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Standing Seam Roof Restoration

Niles West High School Field House Wins With EternaBond RoofSeal

Safety and comfort are high priorities for any school. For the Niles West High School located in the suburban village of Skokie, Illinois, safety was compromised when the fairly new track and field house, where vigorous athletics take place, consisted of a wet floor. Caused by the massive standing-seam, barrel-curved, metal roof leaking, the school needed to find a quick solution to the problem. In response, school officials turned to the roofing experts at Hutchinson Design Group, a Barrington, Ill.-based architectural firm, for their expertise.

Niles West High School of District 219 is one of two public high schools in the Niles Township school system serving the Chicago suburbs of Niles, Skokie, Lincolnwood, and Morton Grove. The Niles West Wolves have been heralded for their indoor track and

field program producing record-breaking athletes in the 1000 meter dash, triple jump and the 55 meter low hurdles. Many dedicated athletes, coaches and spectators who make up the Wolves' indoor track and field community utilize the school's field house. As a result, it needed to be dry and safe at all times.

Tom Varga, senior roof consultant for Hutchinson Design Group, who aided in roof restoration efforts, believed with the right product and contractor, the roof could be restored during the summer break. Concerns, however, arose due to the large size of the roof, the short length of the summer break and the promise of rain and heat delays. This meant there was not a lot of time to organize the job, make the repairs and re-open the field house. Furthermore, a reliable product that could be put down quickly and consistently and would avoid further damage to the venue, had to be used.

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facility manager for the Niles West school district. “The field house is a newer facility and we didn't want to compromise the integrity of the structure.”

Siemienski, who was familiar with the benefits of Eternabond products, recommended EternaBond RoofSeal™ tape for use on the roof.

“Based on the district's interest in RoofSeal, we did our research and collectively decided EternaBond was the best alternative,” Varga commented.

Quickly developing a reputation as one of the best solutions for leak repairs and roof restoration, Eternabond tapes are frequently used by professional roof repair specialists due to the fact that they can be used on virtually all roof types. Like all EternaBond tapes, RoofSeal utilizes a special adhesive called a “MicroSealant”. With a specialized UV stable backing combined with MicroSealant technology, RoofSeal has a life expectancy of up to 35 years, a necessity amid the harsh weather and sunlight conditions of Chicago.

Varga presented several qualified roofing contractors, with the professionals at Harvey, Ill.-based Knickerbocker Roofing Co., Inc. winning the bid to handle the roof restoration. To prepare for the massive barrel-shaped roof restoration, the Knickerbocker team had to power wash the roof area, a difficult task given the slope of the roof.

“The barrel roof provided safety challenges requiring scaffolding and tie offs,” stated Mark Moran, project manager with Knickerbocker.

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Normally a restoration like this would be done with EternaBond WebSeal™ and a roof coating

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