

# HOW TO MAKE EVIDENCE BASED ROOF CHOICE DECISIONS

Presented by: David Hart – LEED AP, CDT  
Certified Technical Roof Consultant  
Tremco Roofing and Building Maintenance

[dhart@tremcoinc.com](mailto:dhart@tremcoinc.com)  
513-489-1125

Credits: 1 AIA LU/ GBCI

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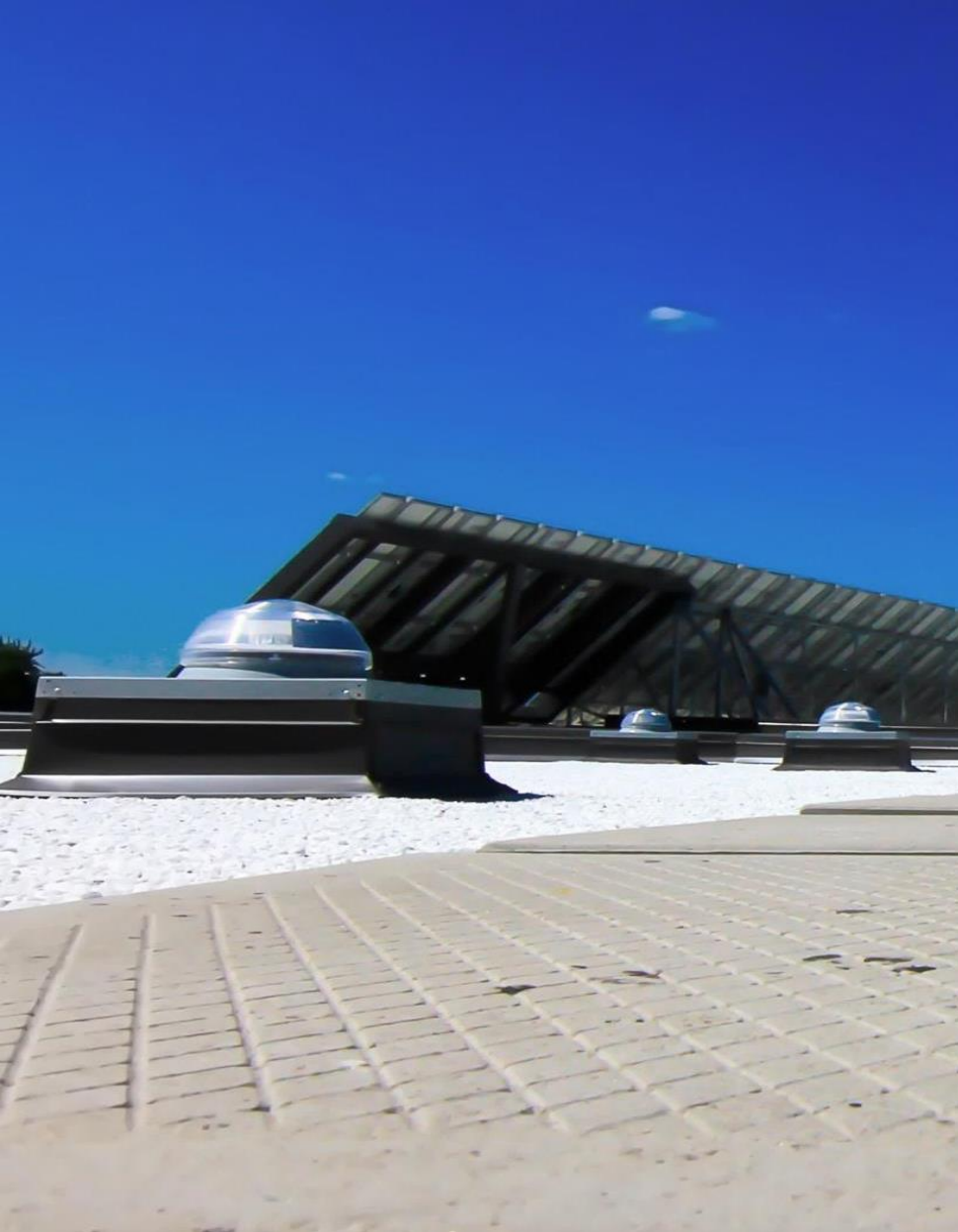
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# Learning Objectives – Personal ROI

## “For The Time You Are Investing Today!”

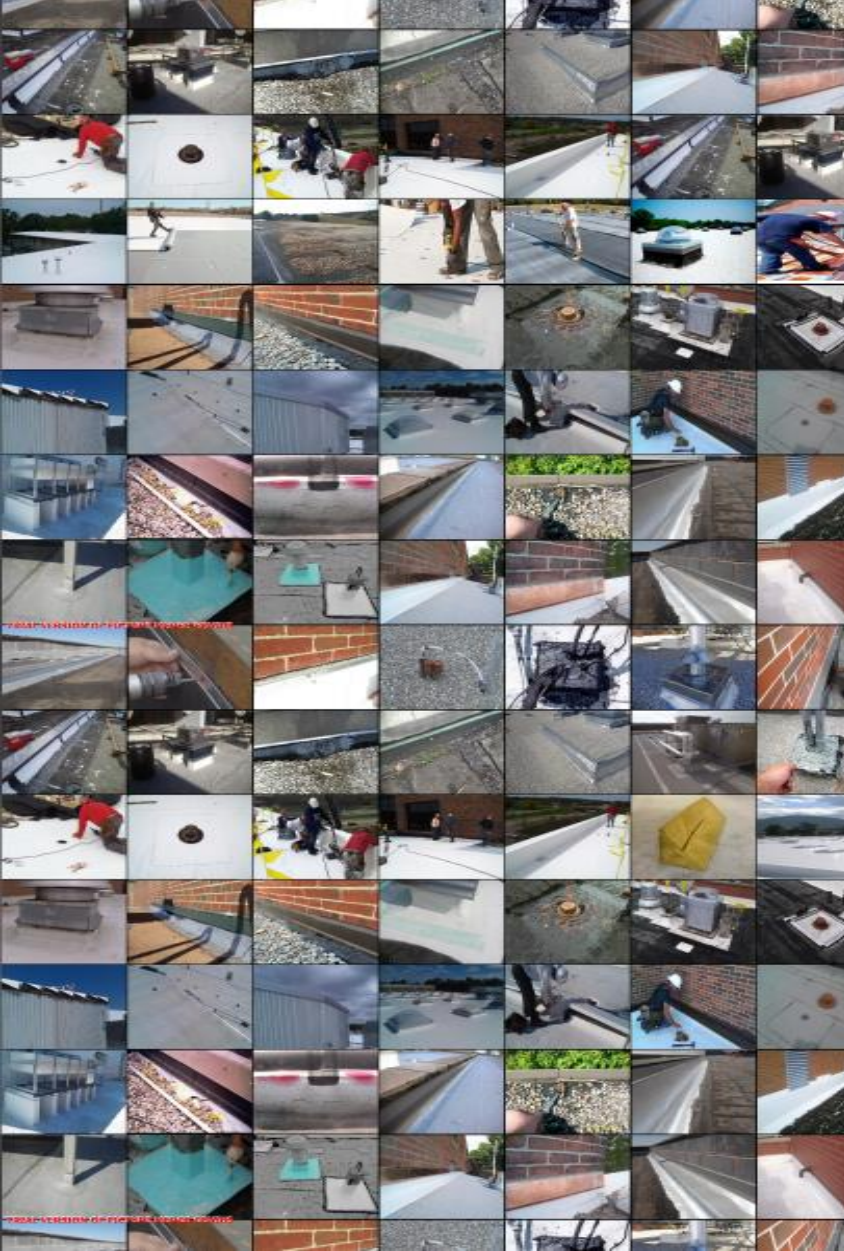
- Identify the different low slope roof systems
- Have a basic understanding of each system’s strengths and weaknesses
- Focus more clearly on the Ownership cost impacts of different options.
- Better understand how to make appropriate roof system choices
- Walk away with a resource you can call with questions



# Where to begin?

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- Environmental issues
- Building codes
  - IBC – IECC - IgCC
- Insurer Regulations or Requirements
- **Budgets**
- **Warranty**
- Accessibility
- Owner / Project Restrictions



# The Options (Low Slope)

1. Built-up roofing (BUR)
2. Single- ply membranes
3. Modified membranes
4. Liquid applied membranes
5. Metal roofing
6. Sprayed polyurethane foam



OPTION 1



**BUILT-UP  
ROOFING  
(BUR)**

Traditional layered roofing

150+ year track  
record

Three membrane  
components

- Plies
- Bitumen
- Surfacing

Hot or cold applied  
systems

## OPTION 1



### BUILT-UP ROOFING (BUR)

#### PROS

- True waterproofing
- Maintainable
- Ply redundancy
- Abuse tolerant
- **Low Ownership Costs**

#### CONS

- High labor costs
- Slower installation
- **Higher Initial Costs**

## OPTION 1



### BUILT-UP ROOFING (BUR)

#### HOT BUR

- Hot asphalt (375° - 450°F)
- Modified asphalts
- Coal-tar pitch (355°- 375°F)
- Asphalt impregnated sheets
- Asphalt coated sheets
- Limited flood coat and surfacing options



## OPTION 1



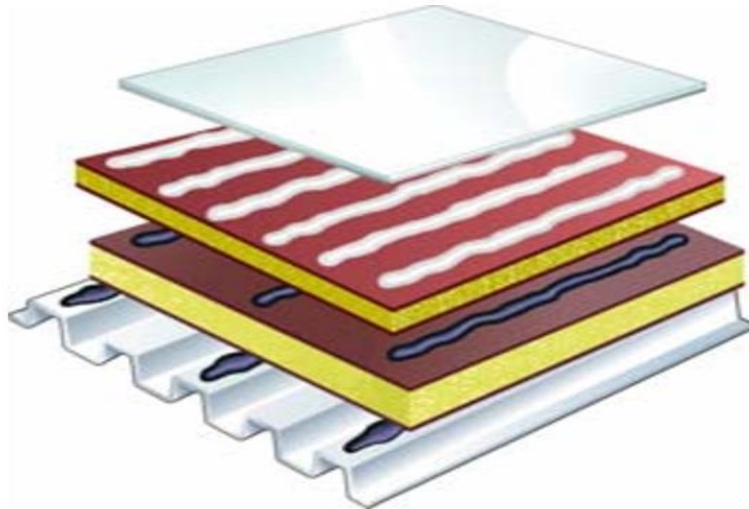
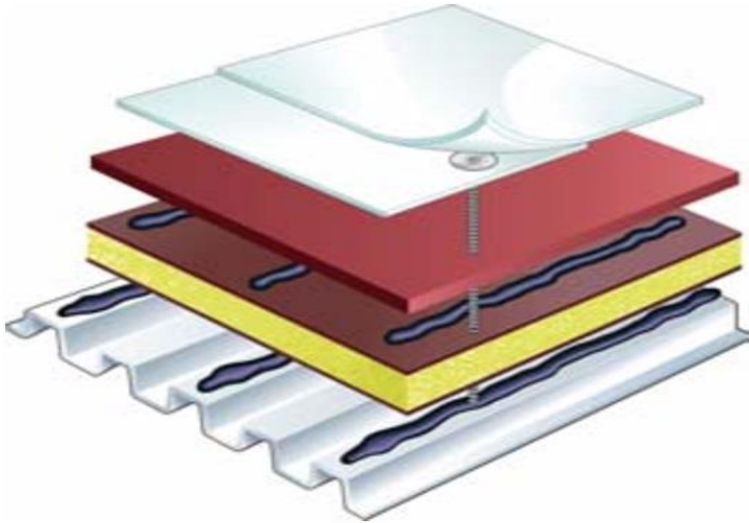
### BUILT-UP ROOFING (BUR)

#### COLD BUR

- Asphalt coated sheets
- Spray applied or squeegee
- Low odor options
- Low VOC options
- Excellent for sensitive environments
- More flood coat and surfacing options available



## OPTION 2



### SINGLE-PLY MEMBRANES

Thermosets

Thermoplastics

Single layer with seams

Installation options

Ballasted

Fastened

Fully adhered

Fleece-backed sheets

Surface colors: Typically black, gray or white

## OPTION 2



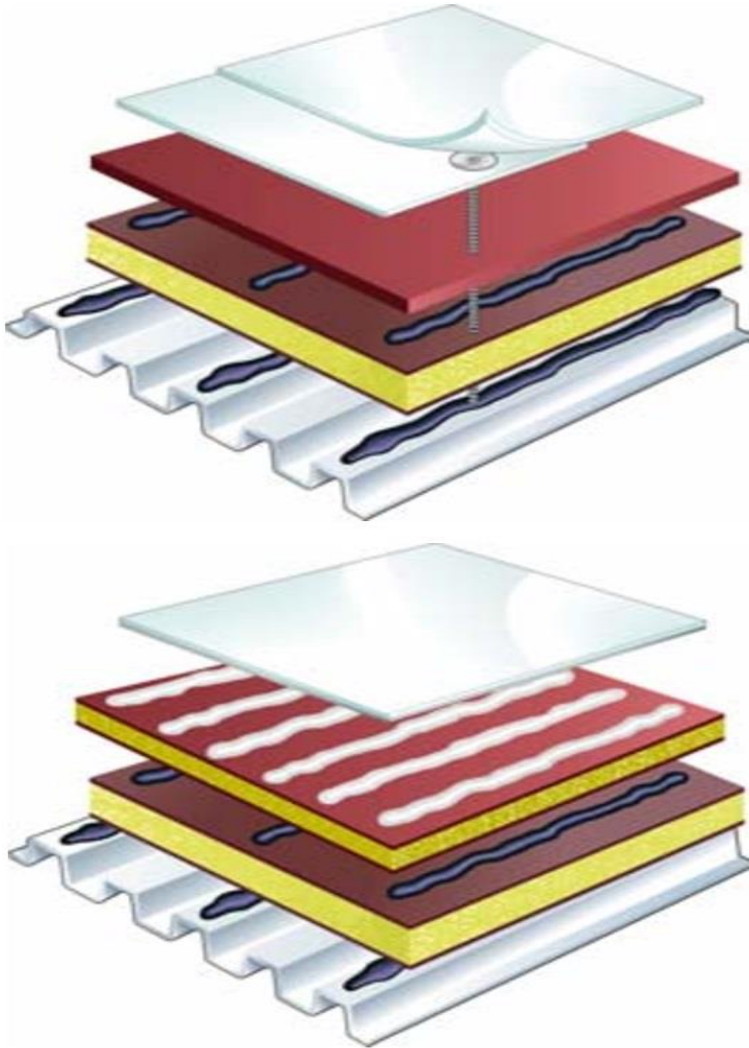
### SINGLE-PLY MEMBRANES

#### MEMBRANE TYPES

- **EPDM** - Ethylene Propylene Diene Monomer
- **CPE** - Chlorinated Polyethylene
- **CSPE** - Chlorosulfonated Polyethylene
- **PIB** - Polyisobutylene
- **PVC** - Polyvinyl Chloride
- **TPO** - Thermoplastic Polyolefins
- **KEE** – Ketone Ethylene Ester
- **TPA** - Tri-polymer Alloy



## OPTION 2



### SINGLE-PLY MEMBRANES

#### PROS

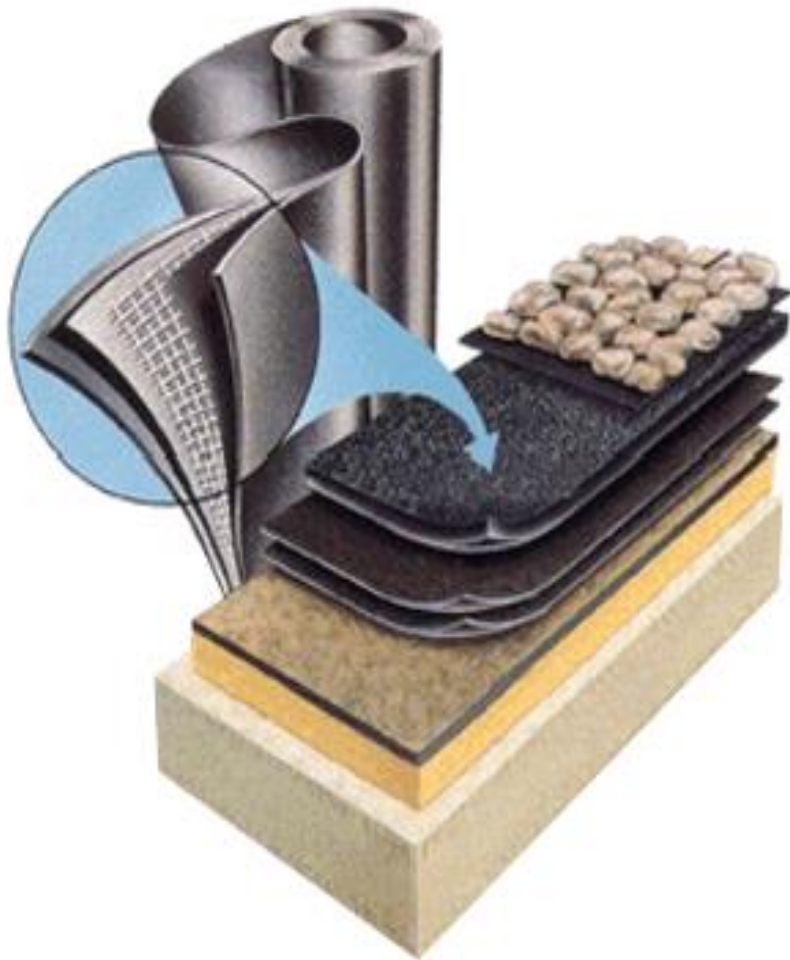
- **Lower Initial Costs**
- Speed of installation
- Elastomeric
- Reflective surface
- Details are more simple to design/install

#### CONS

- No ply redundancy
- Shrinkage (thermoset)
- Embrittlement (thermoplastic)
- Seam integrity
- Abuse intolerant
- Rooftop fall risk liabilities
- **High Ownership Costs**



# OPTION 3



## MODIFIED BITUMEN

First discovered in Europe

U.S. Introduction – 1970’s

Two Basic Types

SBS

APP

Reinforcement Scrim

Fiberglass (ASTM D 6163)

Polyester (ASTM D 6164)

Combination (ASTM D 6162)

Configuration: 1, 2 or 3 layers

Application

Hot or Cold Adhesives

Torch Applied

Self-Adhered

## OPTION 3



### MODIFIED BITUMEN

#### PROS

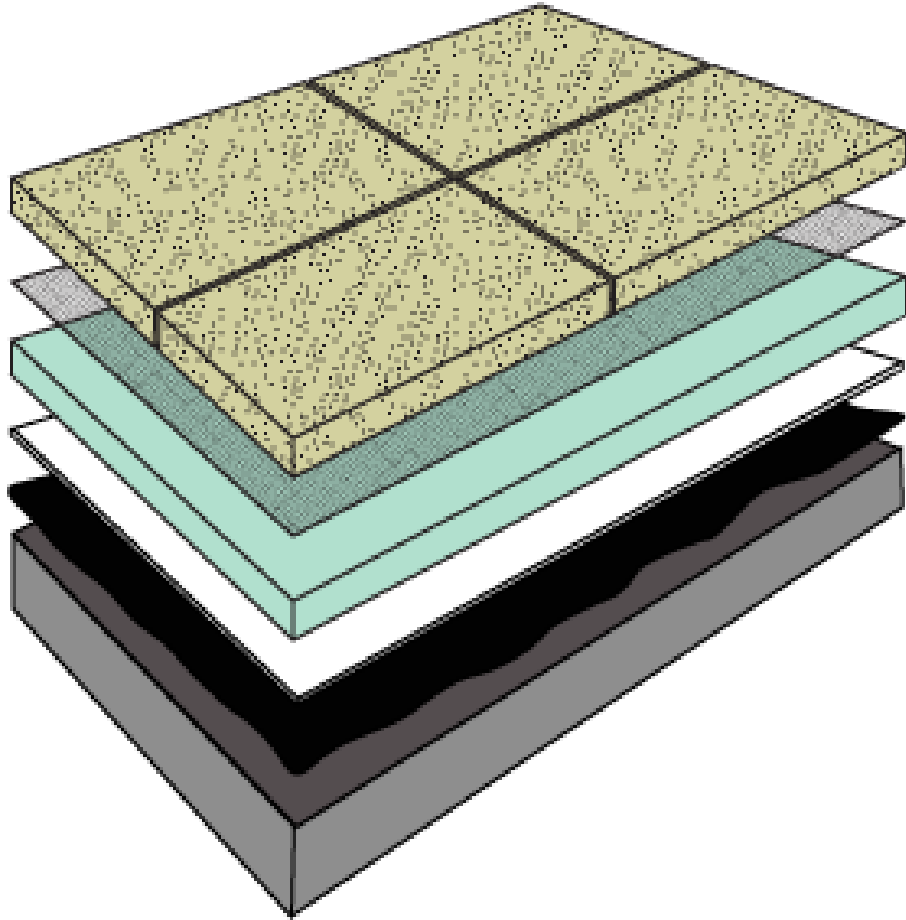
- Factory surfacing
- Factory controlled thickness
- High abuse tolerance
- Speed of installation
- Color options
- Low/no odor options
- Mid Range initial Costs
- **Low Ownership Costs**



#### CONS

- Cold temp install precautions
- Open flames with torch installs
- Low temperature flex – +8°F to 32°F

## OPTION 4



### LIQUID APPLIED ROOFING

#### Waterproofing Membrane vs. Coating

Traditional and PRMA/IRMA.

Polyurethanes:  
single and multi-  
component

Moisture cured

Moisture triggered

Chemical cured

PMMA

PUMA

SBS/SEBS modified asphalt

Dual layer systems

Acrylic and silicone coating systems

## OPTION 4



### LIQUID APPLIED ROOFING

#### PROS

- Seamless waterproofing
- Cost-effective
- High tensile strength
- Elastomeric
- Excellent for use on high-rise construction and confined spaces
- **Exposed systems, very low maintenance cost.**
- **Phenomenal restoration capabilities**

#### CONS

- Thickness control
- Weather limitations, some options
- **IRMA/PRMA installs are very difficult to inspect, repair and maintain**





## OPTION 5



### METAL ROOFING

#### History

Medieval -  
lead/copper

Modern - steel and  
aluminum

#### Life extending developments

Panel production

Corrosion protection

Sealant technology

Clip attachment

Portable seaming machines

Hydrokinetic vs.  
hydrostatic

## OPTION 5



### METAL ROOFING

#### PROS

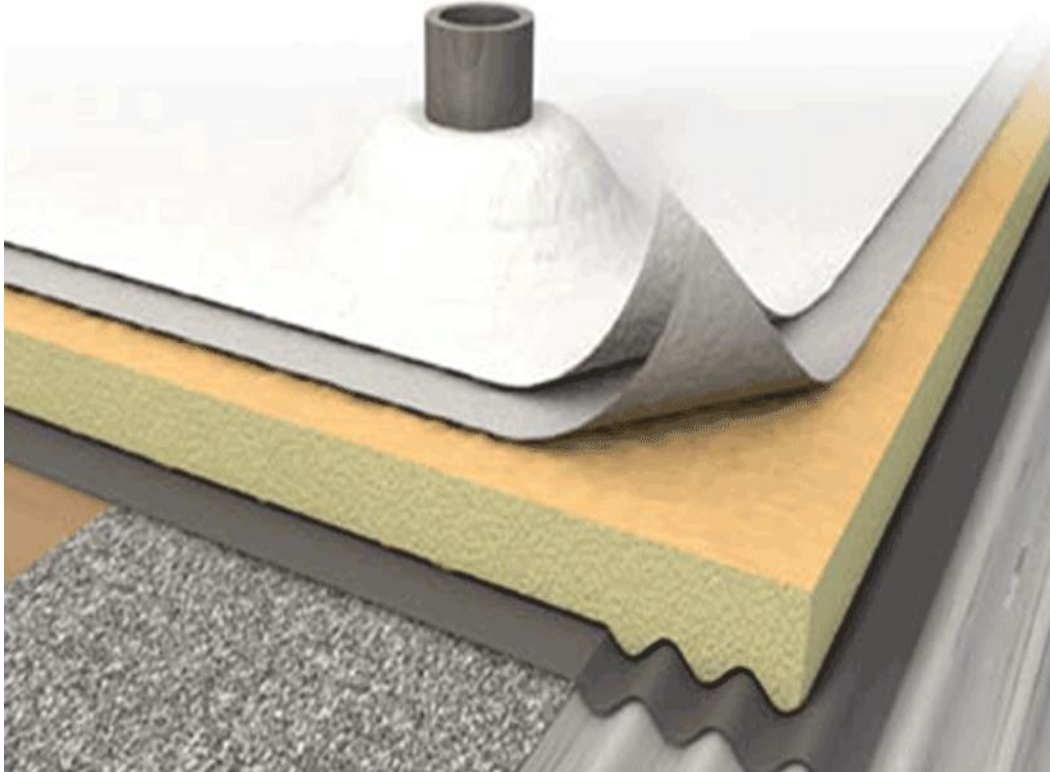
- Maintainable
- Attractive
- **Low ownership costs**
- Long lasting

#### CONS

- Flashing difficulties
- **High installed costs**
- Span limitations
- Application limitations.
- Not good with roof mounted equipment



## OPTION 6



### **SPRAY POLYURETHANE FOAM (SPF)**

Introduced in 1960's

Spray Applied

Coating required to be waterproof

Very poor track record

## OPTION 6



### SPRAY POLYURETHANE FOAM (SPF)

#### PROS

- **Low installed cost**
- Inexpensive “R” increase
- Very conforming
- Lightweight
- Monolithic

#### CONS

- Application sensitivity
- Puncture resistance
- Blistering
- Poor track record
- High maintenance costs
- Not UV stable
- **Very High Ownership Cost**





OWNERSHIP COST - SCENARIO #1

Assumptions - 2025 dollars, 8% annual inflation (historical the last 30 years and expected to continue). 15 years of reliable single ply service life, 30 years of reliable SBS or gravel surfaced built up service life. For both systems, restoration after the initial reliable service life period.

System	Installation cost	Year 15 Maintenance Costs –  Single Ply Restoration	Total System Costs After 30 Years  Cost/yr Service	Year 30 Maintenance Costs –  SBS/BUR Restoration	Year 35 Maintenance Costs –  Single Ply Restoration	Total roof costs after 55 years  Cost/yr Service
Single Ply	\$897,000	\$1,313,965	\$2,210,965  \$73,699/yr	\$0	\$6,128,383	\$8,339,348  \$151,625/yr
SBS	\$981,000	\$0	\$981,000  \$32,700/yr	\$4,169,870	\$0	\$5,150,870  \$93,652/yr

OWNERSHIP COST - SCENARIO #2

Assumptions - 2025 dollars, 8% annual inflation (historical the last 30 years and expected to continue). 20 years of single ply service life with leaks the last 5 years. 30 years of reliable SBS or gravel surfaced built up service life. Replacement cycles for single ply every 20 years. Restoration for the SBS or gravel surfaced built up roof system after initial reliable service life period.

System	Installation cost	Year 20 Maintenance Costs –  Single Ply Replacement	Total System Costs After 30 Years  Cost/yr Service	Year 30 Maintenance Costs –  SBS/BUR Restoration	Year 40 Maintenance Costs –  Single Ply Replacement	Total roof costs after 55 years  Cost/yr Service
Single Ply	\$897,000	\$4,180,020	\$5,077,020  \$169,234/yr	\$0	\$19,482,840	\$24,559,860  \$446,543/yr
SBS	\$981,000	\$0	\$981,000  \$32,700/yr	\$4,169,870	\$0	\$5,150,870  \$93,652/yr

OWNERSHIP COST - SCENARIO #3

Assumptions - 2025 dollars, 8% annual inflation (historical the last 30 years and expected to continue). 20 years of single ply service life with leaks the last 5 years but restorable instead of replacement. 30 years of reliable SBS or gravel surfaced built up service life. Replacement cycles for single ply every 20 years. Restoration for the SBS or gravel surfaced built up roof system after initial reliable service life period and continued restoration for the single ply after initial restoration at year 20.

System	Installation cost	Year 20 Maintenance Costs –  Single Ply Restoration with 20% wet replacement	Total System Costs After 30 Years  Cost/yr Service	Year 30 Maintenance Costs –  SBS/BUR Restoration	Year 40 Maintenance Costs –  Single Ply Restoration	Total roof costs after 55 years  Cost/yr Service
Single Ply	\$897,000	\$2,472,410	\$3,369,410  \$112,314/yr	\$0	\$9,002,940	\$12,372,350  \$224,952/yr
SBS	\$981,000	\$0	\$981,000  \$32,700/yr	\$4,169,870	\$0	\$5,150,870  \$93,652/yr

OWNERSHIP COST - SCENARIO #4

Assumptions - 2025 dollars, 8% annual inflation (historical the last 30 years and expected to continue). 25 years of single ply service life with abundant leaks the last 5-8 years. 30 years of reliable SBS or gravel surfaced built up service life. Replacement cycles for the single ply roof every 25 years. Restoration for the SBS or gravel surfaced built up roof system after the initial reliable service life period.

System	Installation cost	Year 25 Maintenance Costs –  Single Ply Replacement	Year 30 Maintenance Costs –  SBS/BUR Restoration	Total Cost After 50 Years  Cost/yr Service	Year 50 Maintenance Costs –  Single Ply Replacement	Total roof costs after 60 years  Cost/yr Service
Single Ply	\$897,000	\$6,144,450	\$0	\$7,041,450  \$128,026/yr	\$42,078,270	\$49,119,720  \$818,662/yr
SBS	\$981,000	\$0	\$4,169,870	\$5,150,870  \$93,652/yr	\$0	\$5,150,870  \$93,652/yr





## SUMMARY

**MAKE AN EDUCATED  
CHOICE BEYOND INSTALL  
PRICE & WARRANTY**

# QUESTIONS?

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