



Architectural Integrated Metals, Inc. has just completed its first ACE Certification School for 2009 that graduated February 26th. Contractors enter this school thinking they would probably spend one day overviewing and spend another day watching three different roof erection demonstrations. Surprise – not at this school. They pick up their plans, break up into three groups of six men per team, and begin construction. By the end of a second

12 1/2 hour day and a third 8 hour day, their tasks are completed, and they have experienced a hands-on, labor intensive flashing, fastening and severely detailed program. Now they know this school is not a simple, walk in the park, pat on the back, certification school. The lesson, “Quality first, last and everytime,” is achieved through teamwork and due dilligence. The results– **JOB WELL DONE.**

IN THE BEGINNING

FIRST PROJECT

Area C, Erect a simple, 3:12 Gable, over a solid deck (wood) using an architectural standing seam, compression seam, rake, eave, roof to wall flashing. Trim and cover.



SECOND PROJECT

Area B, Erect a commercial grade standing seam roof over open framing. The contractors install, roof-to-wall, rake, eave flashings and gutters over 1/2 on 12 slope. Don't forget we have end laps too! It's just a bit more complicated but it can be done!



OK, NOW FOR THE REAL TEST

THIRD PROJECT

Area A, Hip and valley, roof to wall conditions, rake conditions, eave, ridge, gutter and corner boxes are installed over 22 gage metal deck and extruded Polystyrene as well as Thermax Polyisocyanurate Insulation. Oh yes – did we mention that each team has to work on this roof installing panel end laps along with high side roof to wall conditions? Finally, to pass this class, all three roofs must be installed properly. This project takes time, skill and requires total team effort.





Before the fun stuff begins, the written portion must be completed. Each contractor is subjected to a written examination that covers all aspects of roof investigation, measurement methods, framing, squaring the building and, most importantly, how the parts work together. This portion of the school requires 8 hours of instruction.



Now the contractors pick up their pens and begin to take the test. This one-hour written examination covers all aspects of the previous classroom instruction and must be passed with a score of 80% or better.



A roof is not complete until it passes inspection by a third party inspector. Michael E. Clark, President of Michael E. Clark and Associates, a registered roof consultant, professional engineer and specification designer, instructs the class on what he looks for during his inspection. No roof is perfect, but this one was very close.

Area A is complete and Clark inspects all the details. Clark points to the ridge cap and valley explaining the importance of giving attention to detail. These roofs passed inspection requiring minimal attention prior to issuance of the warranty. A job well done!



There are multiple steps involved in installing hips, valleys and panel end-laps. These steps, from the beginning to making the final changes, are very labor intensive. These contractors realize in short order that this project is not a simple walk in the park but a test of skill and artisanship.



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