

# METAL ARCHITECTURE

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## New Approach Simplifies Process For Reroofing Over Metal Roofs

D.V. Red MC-1 McConnohie, the inventor of the patented Roof Hugger sub-purlin system, has spent 40 years in the design/build general contracting field, specializing in pre-engineered metal structures.

By D.V. Red MC-1 McConnohie  
Director, Roof Hugger Inc.

The past requirement for replacing an old, worn-out roof by tearing off the old material and starting over is no longer a necessity in a vast majority of metal reroof jobs.

New technology and new enabling products allow reroofing without any of the hazards associated with the good old days. No longer must the building be laid open to weather, shutting down the client's business, scattering debris all over the interior and then having to dispose of the old material

and do extensive clean-up.

No more having to replace existing good insulation and then having to work over open structurals while re-installing new insulation and roof sheets. The resultant savings in labor and materials are dramatic.

The use of new products such as the E-Zee and Roof Hugger sub-purlins have accelerated the reroof-in-place business by a quantum leap over the past five years and provided component manufacturers, metal roofing contractors and erectors with a major new market, while making the job a veritable snap. In many cases, the business inside has said "we hardly knew they were there and the new roof was done."

What is the market? Metal buildings alone represent hundreds of millions of square feet of roof-over opportunities. Roofs do not last forever! Every building in use today does—or eventually will—need a new roof. The average metal roof lasts about 25 years. All the metal roofs installed in the 1960s, '70s and early '80s are potential roof-over candidates.

What's more, as all the newer roofs age, they too will become candidates for roof-overs. The amount of new metal roofed build-

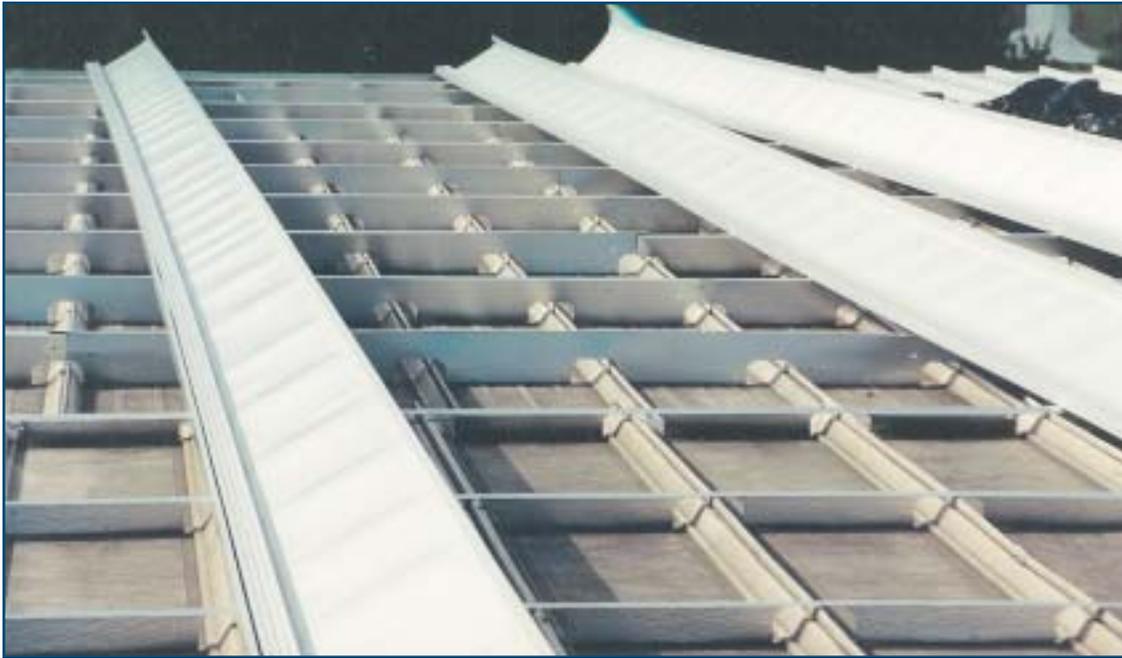
ings built per year compared to the metal roof replacement market is like the proverbial size of the flea to an elephant.

With all of the new materials, colors and shapes available today, the owner may well opt to upgrade to standing seam if the roof is visible to the public. He may choose to go with a high-gloss color to make the structure stand out from the crowd.

One of the most recent projects to be reroofed using Roof Huggers is the Pinellas County Expo Center in Pinellas County, FL. On that job, the Roof Huggers were installed over the massive building's original standing seam roof. Once those were in place, new roofing was attached over the top.



## Special Feature: Reroofing Metal Buildings



Based on statistical information compiled by the Metal Building Manufacturers Association (MBMA) and dating back to 1960, McConnohie estimates that as much as 50 million sq. ft. of metal roofing reaches the end of its useful service life each year.



In any case, the advent of the simple, one-piece, miniature Z sub-purlin framing system has spawned a widespread and rapidly growing change in the way reroofing metal roofs is being accomplished. They present a very real and very appealing solution to an owner who otherwise faces the prospect of having to close his doors while his building is opened to the elements. That, in itself, makes the sale of a reroof the easiest sale of all.

NU-TEC Roofing Co., a Division of New Millennium Roofing Co. and based in Tampa, FL, is among the companies that have successfully utilized the roof-over approach using Roof Huggers as an attachment system. The company's most recent project was the 123,820 sq. ft. Pinellas County Expo Center in

Pinellas Park, FL.

The project included a 242' x 410' main structure with an 80'-wide lean-to running the length of the building on one side. The roofs are pitched 1/2:12. Covering the building was a standing seam roof system with 3" seams and spaced on 24" centers.

To compensate for a 3-3/4" height differential between the main building's roof line and that of the lean-to, the Roof Huggers for the lower part were fabricated with a higher web height. When the new job-site rollformed standing seam roof panels were installed, the two planes were unified, covered with continuous-length panels 183' long. On the narrow side of the roof, the panels are 122' long.

From start to finish, the project

took seven weeks to complete.

"It's the slickest way to reroof we have ever seen and we will aggressively seek more of that business," said Steve Kruse, Nu-Tec's vice president.

Also involved in the Pinellas County Expo Center project was Law Engineering & Environmental Services Inc. of Tampa, FL.

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