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BUILDING SYSTEMS
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DESIGN IDEAS

June 16, 2016

New natatorium gets the right roof

Educating and informing customers goes a long way to ensure that they are satisfied with a job. Taking the time to educate a customer fully on even a straightforward natatorium project, demonstrates a customer-centric approach to building systems.



Kirkwood High School in Kirkwood, Missouri, recently completed construction on a new natatorium for its students. New Millennium Building Systems' Versa-Dek® LS Acoustical was selected for the acoustical roof deck by the architect. This installation consisted of Versa-Dek® LS Acoustical with sealed insulation and two coats of paint to help protect the deck from the corrosive and humid environment of the natatorium. 159 squares of Versa-Dek® LS Acoustical were installed in this project. Acoustical metal decking is commonly used in natatoriums, because it combines a structural roof system with sound absorptive insulation, while providing an aesthetically pleasing, finished ceiling system.

Take a consultative approach

A consultative approach for this project was used to ensure the right product and educate the customer. Deep-Dek® Cellular Acoustical was also under initial consideration for this project. Deep-Dek® includes 4.5 , 6 and 7.5 Cellular and Cellular Acoustical decks. It was discovered that Deep-Dek® Cellular Acoustical would be cost prohibitive for this particular project. New Millennium suggested that the architect switch to Versa-Dek® LS Acoustical and save their client more than \$7,000 in deck material cost alone. This suggestion was made with their client's (Kirkwood High

School) budget in mind. The longer spanning capabilities of Deep-Dek® Cellular Acoustical were not required to accomplish the structural, acoustical or aesthetic design goals of the architect's client. Additionally, it was suggested to use Versa-Wedge®, to suspend lighting from the Versa-Dek®. Ductwork and sprinklers can be suspended from Versa-Dek® using the Versa-Wedge® accessory. The architect opted out of this design solution, because their client preferred the original design concept, which was to mount the indirect lighting from the roof joists.

In addition to product consultation, this was also an educational experience for the architect involved, because the architect was unfamiliar with architectural and acoustical metal roof deck. To ensure that the architect and Kirkwood High School were getting the best value, the New Millennium Building Systems team took extra steps to obtain different samples of architectural deck with various finishes and end closure pieces. These samples were delivered in person to the architect's office for the architect and their client's study and review. Ensuring the customer's trust and confidence in our deck and joist products, means taking the extra steps needed to provide a comprehensive educational experience.

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