND ON THE HOME PAGE OF THE CRSMCA WEBSITE!

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Message from Executive Director, Carla B. Sims

Keeping a positive mindset for CRSMCA members!

Thank you to the CRSMCA members and peers that supported the **CRSMCA Annual Golf Tournament** through sponsorships, contributions to prizes, participating on a team and volunteering. The event sold out of teams and had 90% of sponsorships sold with a number of contributions of door prizes for attendees to win! Check out page # for the winners and photos of the event!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OCTOBER 10, 2024 FOR THE 7TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT!

Information on sponsorship opportunities will be released in March 2024.

CRSMCA IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FALL 2024!



The Dottie Nagle Scholarship Program is now accepting applications for Fall 2024 semester. The purpose of the scholarship program is to assist individuals seeking to further their education and pursue a career. Applications must be postmarked to the CRSMCA office no later than January 31, 2024! For program details, eligibility and application, please visit the Dottie Nagle Scholarship Program page at https://crsmca.org/Dottie_Nagle_Scholarship!



CRSMCA IS CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS... CRSMCA is seeking additional volunteers to assist with (2) CRSMCA Standing Committees that are dedicated individuals to join in the mission to make a positive impact in the roofing industry! We are looking for individuals for the following committees:

- **CRSMCA Carolinas Contacts** - committee meets six times a year; reviews articles for publication and develops focus topics for issues
- **CRSMCA Master Installers Certification Program** - meets four times a year; assigns class dates; contacts CRSMCA members for sponsorship/instruction of classes; attends class (as needed)

CRSMCA Weekly e-Newsletters

CRSMCA's most consistent industry updates each week! CRSMCA provides members and interested peers in the roofing industry a weekly e-Newsletter every Tuesday... from conferences to events to sponsorship opportunities and new publications! ***BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR EMAIL AND TAKE A MOMENT TO GET UPDATED!***



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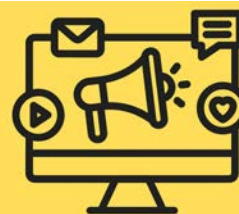
We want to know what you need. CRSMCA serves to be the voice of the roofing sheet metal industry of the Carolinas. CRSMCA works to promote and safeguard the common business interests of its members through education, public advocacy, programs and services, and providing a forum for networking.

I look forward to speaking with you soon and seeing you at the CRSMCA event! -Carla B. Sims, Executive Director



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NEWS FROM THE CAROLINAS



LEARN ABOUT THE CRSMC SELF-INSURERS FUND PROGRAM

Carolinas Roofing and Sheet Metal Contractors – Self-Insurers Fund is the oldest worker's Compensation group funded in the Carolinas and could be saving your company money! Members within the CRSMC-SIF program are not just purchasing their workers compensation but investing into a program that brings additional value to their company through a commitment to ensure the safety of their employees. As a member/customer within the program, you participate in building a fund that is beneficial for all members/customers within the program, you could receive competitive rates within the insurance industry, and you could receive a return of interest determined by the CRSMC-SIF Trustees and other approved returns during the year. In the year 2018, the CRSMC-SIF returned more than **\$1 MILLION DOLLARS** to the CRSMC-SIF members!

Additionally, the CRSMC-SIF is large component of support for the CRSMCA through sponsoring the CRSMCA Annual Meeting/Summer Convention and attendance of Trustees at the event. **HAVE YOU CONSIDERED CRSMC-SIF FOR YOUR WORKERS COMPENSATION NEEDS?**



South Carolina of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

www.llr.sc.gov

Training information, registration and course details can be found at www.osha.llr.sc.gov

SC OSHA Outreach and Education offers FREE on-site training designed to help reduce or eliminate such hazards and address OSHA compliance criteria. The construction industry has one of the highest rates of work-related injuries and fatalities. This is a result of the many serious safety and health hazards workers face, along with an ever changing worksite.

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- Intro to OSHA
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www.labor.communications.its.state.nc.us/OSHPublic/ETTA/class_regist/calendar.cfm, double-click on the applicable safety and health topic below and it will automatically start the training session.

Note: Some of the webinars are hosted on a training platform and will require you to log in with your name and email in order to access the training session.

The Department of Labor does not provide certificates for employees viewing our pre-recorded webinars. These webinars were live recordings and contain chat conversations. For this reason, you will not be able to interact with the instructor during the recording. If you prefer to receive a certificate and have interaction with an instructor, please refer to our training schedule above for current live webinar offerings. Training information, registration and course details can be found at www.labor.nc.gov/safety-and-health/training.



Effective July 1, 2023, North Carolina minimum and maximum civil penalties associated with occupational safety and health standard violations increased. Subsequent annual penalty adjustments shall be made in accordance with the United States Consumer Price Index published by the United States Department of Labor. These changes are reflected in North Carolina General Statute §95-138(a) (2a) and §95-138(a1) in accordance with 13 NCAC 07A.0301 and 29 CFR 1903.

The OSHA standards discussed can be accessed through OSHA's Law and Regulations page on the federal OSHA website (www.osha.gov). Additional information on these topics can be found on the NCDOL Occupational Safety and Health Topic Pages (www.labor.nc.gov/safety-and-health/occupational-safety-and-health/occupational-safety-and-health-topic-pages).

Seven tips to help workers stay safe in cold weather

As the weather turns colder, those who work outdoors are at risk regarding cold stress injuries and illnesses, which can occur when a person's skin temperature (and eventually internal body temperature) falls and his or her body no longer can maintain a normal temperature, according to Safety+Health magazine. This can lead to hypothermia, frostbite, disorientation, lack of consciousness and even death.

Companies need to be aware and plan to help protect workers from frigid conditions. Safety+Health magazine shares the following tips for workers and safety professionals.

1. Choose loose clothing that keeps you dry. Tight clothing can reduce blood circulation, so choose loose-fitting clothing in multiple layers, which also provides better insulation. Look for moisture-wicking clothing to help keep the body dry. Have a blanket and extra cold-weather clothing handy; if clothing gets wet, it is crucial you dry off and change as soon as possible.
2. Protect your head. Research has shown 10% of the body's heat loss occurs from the head. Wear a winter hat, hood, balaclava, winter hard hat liner or other protective layer to retain heat and protect the ears.
3. Do not forget your feet. In addition to the dangers of frostbite, prolonged exposure to wet and cold conditions can lead to trench foot. Work boots should be waterproof and insulated.
4. Stay hydrated. Along with plenty of water, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration recommends drinking warm or sweet beverages (such as sports drinks) in the winter. Avoid alcohol, which causes the body to lose heat faster and contributes to dehydration.
5. Monitor the weather. Foremen on job sites can set workers up for success by understanding when harsh winter weather is expected. Start the day by checking a mobile weather app, and continue to monitor it.
6. Know the signs of cold stress. Workers must be trained regarding how to recognize symptoms of cold stress in themselves and co-workers. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health offers information about symptoms and first aid (www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/coldstress/).
7. Make a plan. Can work be switched to a different day? If workers need to work outdoors, consider ways to address the issue, such as supplying radiant heaters to warm worksites, shielding work areas from wind and designating warm locations where workers can take breaks.

For additional information, view CPWR—The Center for Construction Research and Training's cold weather resources (www.cpwr.com/research/research-to-practice-r2p/r2p-library/other-resources-for-stakeholders/working-in-cold-weather/).



NRCA

www.nrca.net

Housing is open for the 2024 IRE and NRCAs convention

Lodging options are available for the 2024 International Roofing Expo® and NRCA's 137th Annual Convention Feb. 6-8, 2024, at the Las Vegas Convention Center.

The headquarters hotel is the Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino.

The trade show and convention provide attendees with opportunities to network with fellow roofing professionals from around the world; see the newest industry products, equipment and services; and learn from the industry's leading experts.

For more information about the 2024 IRE, visit www.theroofingexpo.com.



Results are in from the latest market index survey for reroofing

A coalition of industry trade associations representing contractors, consultants and manufacturers in the U.S. and Canada completed its latest Quarterly Market Index Survey for Reroofing for the third quarter of 2023. The survey takes the pulse of the reroofing industry on a quarterly basis and serves as a regular barometer of the industry's business conditions.

Eighty-one percent of survey responses came from contractors and 19% came from roof consultants.

Some topline excerpts of the survey are:

- Fifty percent of all respondents indicated their customer inquiries increased during the third quarter of 2023 compared with the same quarter in 2022. Twenty-two percent of respondents reported a decrease in customer inquiries during the same period, and 28% indicated no change in activity.
- Project contracts increased for 50% of respondents and decreased for 21% of respondents; 28% reported no change.
- Eighteen percent of roofing contractors reported no project backlogs, 35% reported project backlogs of one to two months and 25% reported project backlogs of three to four months. Twenty-two percent of roofing contractors reported project backlogs of five months or more.
- Fifty-one percent of respondents reported that the volume of materials installed increased during the third quarter of 2023 compared with the same quarter in 2022. Twenty-four percent of respondents reported a decrease in materials during the same period, and 25% indicated no change.

Additionally, two indices offer insight regarding customer inquiries and project contracts across market segments. The indices are based on a 0 to 100 scale. A score of 50 or higher suggests expansion or optimism; a score below 50 indicates contraction or pessimism.

The customer inquiries index score is 63 for the steep-slope reroofing market; 58.7 for the low-slope reroofing market; and 69.4 for the blended low- and steep-slope reroofing market. The project contracts index score is 77.3 for the steep-slope reroofing market; 55.3 for the low-slope reroofing market; and 67.9 for the blended low- and steep-slope reroofing market.

The complete results of the Quarterly Market Index Survey for Reroofing are available to those who participate in the survey via an online dashboard that enables users to filter results by region and other metrics. **Contractors and consultants who want to participate in next quarter's brief survey can sign up for a notification at <https://pima.us7.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=a94be0cd7e29c4caa3bdeb4ea&id=e91dbbef19>.**

The survey is an industry-wide effort spearheaded by a coalition of trade associations, including the Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association, Canadian Roofing Contractors Association, Chemical Fabrics & Film Association Inc., EPDM Roofing Association, International Institute of Building Enclosure Consultants, Metal Construction Association, Metal Roofing Alliance, NRCA, National Women in Roofing, Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association, Roof Coatings Manufacturers Association and Single Ply Roofing Industry.



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CPWR develops resources for older construction workers



CPWR—The Center for Construction Research and Training says the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports the average construction worker is 42 years old, and many of those workers are expected to remain on the job longer because they are “influenced by financial pressures as well as by job satisfaction.”

Recognizing the important role of these workers, CPWR has developed a series of resources for older workers in the construction industry, according to Safety+Health magazine. The resources include a data dashboard, tools for hazard assessment and primary prevention, supportive programs and legal resources.

Hazard assessment and primary prevention are important because of the physical demands of construction work. CPWR offers guidance regarding fall prevention and protection; health and wellness promotion; heat-related illness prevention; lighting; manual materials handling; noise and hearing loss; safety climate; and site management and housekeeping.

Examples of supportive programs include pairing younger workers or apprentices with older tradespeople, bidirectional mentorship and training for career ladders.

www.cpwr.com/research/management-resources-from-research/aging-workers/

CPWR - The Center for Construction Research and Training is a nonprofit dedicated to reducing occupational injuries, illnesses and fatalities in the construction industry.

Through our research, training, and service programs, we serve the industry nationwide by collaborating with key partners, including workers, contractors, project owners, health and safety professionals, researchers, key government agencies, unions, and associations. Created by NABTU, CPWR is a world leader in construction safety and health research and training.



New OSHA Regulations Impacting the Construction Industry

Written by Peyton D. Mansure, Published in Roofing Magazine, January/February 2023

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is a federal agency responsible for ensuring safe and healthy working conditions for workers across the United States. The agency regularly updates and enacts new laws and regulations to protect workers and promote safe working environments. Failure to comply with these regulations can result in significant fines and penalties. As a result, it is important for contractors and other professionals in the field to stay up to date with the latest OSHA laws. In the following discussion, we will provide an overview of some of the key changes and updates to OSHA laws that are likely to directly impact the construction industry.

Heat-Related Injury and Illness

New regulations on heat injury and illness prevention are likely to take effect in early 2023. OSHA has confirmed that it plans to increase the number of inspections for heat-related injuries and illnesses by 100%. To accomplish this, OSHA may expand ongoing inspections to include heat-related hazards and will focus on heat priority days when the temperature is above 80 degrees. Employers should review OSHA's new National Emphasis Program on heat illnesses and injuries for both indoor and outdoor workers. During a public meeting, OSHA emphasized the importance of developing a written heat illness prevention plan, providing training on the signs and symptoms of heat illness, ensuring acclimatization, providing water and rest breaks, and providing shade and cool rest areas. OSHA also recommended implementing a "buddy system" and monitoring workers wearing face coverings.

Trenching and Excavation

According to OSHA, during just the first half of 2022, twenty-two workers died while performing trenching and excavation work, which exceeded the total number of deaths in all of 2021. This increase in trench-related fatalities has prompted OSHA to announce new enforcement initiatives. As part of its National Emphasis Program, OSHA plans on having its compliance officers conduct more than 1,000 trench inspections across the country in 2023. These inspections can be conducted during regular on-site OSHA inspections, and at any excavation site. OSHA says that it will use all available tools to enforce trench safety regulations. This includes increased emphasis on how penalties for trenching and excavation incidents are evaluated, as well as the potential for criminal referrals for employers or others who fail to protect their workers from trenching hazards.

Injury and Illness Data

Electronic submission of injury and illness data will no longer be required. OSHA is amending the Injury and Illness recordkeeping regulation by rescinding the requirement for establishments with 250 or more employees to electronically submit information from OSHA Forms 300 and 301. These establishments will continue to be required to maintain those records on-site, and OSHA will continue to obtain them as needed through inspections and enforcement actions. In addition to reporting severe injuries, establishments will continue to submit information from their Form 300A. OSHA is also amending the recordkeeping regulation to require covered employers to submit their Employer Identification Number (EIN) electronically along with their injury and illness data submission, which will facilitate use of the data and may help reduce duplicative employer reporting. Nothing in the final rule revokes an employer's duty to maintain OSHA Forms 300 and 301 for OSHA inspection.

These actions together will allow OSHA to improve enforcement targeting and compliance assistance, decrease burden on employers, and protect worker privacy and safety.

Personal Protective Equipment

OSHA is planning to update its standards regarding the "fit" of personal protective equipment (PPE) that must be provided to construction workers.

On September 7, 2022, OSHA issued its NPRM. Although the proposed rule has not yet been published, employers in the construction industry should continue to monitor this regulatory development, as it could have a significant impact on their businesses. Currently, under 29 CFR 1926.28, OSHA holds employers in the construction industry responsible for requiring the use of appropriate PPE in all operations where there is exposure to hazardous conditions, or where other specific construction standards indicate the need for such equipment to reduce hazards to employees.

Author note: This summary is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice or opinion.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Peyton D. Mansure is an attorney with Anderson Jones, PLLC, a construction law firm located in Raleigh, North Carolina, with attorneys licensed in North Carolina and Georgia. Mansure has been representing clients in the construction industry for nearly a decade, focusing mainly on litigation and dispute resolution.

For more information or questions about this article, please email him at pmansure@andersonandjones.com. Christian Lunghi contributed research for this article.

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ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Photos Curtesy of Andy Butler, Roofers Supply of Greenville



ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

October 12, 2023 | Rocky River Golf Course [Concord, NC]



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WHAT IS AN EPDM ROOF?

If you're unfamiliar with roofing terminology, you may wonder what an EPDM roof is. An EPDM roof is a rubber roof made from ethylene propylene diene monomer, derived from oil and natural gas. Unlike traditional asphalt roofs, an EPDM roof comprises a single-ply membrane glued directly to the substrate.

This makes it easy to install and maintain. EPDM roofs have been popular for over 50 years and are known for their durability and energy efficiency. They're commonly used in low-slope commercial roofing applications but also have a place in residential roofing. If you're considering a new roof, an EPDM roof is worth exploring.

What Does EPDM Roofing Stand For?

When it comes to roofing materials, there are a lot of technical terms that can leave you needing clarification. One example that you might have come across is EPDM roofing. If you're wondering what EPDM stands for, we're here to help! **EPDM stands for ethylene propylene diene monomer.**

It's a type of rubber that's commonly used in roofing applications. But don't worry if it doesn't make sense just yet; we'll take a closer look at what an EPDM roof is and why it might be something you want to consider for your home or business. So, let's dive into the world of EPDM roofing!

Factors of EPDM Roofing Material

- There are two methods used to produce EPDM roofing material; calendaring or through a roller die extruder.
- Sheet thickness is 45 mils, 60 mils, and 90 mils, which equates to about the thickness of a heavy-duty trash bag.
- EPDM panels can be produced as narrow as 5 feet and as wide as 50 feet, while sheet length can reach 200 feet. This provides maximum coverage with minimal seams.

Application of EPDM Roofing Material

- Usually installed using deck adhesive, making them fully adhered (glued down) to the substrate.
- They can also be installed using a ballasted system or be mechanically attached to the substrate.
- Overlapping EPDM seams can be sealed by applying adhesives, seam tape, or both.

Advantages of EPDM Roofing Materials

Here are ten advantages of EPDM roofing materials and how they benefit homeowners:

- **Weather-resistant:** EPDM roofs are designed to withstand harsh UV rays, extreme temperatures, and severe weather conditions like hail and strong winds. As a result, they're incredibly durable and long-lasting, reducing the need for frequent, costly repairs.
- **Water-resistant:** The rubber membrane that forms an EPDM roof is entirely water-resistant, meaning leaks are far less likely to occur. This means any worries about water damage to the interior of interiors and furnishings caused by a leaking roof will be a thing of the past.
- **Low maintenance:** EPDM roofs are durable and long-lasting, requiring minimal upkeep. This translates to the homeowner as

more significant savings over the lifetime of your roof, as fewer roofing repair jobs and replacements are needed.

- **Cost-effective:** Compared to other roofing materials, EPDM is relatively affordable, meaning you can enjoy a high-quality, long-lasting roof without breaking the bank. This benefits homeowners and businesses looking to keep their overhead costs minimal.
- **Energy efficiency:** EPDM roofs reflect sunlight, which helps to keep the temperature inside the building cool. It means that you don't have to switch on the air conditioning as frequently, therefore reducing your energy bills.
- **Environmentally friendly:** EPDM roofing is an eco-friendly choice as it's recyclable. You don't need to concern yourself about your roof being an environmental hazard, even when it's time to replace or dispose of it.
- **Aesthetically pleasing:** EPDM roofing is available in a range of colours, finishes, and styles, meaning you can select a roofing material that matches or complements the exterior of your property. Thus, the homeowner can create a beautiful and stylish yet practical roof for their property.
- **Fire-resistant:** EPDM roofing materials, unlike traditional roofing materials like wood, have a high resistance to fire, so they can help keep your family or employees safe in case of fire incidents.
- **Suitable for various roof designs:** EPDM roof material works well for different roof designs, including flat, low-slope, and steep-sloped roofs. This makes it a versatile roofing material that can be used for almost any application on various properties.
- **Noise-resistant:** The rubber material of EPDM roofing can absorb noise, which means that you'll notice a reduction in outside noise penetration, making your home or business quieter and more comfortable for all occupants.

Disadvantages of EPDM Roofing

One possible disadvantage of EPDM roofing materials is that the initial installation cost may be higher than some people's budgets allow. Although EPDM roofs are cost-effective compared to other roofing materials, the cost of installation can still be a barrier for some property owners.

However, it's essential to understand that this is an investment in your property's future. You'll save money in the long run on repairs and maintenance by using this durable, high-quality material. Plus, the energy efficiency of EPDM roofing can help to reduce your energy bills, providing more significant savings over time.

The following are commonly reported issues:

- Improper roof slope causing water pooling and degradation of materials
- Seam separation from improper application of adhesives
- Insulation improperly fastened or installed
- Incorrectly installed flashing
- Membrane tears from wind-driven debris

EPDM Roofing Installation and Warranty

The installation of your EPDM roofing system, when properly installed, is a fast and non-intrusive process.

Installing an EPDM membrane is accomplished by fully adhering it (gluing down), and/or mechanically attached or ballasted; the following factors influence the quality of the roofing system's installation:

- Low roof slope for efficient draining
- Correct installation and fastening of insulation (when used) to deter bulging and sagging
- Correct application of adhesives to the substrate
- Proper use of seam adhesive
- Drip edge seamlessly connected around the perimeter of the roof

Fully Adhered System

Has a flexible design which adapts easily to unusual roof profiles or slopes and is excellent for high wind conditions. The membrane is bonded to the insulation, which has been physically attached, utilizing mechanical fasteners, stress plates and/or adhesives

- Design flexibility – adapts easily to unusual roof profiles or slopes
- Excellent for high wind conditions
- Simple, time-proven application method provides high dependability
- Factory Mutual approved

Mechanically Attached System

Lightweight and are ideal for all building sizes and configurations. Can be installed using large panels and attached through the membrane. The membrane is then attached using either round plates or batten strips to the underlying deck.

- Light weight – adapts to most roof decks
- Wide panels provide fast coverage of large roof areas
- FM I-60 & FM I-90 wind rating is achievable

Ballasted System

Provides a simple, economical design which is compatible with most insulation and provides coverage of large roof areas. The panels are loose-laid over the insulation and held in place by smooth, river-washed stone or concrete pavers

- Simple, economical design provides proven performance
- Stone ballast provides economical UL Class A Fire Rating
- Compatible with most insulations
- Wide panel sizes provide fast and efficient coverage of large roof areas

In addition to quality installation, a warranty is advantageous and very valuable when the installation or components of your roof may fail. There are two types of warranties to consider when installing or replacing any roofing system:

- Contractor's Warranty
- Installation Warranty

Common Problems with EPDM Roofs

In our experience, EPDM roofs have relatively fewer issues compared to other roofing materials, but some common problems include shrinkage, punctures, and seam failure. Proper installation and regular rooftop inspections can help prevent these issues.

What is Better than EPDM?

While EPDM roofing is a popular and reliable option, TPO and PVC roofing materials offer some advantages, including better heat resistance and stronger seams. However, the best choice depends on the specific needs of the project.

Is EPDM Roofing Better than Felt?

EPDM roofing is generally considered superior to traditional felt roofing due to its durability, easy installation, and energy efficiency. Felt roofing has a shorter lifespan and is less resistant to weather damage.

What Thickness of EPDM is Best?

The thickness of EPDM roofing material depends on the specific application and building requirements. Generally, a 45-60 mils thickness suits most commercial roofing applications, while thicker options are available for more demanding environments.

Can You Walk on EPDM Roof?

EPDM roofing materials are designed to be walked on during installation, maintenance, and repairs. However, taking precautions to avoid puncturing or damaging the roofing material, such as wearing soft-soled shoes and using proper equipment, is essential.

Does EPDM shrink?

Yes. Despite its durability and reliability, over time, EPDM naturally shrinks.

How good is EPDM roofing?

EPDM roofing materials are extremely durable, resists mold, damages, and is easily repaired. With larger panels and fewer seams, it is very rare for an EPDM roof to leak prematurely.

Source: epdmroofs.org/what-is-epdm/why-epdm/



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12 Steps to Reduce Construction Jobsite Hazards

Written by Kaitlin N. Schuler, constructionext.com, Published October 2023

These expert pre-task planning strategies can help identify and mitigate potential issues before they get out of control.

Pre-task planning is a "process performed before a task starts to discuss the steps of work, the hazards and available controls," according to the CPWR Center for Construction Research and Training.

A recent CPWR webinar led by Babak Memarian, the organization's director of exposure control technologies research, tackled the steps to developing, implementing and assessing a successful PTP strategy at your construction company:

1. Break the task into manageable steps.

Breaking up a task into smaller steps makes it easier to identify hazards associated with each step and helps workers better understand the hazards. This also allows for effective planning and implementation of appropriate controls.

2. Specify hazards associated with each step.

Identifying, discussing and addressing the hazards helps workers better prepare for potential challenges.

3. Identify ways to control each hazard.

After identifying hazards associated with each step, controls must be put in place to keep workers safe and healthy. When hazard elimination isn't feasible, other solutions must be considered and implemented.

4. Identify who is responsible for implementing the controls.

Assigning specific staff members to implement controls outlined in the PTP ensures they are done properly and in a timely manner.

5. Discuss permit requirements.

It is crucial to ensure that workers who perform the task are aware of required permits and their status.

6. Discuss hazards posed by other crews working nearby.

In addition to your workers' primary tasks, hazardous conditions can also be caused by other crews. The hazards and proper controls need to be discussed with all crew members during PTP meetings.

7. Give workers the opportunity to lead the PTP meeting.

PTP meetings are typically led by a supervisor, like the crew foreman. But rotating this role among other team members can create a sense of shared responsibility for safety and improve employee buy-in.

8. Provide training to employees who conduct the PTP meeting.

Training workers and crew supervisors who lead the PTP meetings is essential, so they conduct them in a consistent manner. Focus on presentation skills and encourage meeting leaders to ask essential questions to encourage worker interaction and engagement.

9. Gather and incorporate workers' feedback on the PTP process.

Obtaining workers' feedback helps managers understand whether the information is accurate, comprehensive and relevant. Workers may be able to point out a potential hazard that has not been discussed or a control that is not working as expected.

"If we want to get a good understanding of the issues in the process, if we do really want to find the gaps and shortcomings, we need to go and talk to our users," said Memarian. "And workers are the main users of this process. Every day they deal with it, and they will have the best understanding of the process."



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They know all the challenges and issues better than anyone else. We need to get them involved and constantly ask their feedback."

10. Use photos or other visual aids instead of text when possible.

Replacing text with visuals—such as photos, diagrams or flowcharts—can help improve workers' understanding of PTP information. They also help workers with different literacy levels or those with language barriers. Examples include photos showing the correct way to wear PPE, proper use of tools or site maps showing key locations and other trades.

11. Use educational aids like a whiteboard or live demo.

Replacing text-only documents with aids that make the PTP process more interactive can help workers better understand and retain the content. They are also helpful for workers with language barriers or different literacy levels.

12. Include supplemental information.

Typically, PTP strategies address issues related to safety and health. In addition, provide supplemental information to give workers a holistic view of the jobsite and the project. Some examples include site layout, evacuation and emergency plans, work schedule and specific types of PPE.

"When we use a checklist like this, if we save them and analyze them, throughout the project lifecycle we can see where we have the majority of issues," said Memarian, as well as which issues were most frequent in a specific project.

Additionally, for each PTP, Memarian said it is vital to:

- Conduct the PTP before each task starts.
- Conduct daily walkthroughs on the jobsite and involve workers.
- Update and communicate PTP content when conditions change.

"Daily walkthroughs help management understand what is happening on the jobsite," said Memarian. "Construction jobsites are dynamic and constantly change."

Conducting a post-job or end of shift review creates time to briefly discuss issues that occurred during the shift, safety and health concerns, and adjustments needed for the next day. These reviews, along with daily walkthroughs, can help you assess and revise your PTP process throughout the project's lifecycle.

"We want to see what worked and what didn't work ... where we had issues or problems," said Memarian.

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SAFETY TALKS

Preventing Injuries Associated with Pulling off Glued-Down EPDM

Recently, an employee within one of the companies in the Carolinas Roofing and Sheet Metal Contractors Association (CRSMCA) Self Insurers Fund strained his back while pulling off glued-down EPDM material.

Ethylene Propylene Diene Monomer (EPDM) is a popular and durable material commonly used in commercial roofing applications. Over time, however, there may be instances where EPDM needs to be removed and replaced, leading to the potential for injuries if not done safely and correctly. Pulling off glued-down EPDM can present various hazards for roofers, including strains, falls, and exposure to harmful substances. In this Safety Talk, we'll explore essential tips for preventing injuries while removing glued-down EPDM.

Comprehensive Inspection: Before initiating the removal process, conduct a thorough inspection of the EPDM roof. Identify any weak points, damages, or areas where the adhesive has significantly deteriorated. This inspection will provide a better understanding of the level of effort required for the removal and help develop a safe removal plan.

Proper Tools and Equipment: Ensure that you have the appropriate tools and equipment for the task. Use a long-handled scraper or shingle remover to carefully lift the EPDM and a roofing knife or utility knife to cut through the adhesive seams. Having the right tools not only makes the job more efficient but also minimizes the risk of injury.

Personal Protective Equipment: Don't underestimate the importance of PPE. Wear safety goggles, work gloves, and sturdy footwear with good traction to protect your eyes, hands, and feet during the removal process. Additionally, use a dust mask or respirator to avoid inhaling dust or fumes that may be released during the removal.

Proper Lifting Techniques: Removing glued-down EPDM can be physically demanding, so it's crucial to use proper lifting techniques. Bend your knees and keep your back straight when lifting or pulling. Avoid overexertion by taking breaks and asking for help with heavy sections of EPDM.

Secure Footing: Roofers must have secure footing while pulling off EPDM to avoid slipping and falling. If possible, work on dry days and when the roof surface is dry. If the roof is wet or slippery due to weather conditions, it is probably best to postpone the removal until it is safe to proceed.

Adhesive Dissolution: In some cases, adhesive removal products or solvents may be used to help dissolve the adhesive and ease the EPDM removal. However, caution must be exercised when working with these substances, as they can be harmful if mishandled. Follow the manufacturer's instructions carefully and wear appropriate PPE when using adhesives or solvents.

Work in Small Sections: Instead of trying to pull off the entire EPDM in one go, work in small sections. This approach not only minimizes the risk of accidents but also allows you to assess the condition of the substrate underneath and address any issues promptly. In conclusion, pulling off glued down EPDM can be a challenging task that presents several hazards for roofers. By following these essential tips and taking appropriate precautions, you can significantly reduce the risk of injuries during the removal process. Remember to inspect the roof thoroughly, use proper tools, and wear appropriate PPE. Adhere to safe lifting techniques, maintain secure footing, and work in manageable sections. Prioritizing safety throughout the removal process will not only help prevent injuries in the process but will also contribute to the successful completion of the project.

SAFETY TALK ATTENDEES:

CHARLAS DE SEGURIDAD

Prevención de lesiones asociadas con la extracción de EPDM pegado

Recientemente, un empleado de una de las compañías del Fondo de Autoaseguradores de la Asociación de Contratistas de Techos y Chapa Metálica de las Carolinas (CRSMCA, por sus siglas en inglés) se torció la espalda mientras tiraba del material EPDM pegado. El monómero de etileno propileno dieno (EPDM) es un material popular y duradero que se usa comúnmente en aplicaciones de techos comerciales. Sin embargo, con el tiempo, puede haber casos en los que sea necesario eliminar y reemplazar el EPDM, lo que puede provocar lesiones si no se hace de manera segura y correcta. Arrancar el EPDM pegado puede presentar varios peligros para los techadores, como tensiones, caídas y exposición a sustancias nocivas. En esta charla de seguridad, exploraremos consejos esenciales para prevenir lesiones mientras se retira el EPDM pegado.

Inspección exhaustiva: Antes de iniciar el proceso de remoción, realice una inspección exhaustiva del techo de EPDM. Identifique los puntos débiles, los daños o las áreas en las que el adhesivo se haya deteriorado significativamente. Esta inspección proporcionará una mejor comprensión del nivel de esfuerzo requerido para la remoción y ayudará a desarrollar un plan de remoción seguro.

Herramientas y equipos adecuados: Asegúrese de tener las herramientas y el equipo adecuados para la tarea. Use un raspador de mango largo o un removedor de tejas para levantar con cuidado el EPDM y una cuchilla para techos o una navaja multiusos para cortar las costuras adhesivas. Tener las herramientas adecuadas no solo hace que el trabajo sea más eficiente, sino que también minimiza el riesgo de lesiones.

Equipo de protección personal: No subestime la importancia del EPP. Use gafas de seguridad, guantes de trabajo y calzado resistente con buena tracción para protegerse los ojos, las manos y los pies durante el proceso de extracción. Además, use una máscara contra el polvo o un respirador para evitar inhalar polvo o vapores que puedan liberarse durante la extracción.

Técnicas de levantamiento adecuadas: Quitar el EPDM pegado puede ser físicamente exigente, por lo que es crucial utilizar técnicas de levantamiento adecuadas. Doble las rodillas y mantén la espalda recta al levantar o tirar. Evite el esfuerzo excesivo tomando descansos y pidiendo ayuda con secciones pesadas de EPDM.

Pie seguro: Los techadores deben tener un pie seguro mientras se quitan el EPDM para evitar resbalones y caídas. Si es posible, trabaje en días secos y cuando la superficie del techo esté seca. Si el techo está mojado o resbaladizo debido a las condiciones climáticas, probablemente sea mejor posponer la remoción hasta que sea seguro continuar.

Disolución del adhesivo: En algunos casos, se pueden usar productos de eliminación de adhesivo o solventes para ayudar a disolver el adhesivo y facilitar la eliminación de EPDM. Sin embargo, se debe tener precaución al trabajar con estas sustancias, ya que pueden ser dañinas si se manipulan incorrectamente. Siga atentamente las instrucciones del fabricante y use el EPP adecuado cuando use adhesivos o solventes.

Trabaja en secciones pequeñas: En lugar de tratar de sacar todo el EPDM de una sola vez, trabaja en secciones pequeñas. Este enfoque no solo minimiza el riesgo de accidentes, sino que también le permite evaluar el estado del sustrato que se encuentra debajo y abordar cualquier problema con prontitud.

En conclusión, arrancar el EPDM pegado puede ser una tarea difícil que presenta varios peligros para los techadores. Siguiendo estos consejos esenciales y tomando las precauciones adecuadas, puede reducir significativamente el riesgo de lesiones durante el proceso de eliminación. Recuerde inspeccionar el techo minuciosamente, usar las herramientas adecuadas y usar el EPP adecuado. Adhiérase a técnicas de elevación seguras, mantenga una base segura y trabaje en secciones manejables. Priorizar la seguridad durante todo el proceso de remoción no solo ayudará a prevenir lesiones en el proceso, sino que también contribuirá a la finalización exitosa del proyecto.

ASISTENTES DE LA CHARLA DE SEGURIDAD:
