



## Thermoplastic Single Ply and Multi-Ply Roofing Systems

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### **LEED™ DEFINITIONS**

LEED™ is an acronym formed from the words Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. The full title is “LEED™ Green Building Rating System”. The rating system is a voluntary consensus based national standard for developing high performance sustainable buildings. The rating system was developed by members of the US Green Building Council representing all segments of the Building Industry. LEED™ certifies buildings not the materials or products that are used to construct the building. The LEED™ standards of building design have been steadily gaining momentum across the country. The first version of LEED™ was introduced in 1998 and since then over 20,000 professionals have received training in LEED™ workshops.

The rating system is organized into 5 environmental categories and one design category. Each category is divided into related sub-categories that are each worth a certain number of credits. In order to become a certified LEED™ project a total of 26 credits must be achieved. The 5 environmental categories are Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Energy & Atmosphere, Materials & Resources, Indoor Environmental Quality, and the design category is called, Innovation and Design Process.

A white reflective Flex Roof System may be used to contribute 1 credit point under the category Sustainable Sites, Heat Island Reduction. Sixty percent of the currently certified LEED™ projects have white thermoplastic roof systems installed. If the roof system is also a Flex Garden Roof it may contribute an additional credit in the category of Water Efficiency, Storm Water Management. The white reflective Flex Roof System and components may be considered to contribute to additional credits under various other categories. Energy and Atmosphere and Materials and Resources all have sections where the roof system and components may contribute to the requirements to add a credit. The following categories and sub categories may be affected by the installation of a Flex Roof System.

- 1) **Sustainable Sites**: cleaning, paints, sealants, and maintenance of building exterior, use green/vegetated roofs, heat island reduction (non roof), heat island reduction (roof)
- 2) **Water Efficiency**: reduction in watering roof/courtyard, roof drainage storm water collection system
- 3) **Energy and Atmosphere**: adhere to meet applicable EPA Energy Star® requirements, Building maintenance, photovoltaic roof system or solar panels on roof, exceed ASHRAE 90.1 by specified percent

- 4) **Materials and Resources**: building reuse, manufacturing of roofing materials within 500 miles of the project, **Flex Roof Membranes are manufactured in Hillside, NJ. and would contribute to this credit for any project located within 500 mile of Hillside, NJ.,** recycle asphalt shingles for paving

The simplicity of the LEED™ program is adding to the growing awareness about the importance of sustainable construction. The program is growing and rapidly gaining acceptance in transforming the way the built environment is perceived. A statement by a founding board member of the Green Roundtable best describes the process: “LEED™ is doing a wonderful job of getting people to look at the effects buildings have on the environment. It’s doing exactly what it is designed to do. It’s a force to be reckoned with. The US Green Building Council has talked about transforming the marketplace, and that is exactly what LEED™ is doing.”

It is important to understand that LEED™ certifies buildings and not materials. It is important to understand that 1 credit can be directly contributed from a white reflective Flex Roof System with the required reflectance and emissivity ratings. A Flex Garden Roof System may earn 2 credits. It is also important to understand that the Flex Roof System may contribute to the other environmental categories. Up to date information on the LEED™ program is available at [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org).