

Single-Ply Roofing

Scottish Widows HQ, Edinburgh



Background

This prestigious building designed by architects BDP, is situated in the heart of Edinburgh's financial district, is adjacent to the Edinburgh International Conference centre and has been the head office for Scottish Widows since 1998.

Challenge

The existing metal raised standing seam roof system had failed prematurely and after careful consideration the clients' advisors elected to over-roof the building with a single-ply membrane. All parties involved had to work very closely during the project, as the building could not be closed.

There were two main types of installation, curved and pitched with the pitched roof being at an average angle of 30 degrees.

Solution

Glasgow based roofing specialists SRS Group Ltd were appointed by main contractors, Mace to carry out the entire re-roofing operation and Icopal Limited's Sure-Weld TPO was chosen chiefly because of the durability and lifespan of the product in what is a very exposed site. As the various roofs are curved and on steep slopes future access needed to be limited to a minimum for maintenance purposes.

The installation process involved the areas between the existing metal raised seams being infilled with an Icopal Thermazone rigid polyurethane insulation board. This was followed by a second layer of Thermazone board laid staggered joint over the first which was then further overlaid with exterior grade plywood and mechanically fastened through to the original deck and sub-structure using Sure-Weld proprietary fixings. This work involved large areas of curved surfaces and extreme care was needed in providing a secure and level substrate to attach the new Sure-Weld waterproofing. Sure-Weld Fleeceback TPO membrane was then adhered to the plywood using adhesive taking care to achieve a smooth finished appearance to the membranes surface.

Care was taken in selecting the most appropriate roof type, colour and finish. The chosen system had to replicate the original roof finish, a requirement of the local planning department, and so Sure-Weld raised standing seam profiles were hot air welded over the membrane at exactly 450mm centres to emulate the original covering.

Project: <i>Scottish Widows HQ, Edinburgh</i>
Area: <i>5000 m²</i>
Completion Date: <i>2004</i>
System: <i>Sure-Weld Fleeceback TPO</i>
Client: <i>TSB Lloyds</i>
Main Contractor: <i>Mace Ltd, London</i>
Contractor: <i>SRS Group Ltd, Glasgow</i>