



Book Review Editor: Theodore J. Weidner, Ph.D., P.E., CEFP, AIA

There is likely no building

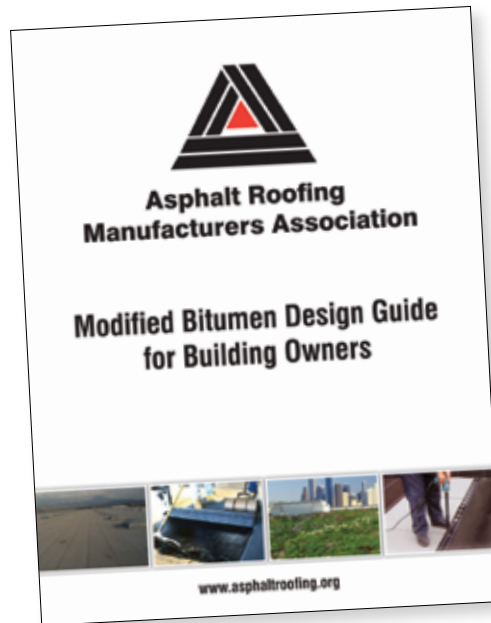
component that draws more complaints, but is so seldom seen or understood by the campus community, as a roof. Many facility managers need help to understand better the details about roofs in order to ensure they are getting the right product for their facility and that the design/replacement is done correctly. That's because many institutions rely on contract roof maintenance services and consultants to design roof replacements. Think of the following book when you begin to make your roofing plans.

ARMA MODIFIED BITUMEN DESIGN GUIDE FOR BUILDING OWNERS

Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association, Washington, DC, 2012, 40 pages, softcover, \$25.

The consortium representing manufacturers of modified bitumen roofing has developed a guide, the *Modified Bitumen Design Guide*, for building owners to improve their understanding of the nuances associated with a particular roofing material. But rather than focus solely on the details of their product, they have written it to address several of the other components that are product independent.

For someone who hasn't been involved in a roof replacement before, the number of factors involved in the selection, design, and details is surprising. There are several structural considerations, then the roof deck itself and what makes up the "sandwich" on top of the building (insulation, vapor barrier, adhesives, the membrane itself, flashing, and accessories). There's not enough to become an expert in flashing details, but it provides a good, big picture of the important decisions for a roof replacement.



While I don't endorse a specific manufacturer or system, this manual provides a thoughtful look at roof replacements in general and modified bitumen roofs in particular. It's well worth the investment of money and time for those who need more information about roof replacements. ☺

Ted Weidner is senior director of project management and construction at Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, and can be reached at tjweidne@purdue.edu.

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