NRCA's 2009 manual

NRCA's latest technical manual focuses on steep-slope roof systems

by Mark S. Graham

This month, NRCA published *The NRCA Roofing Manual: Steep-slope Roof Systems—2009*. This new addition to The NRCA Roofing Manual series provides up-to-date guidelines applicable to asphalt shingle, clay and concrete tile, metal shingle and synthetic component, slate, and wood shake and wood shingle roof systems.

Manual series

The 2009 manual is the third in a four-volume series intended to update and supersede *The NRCA Roofing and Waterproofing Manual, Fifth Edition,* which originally was published in 2001 and updated in 2003 and 2006.

The first volume in the series, *The NRCA Roofing Manual: Membrane Roof Systems—2007*, was published in 2007 and addresses membrane roof systems commonly used in low-slope applications. The second volume, *The NRCA Roofing Manual: Metal Panel and SPF Roof Systems—2008*, was published in 2008 and addresses architectural and structural metal panel and spray polyurethane foam (SPF) roof systems.

In January 2010, NRCA will publish *The NRCA Roofing Manual: Architectural Metal Flashing, Moisture Control and Reroofing—2010*, which will complete the series.

2009 manual

The NRCA Roofing Manual: Steep-slope Roof Systems—2009 replaces the Steep-slope Roofing Section (Volume 2) of *The NRCA Roofing and Waterproofing Manual, Fifth Edition.*

The 2009 manual consists of 460 pages and is divided into five primary sections that address asphalt shingle, clay and concrete tile, metal shingle and synthetic component, slate, and wood shake and wood shingle roof systems. Metal shingle and synthetic component roof systems are not addressed in the manual's fifth edition and are new to the 2009 manual.

Each of the manual's five primary sections is further divided into four chapters addressing roof decks, underlayment, primary roof covering materials and construction details. This arrangement is necessary because NRCA's guidelines differ for each roof system type.

For example, the chapters about roof decks for clay and concrete tile and metal shingles and synthetic components include guidelines for batten systems, but the roof deck chapters for other roof covering types do not. Also, for clay tile and slate, NRCA recommends plywood rather than oriented strand board sheathing as roof deck material because of the long expected service lives for these roof covering types.

Within each of the primary roof covering chapters, specific guidelines are provided addressing material and product standards for each specific roof covering.

The manual also includes more than 150 figures depicting proper underlayment and flashing configurations. Also, more than 200 construction details are provided addressing common eave; rake; ridge; hip and valley; headwall and sidewall; and pipe, chimney and skylight penetrations for asphalt shingle, tile, slate and wood shake and wood shingle roof systems.

Getting it

NRCA members who pay their 2009 membership dues and new NRCA members will receive a free copy of the manual.

In addition to the print version of the 2009 manual, NRCA also has made available The NRCA Roofing Manual CD—2009. The CD includes the 2009, 2008 and 2007 manuals, as well as the still applicable portions of the manual's fifth edition.

Also, the NRCA Construction Details CD—2009 provides construction details from the 2009, 2008 and 2007 manuals in a format that can be manipulated by computer-aided design software.

All these products are available from NRCA's Customer Service Department by calling (866) ASK-NRCA (275-6722) or accessing shop.nrca.net.

For links to purchase the print version of the manual, the manual CD or the construction details CD, access www.professionalroofing.net.

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