

Federal agency protects roof for another two decades

Resilience through wet conditions

The cold, snowy winters and hot, wet summers in Scotia, New York put immense stress on local buildings' roofs. A damp climate with conditions that often involve standing water can quickly destroy conventional roof coatings, especially absorbent acrylics. That was the reason the federal Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) first chose the waterproof GE Enduris* silicone roof coating for its Scotia facility in 1996. "Most building owners in this area spend thousands, sometimes hundreds of thousands, each year keeping their roofs intact," says Dave Landry, Director of Operations for DLA, adding, "After using GE Enduris, we spend almost nothing in comparison."

Product Used:



GE Enduris seamless 100% silicone coating can restore and extend roof life expectancy with one-coat application.



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- * Enduris is a trademark of Momentive Performance Materials Inc.

Working hard for 20 years

More than two decades later, the coating's 15-year extended warranty had long run out and DLA was ready to reapply. As in 1996, the alternative to resealing would have been a costly and intrusive tear-off. "We had a terrific first experience with GE Performance Coatings," says Landry. "Twenty years later, there was no question about who we'd use."

The GE Coatings team inspected the roof for damage before the work began. After more than two decades of punishing conditions, less than five mils of the original 21.5 mils coating surface had worn away on average. Because GE Enduris' coatings are seamless, the roof was also protected from expansion and contraction cycles caused by temperature fluctuations, which can tear apart dissimilar materials where they overlap. In the end, only 5% of the 275,000 square foot roof required repair—the rest just needed a few more mils of coating. DLA chose to cover the previous gray coating with white GE Enduris coating finished with granules, helping to lower the amount of heat absorbed by the roof and add further protection.

No time wasted

The applicator, PUFF Inc., also experienced the benefits of GE Enduris. "During the seven-week project, we lost only one day to rain," says Bill Rush, PUFF Inc. Operations Manager and an Approved Applicator for GE Coatings. He explains, "If it had been an acrylic coating, we would have likely lost a week to predicted rain delay. Additionally, there were two days that rain came unexpectedly from over the mountains, when the forecast was 10% chance of rain. We'd have lost 30,000 square feet of acrylic product each of those two days." A quicker install meant savings for the PUFF Inc. team—hotel rooms, per-diem expenses, and the opportunity cost of missing other jobs add up fast.

Rush also felt a personal connection to the DLA's positive experience. "I led the installation 20 years ago. It's a matter of great pride to see how well the system held up," he says.



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Dave Landry – Defense Logistics Agency Director of Operations