

Sarnafil

Paine Webber Protects Their Future With Sarnafil Roofing



BUILDING TYPE: COMMERCIAL/OFFICE

**Paine Webber
Weehawkin, NJ**

Building Owner:
Paine Webber

Roofing Contractor:
Pfister Industries Inc.

Manufacturer:
Sarnafil Roofing &
Waterproofing Systems

Roof Area:
34,000 sq. ft.

System:
Mechanically Attached
"Engineered"

Roofing Membrane:
S327 80 mil White

THE CHALLENGE:

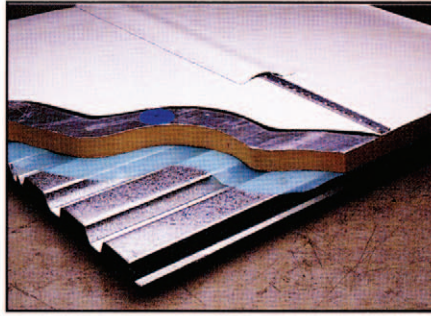
Located on the Hudson River in Weehawkin, New Jersey, the employees of Paine Webber enjoy breathtaking views of the Manhattan skyline. What was not pleasant were the constant leaks caused by a prematurely failing EPDM roofing system and the failed built-up roofing system beneath it. Because the top floor of the facility houses Paine Webber's main computer system, a more dependable and long term solution to their roofing problems was demanded. Downtime of even an hour on any given system would generate losses of millions of dollars in their worldwide computer network. Additionally, there was concern about the high winds gusting off the Hudson River and lower Hudson Bay.

 **Sarnafil**
Roofing and Waterproofing Systems

THE CHOICE:

It was determined that a manufacturer with a proven performance track record and capable of providing a roofing system which could be engineered to withstand the high winds was necessary. Paine Webber investigated various manufacturers, interviewed a variety of roofing contractors, and inspected several roofs before putting their team together. Sarnafil was selected as the membrane manufacturer and Pfister Roofing of Fair Lawn, New Jersey, was selected as the roofing contractor. Several factors influencing Paine Webber's selection of the Sarnafil system included: a proven track record of over 30 years of history around the world under extreme conditions, availability of thick, light-colored membranes, hot-air welded seams, and the ability to provide a system able to withstand severe wind conditions. It was particularly important that the company's hot-air weldable, single-ply roofing membranes be manufactured with a proven formulation for that entire period - far longer than any other manufacturer. Pfister Roofing was selected for their experience in applying single-ply membranes, dedication to quality installations, and because of their well earned reputation as being one of the most professionally run contracting firms in the Metropolitan area.

According to Dieter Pfisterer, President of Pfister Roofing, there were several reasons why he recommended Sarnafil for this project. "Our years of experience installing various types of membranes has brought our firm to the conclusion that the Sarnafil membrane is by far one of the most reliable systems on the market. Consistent membrane formulation and instal-



Engineered System

lation techniques backed by a sales and technical staff which is second to none prompts us to recommend and install Sarnafil with confidence."

THE SOLUTION:

Due to the location on the river, wind uplift was an important consideration. Sarnafil's in-house technical staff along with Pfister Roofing selected the mechanically attached "Engineered" system. This system utilizes a linear attachment method, based on the use of 1" wide pre-punched, 14-gauge galvanized steel Sarnabars to secure the roof system to the roof deck. Dieter Pfisterer says, "the ability of Sarnafil to provide a system which would satisfy all the demands of this project was crucial." Sarnafil calculates Sarnabar and fastener spacing based on anticipated wind uplift conditions. The bars can accommodate high loads without deformation, distributing the loads uniformly to the fasteners and to the structural deck.

Before installation of the new roofing system could begin, the existing built-up and ballasted EPDM roofing systems had to be completely removed down to the deck which consisted of both concrete and metal decks. The BUR removal was completed during the night so that the Paine Webber

employees were not disturbed.

Tapered Sarnatherm isocyanurate insulation was then mechanically fastened to the deck followed by the installation of Sarnafil's 80 mil polyester reinforced S327 roofing membrane. All seams were hot-air welded to ensure a watertight installation. Hot-air welded seams are commonly known in the industry to be the strongest and most reliable seaming method available. Pfister's crew was able to install large areas of roofing at one time temporarily held in place by bagged ballast which they saved during the removal process. Installation of the Sarnabars and cover strips then followed. Fasteners were installed through the pre-punched holes in the Sarnabars through the membrane, insulation and into the structural deck. An 9" wide cover strip is then placed over the Sarnabar and hot-air welded to the new roofing membrane (see photo). Sarnafil is so confident in this system that we can provide a wind warranty up to 120 mph. All seams were then hot-air welded to ensure a watertight installation. Hot-air welded seams become one monolithic layer when welded.

It was critical to keep the facility watertight at all times, day and night, during the construction process. With good project coordination and attention to detail, Pfister Roofing in conjunction with the on-site Sarnafil technical representative was able to accomplish the roofing system installation without receiving one complaint. This was a major accomplishment since the installation took place during the winter months.

For more information on how you can have a cost-effective Sarnafil roofing or waterproofing system on your institutional, industrial or commercial building, contact Sarnafil Roofing and Waterproofing Systems today.

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