

TechTip R2 - Reducing Roof Weight

Power brooming or roof vacuuming an old Built-Up Roof (BUR) should remove about three pounds of gravel per square foot. This statement is made assuming that a typical application of four pounds of gravel per square foot was initially applied. The application of a spray polyurethane foam roof with a coating system should only weigh about one-third or one-quarter pound per square foot.

Obviously, the roof weight reduction is significant. It is possible that a deflected roof can demonstrate some memory and recover some of the original shape of the BUR system as a direct result of the dramatic weight reduction. Equally significant is the process where the roof is sprayed with polyurethane foam and sloped 1/4 inch per foot to drains. As the weight of water is 5.2 pounds per square foot at a one-inch depth, the elimination of ponding water on a roof can dramatically lengthen the life span of a roof and reduce those costly repairs. Spray polyurethane foam roofing and leaky old downtown buildings are made for each other. There is a tremendous market for SPF in the core of your city. Think about it!

ABOUT THE SPRAY POLYURETHANE FOAM ALLIANCE (SPFA)

Founded in 1987, the Spray Polyurethane Foam Alliance (SPFA) is the voice, educational and technical resource, for the spray polyurethane foam industry. A 501(c)6 trade association, the alliance is composed of contractors; manufacturers and distributors of polyurethane foam, related equipment and protective coatings; and consultants who provide inspections and other services. The organization supports the best practices and the growth of the industry through several core initiatives, which include educational programs and events, the SPFA Professional Installer Certification Program, technical literature and guidelines, legislative advocacy, research, and networking opportunities. For more information, please use the contact information and links provided in this document. www.sprayfoam.org

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