

Airports



Be it for business or pleasure, when travelling, most of us share common goals: a safe departure, friendly skies and a smooth, on-time landing. A little bit of luck helps, but hassle-free travel results from mastering a host of details in the airport business.

The Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority is charged with conducting smooth and efficient operations at Florida's Sarasota Bradenton International Airport. The Airport Authority makes decisions daily about how to best protect one and a half million travelers and commuters each year who use Sarasota as a vacation destination or a gateway to Florida's Southwest Gulf Coast.

In 1990, the Airport Authority faced a need to select a roofing system to cover over 200,000 square feet of a new expansion to the existing airport facilities. It was no small order: an airport rooftop in the Florida climate is an inhospitable place. It must endure bombardment by jet fuel emissions; fatty acids, chemicals and greases released from the airport's food courts; blistering ultraviolet rays, sweltering heat and the extreme winds and rains from Florida's tropical storms and hurricanes. Research led the Airport Authority to FiberTite.

Today, the same 36 mil mechanically attached FiberTite Roofing System installed over the airport facilities in 1990 is still performing.

"The Airport Facility Department maintains this FiberTite roof very well," reports Ben Smith, FiberTite Specialist in Florida, who recently completed an intense preventative maintenance inspection of the airport's roofing system. "Through a combination of pressure washing and a regular general maintenance routine, they have kept the roofs in excellent condition."

In response to the Department of Homeland Security's recent call to upgrade security measures at airports nationwide, the Airport Authority made the decision to expand their facilities to accommodate a new and separate security checkpoint. Satisfied with the performance of the original FiberTite roof, in 2005 they installed a new FiberTite system to cover the 6,500 square feet expansion.

Entertainment Venue



There is nothing quite like a Florida hurricane to test the stamina of a roofing system. In October of 2005, when the people of Naples, Florida found themselves staring Hurricane Wilma right in the eye, those at the Naples Philharmonic Centre for the Arts held their breath. Just a few months earlier they had finished installing a new roof on the Centre. A Category 5 hurricane, Wilma set historical records as she forged her path from the Caribbean to the U.S. She blew through Naples at 120 mph and caused over \$20 billion in damages in the U.S., ranking her among the top three most costly U.S. storms. Wilma became known as the most intense storm ever to travel the Atlantic Basin.

Luck is involved in beating a storm like that, but it also requires wisdom. Decision makers at the Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts - a landmark building in Naples - had considered potential tropical disasters like Wilma when they selected a FiberTite mechanically attached roofing system for their facility. The FiberTite roof replaced an old smooth modified system that was hot mopped over a nailed base sheet. The decision to choose FiberTite stemmed from a desire to work with a roofing manufacturer to custom design a system that would withstand the rigors of the southwest Florida climate. Among other top priorities were the system's ability to resist serious wind uplift; energy savings in the face of Florida's intense heat; and a proven track record of beating Florida's storms.

The Naples Philharmonic Centre for the Arts is home to the Philharmonic Orchestra and the Naples Museum of Art. The Centre hosts more than 400 cultural events each year, including opera, dance, classical and popular music and Broadway musicals and seats 1,400 guests. The Centre also houses four museum-quality art galleries where world-class painting, sculpture, drawing and other art forms are displayed.

After Hurricane Wilma, Alex Peña, building superintendent for the Center, walked the roof. "A barrel tile roof on a bank located directly across the street was almost completely destroyed, but our FiberTite roof looked great. There was no damage at all."

