



Thermoplastic Single Ply and Multi-Ply Roofing Systems

2670 Leisch's Bridge Road, Suite 400, Leesport, PA 19533 Phone (610) 916-9500 Fax (610) 916-9501

FLEX COOL ROOFS AND LEED™ REQUIREMENTS

LEED™ stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. It is a **voluntary** consensus based national standard for developing high performance sustainable buildings. The rating system was developed by members of the **U.S. Green Building Council** representing all segments of the Building Industry. The rating system includes 6 prerequisite categories covering the building from design to site work to indoor air quality. The 6 categories are divided into a total of 41 sub categories. The LEED™ rating system requires that a candidate project must total a minimum of 26 points plus all prerequisite requirements.

The roof system is addressed in the category **Sustainable Sites** and is included in the sub category **Landscape & Exterior Design to Reduce Heat Islands**. The requirement for the roof system to be considered under LEED™ is to use an Energy Star® compliant highly reflective roof membrane based on testing using ASTM E 903 and a high emissivity roofing membrane with an emissivity rating of at least 0.9 when tested in accordance with ASTM E 408 for a minimum of at least 75% of the roof surface or install a “green” vegetated roof for at least 50% of the roof area. Combinations of high albedo and vegetated roof can be used providing they collectively cover 75% of the roof area. Meeting these requirements is worth **1 credit point**.

Flex has an Energy Star® **solar reflectance rating of 0.87** as tested in accordance with ASTM E 903 and an **emissivity rating of 0.919** as tested in accordance with ASTM E 408. Flex white Elvaloy® roof membranes meet or exceed the requirements to qualify for the LEED™ rating system. A Flex Cool Roof System may be applicable to the following categories and sub categories.

- 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. Please contact the Flex Customer Service Department for plant locations.

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, and 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.

The definition for Solar Reflectance Index (SRI) is described in the Lawrence Berkeley national laboratory pamphlet containing definitions and terms for Reflectance properties of roofing material. It defines SRI as a measure of the roof’s ability to reject solar heat as shown by a small temperature rise. It is defined that a standard black (reflectance 0.05, emittance 0.90) is 0 and a standard white (reflectance 0.80, emittance 0.90) is 100. Warm roofing materials will have low or even negative values while cool roofing material may have high values even greater than 100.

The Solar Reflectance Index (SIR) is calculated in accordance with the ASTM E 1980. The Flex Cool Roof Membrane was tested by an independent third party CRRC accredited laboratory. The testing determined the Flex Cool Roof Membrane to have a Solar Reflectance Index (SRI) value of: **109.**

The LEED for New Construction Version 2.2 requires the SRI value for low slope roof material to be equal to or greater than: **78.** The Flex Cool Roof Membrane easily qualifies for the 1 credit point provided under Heat Island Effect: Roof.