NRCA's new manual

by Mark S. Graham

NRCA has just published *The NRCA Roofing Manual: Metal Panel and SPF Roof Systems*—2008, which provides NRCA's latest best-practice guidelines applicable to metal panel and spray polyurethane foam (SPF) roof systems.

New manual series

The new manual is the second in a four-volume series intended to update and supersede *The NRCA Roofing and Waterproofing Manual, Fifth Edition*.

In 2007, the first volume in the series, *The NRCA Roofing Manual: Membrane Roof Systems*—2007, was published and provides NRCA's latest best-practice guidelines applicable to built-up, polymer-modified bitumen and single-ply membrane roof systems. Next year, *The NRCA Roofing Manual: Steep-slope Roof Systems*—2009 will be published, followed in 2010 by *The NRCA Roofing Manual: Architectural Sheet Metal, Moisture Control and Reroofing*—2010.

Until the initial four-year, four-volume publication schedule is completed in 2010, NRCA considers portions of the fifth edition that have not yet been updated by the new manual series to remain applicable, such as NRCA's current guidelines applicable to asphalt shingle, slate, tile, and wood shake and shingle roof systems that are contained in the fifth edition's steep-slope section in Volume 2. Similarly, the fifth edition's moisture-control and reroofing sections also remain applicable.

2008 manual

The NRCA Roofing Manual: Metal Panel and SPF Roof Systems—2008 updates and replaces the fifth edition's subsections 1, 3, 4 and 5 of the Architectural Sheet Metal and Metal Roofing Section and the SPF-based Roofing Section.

The Metal Panel Roof Systems Section has been reformatted from the fifth edition and contains a number of changes.

For example, NRCA no longer uses the terms "hydrokinetic" (watershedding) and "hydrostatic" (water barrier) to differentiate between metal panel types. Instead, metal panel roof systems now are categorized as architectural (requiring a structural deck) or structural (capable of spanning between structural members).

Portions of the manual's fifth edition that have not yet been updated remain applicable

Also, certain types of metal roof systems now fit into an "other" category: flat-seam soldered panels, metal shingles and metal panel roof systems with exposed fasteners, for example.

In addition, the chapter about structural substrates for metal roof systems is new; information about oil canning of metal has been updated; and the chapter about structural metal panel roof systems has been rewritten.

The construction details section for metal panel roof systems also has been expanded. Separate construction details now are provided for trapezoidal-seam and vertical-seam structural panel systems in addition to architectural panel systems. Overall, 93 construction details are provided for metal panel roof systems.

Notable changes in the SPF Roof Systems Section include the expansion of the construction details chapter. Thirty-eight SPF roof re-cover construction details have been added, addressing detail conditions for those situations where SPF is used to re-cover existing roof systems.

Also, NRCA now recognizes SPF and an appropriate elastomeric coating can be used to terminate certain construction details without a metal counterflashing.

For example, Construction Detail SPF-3A–Base Flashing for Wall-supported Deck provides for the termination of the SPF and coating against smooth concrete-exposed surfaces without a separate counterflashing. The fifth edition recommends the use of metal counterflashing.

Overall, 100 construction details are provided for SPF roof systems.

The Appendix Section provides contact information for the organizations referenced in the manual's text and metric unit conversion information.

Getting the manual

All NRCA members who renew their 2008 memberships and all new NRCA members will receive a free copy of the manual.

Additional copies, a CD-ROM version and NRCA Construction Details on CD–2008 (AutoCAD® files that can be manipulated) are available from NRCA's Customer Service Department by calling (866) ASK-NRCA (275-6722) or accessing shop.nrca.net.

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