

Airforce Visitor Center

Contractor: Douglass Colony Group

Interviewed: Aaron Harvey, Construction Executive

Project Duration: November 2023 — May 2024

Region: Colorado Springs, Colorado, U.S.A.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

As you travel on I-25 near Colorado Springs, a striking silhouette rises against the skyline, poised as if ready for takeoff.

This new Air Force Visitor's Center, built to resemble the sleek form of a B-2 bomber, is more than just a nod to aviation — it's a bold architectural statement. In late 2023, Douglass Colony Group, a skilled Elevate Roofing Contractor, started this ambitious project. The roofing was important not just for its function but also as a key part of the dynamic design.

An Elevate commercial roofing system was selected for this critical task, trusted to deliver a roofing solution that would withstand Colorado's harsh winter conditions while meeting the aesthetic goals and the demands of the project's design.



INSTALLATION CHALLENGES

The roof's design, combining flat and sloped metal deck sections, required precision to ensure the roof remained watertight during installation. The center of the roof features a full tapered insulation system that includes progressive insulation thicknesses around the perimeter for proper drainage and to achieve flush connections to the parapet walls and the gravel stop. Installation had to start in specific locations to ensure uniform appearance of the completed system, and to keep the building watertight throughout the installation.

What's the Process for Commercial Roofing in Cold Weather?

Aaron Harvey, Construction Executive of Douglass Colony Group, noted that winter construction in Colorado brought additional hurdles. To address freezing temperatures, the team employed hotboxes, which are enclosed heated areas used to keep roofing materials at optimal temperatures prior to installation. In Colorado's cold climate, roofing membranes can become rigid, and adhesives can be challenging to mix and dispense properly. Keeping these materials warm until ready for use allows for proper application and adhesion despite the cold weather.

THE SOLUTION

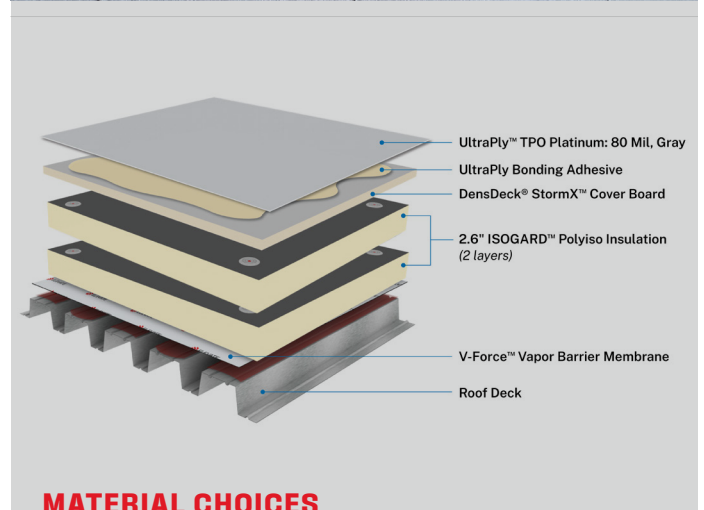
ROOFING SYSTEM SOLUTION

Due to the challenging Colorado weather, an adhered Elevate UltraPly™ TPO system was selected for its superior durability and alignment with the building's design. Known for its high wind uplift resistance, this system is essential for withstanding the region's strong winds, while its puncture-resistant membrane offers exceptional protection against the frequent hailstorms during Colorado winters.

The UltraPly TPO was selected for its exceptional durability and ability to withstand extreme weather conditions, making it an ideal choice for long-lasting protection. Additionally, it is available in a gray color option that matched the building's aesthetic needs. This combination of resilience and design flexibility ensures both performance and visual appeal. With a proven, time-tested formulation that has remained unchanged for over 25 years, UltraPly TPO continues to deliver reliable roofing solutions.

The installation of Elevate ISOGARD™ polyiso insulation provides another element of superior cold weather performance and energy efficiency. With the highest R-value per square inch, ISOGARD delivers up to 40% better thermal performance in colder mean temperatures than the competition*.

These choices contribute to a VSH (very severe hail) rated 25-year full system Red Shield™ Warranty, providing long-term protection and performance for the facility.



MATERIAL CHOICES

Substrate Assembly

- Underlayment: V-Force™ Vapor Barrier Membrane
- Insulation: 2 Layers of 2.6" ISOGARD™ Polyiso Insulation
- Insulation Adhesive: I. S. O. Stick™ Insulation Adhesive
- Cover Board: DensDeck® StormX™ Cover Board

Membrane and Attachment Membrane

- Membrane: UltraPly™ TPO Platinum
 - Membrane Specs: 80 Mil, Gray
- Membrane Adhesive: UltraPly Bonding Adhesive
- Edge Metal: Shop fabricated Elevate TPO clad metal and snap-on fascia

[VIEW FULL PROJECT PROFILE >>](#)



LEARN MORE

Sales: 800-428-4442 | Technical: 800-428-4511
Elevatecommercialbp.com

*The thermal performance of ISOGARD polyiso insulation is up to 40% better than major competitors when tested by an independent third party in cold temperature 40°F (4°C) applications according to ASTM C1289 standards. The increased R-value per inch means better thermal performance from the same roofing systems using the same amount of insulation compared to leading competitive products on the market today.