OCTOBER 2026
Vol. 60, Issue 8

Rural Builder

60 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

by SHIELD WALL MEDIA LLC

Serving The Construction Trade For 60 Years

www.ruralbuildermagazine.com

PRODUCTS AT METALCON

BEAT THE THERMOSTAT
WHATEVER THE WEATHER BRINGS

DRILLING FOR NEW BUSINESS
THE FAST-GROWING WORLD OF OIL & GAS

HIGH TOUCH
IN A HIGH-TECH WORLD

BUILT-IN PROTECTION
SAFETY FEATURES THAT GO THE EXTRA MILE

SEE US AT METALCON

MRS METAL ROLLFORMING SYSTEMS BOOTH #1431

UNITED STEEL SUPPLY BOOTH #533

mfm BUILDING PRODUCTS CORP. BOOTH #1365

ASCO machines BOOTH #1025

Trac-Rite A TBS COMPANY BOOTH #1006

NTM New Tech Machinery BOOTH #1525

DYNAMIC FASTENER BOOTH #816

METALFORMING BOOTH #911

LAKESIDE BOOTH #1642

DYNA-GUARD®



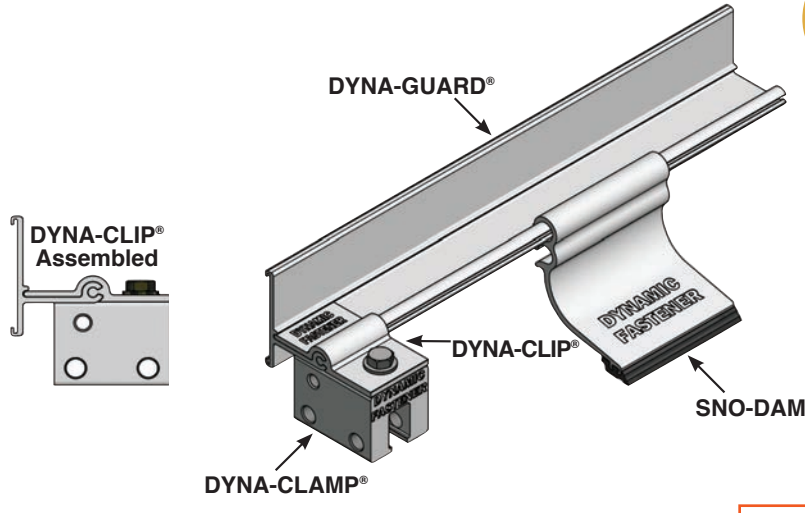
DYNA-GUARD® installed



DYNA-GUARD® on duty

Metal Roofing Magazine
METAL OF HONOR 2026

2026 RB
Gold Key of Excellence Award Winner



METALCON
BOOTH #816

Attention architects / specifiers:

ARCAT® For a CSI 3 part specification and CAD details on Dyna-Guard products see our page on Arcat

https://www.arcat.com/arcatcos/cos50/arc50660.html

DF ARCAT content

DYNAMIC FASTENER • 800-821-5448

DYNA-GUARD, DYNA-CLAMP, DYNA-CLIP, and SNO-DAM are registered trademarks of Dynamic Fastener Service Inc.

EDITOR'S NOTE

BY KATHLEEN RILEY

October Doesn't Trick

October wants you to think it's here to trick-or-treat, but this issue's honest: it's here to work. Harvest's not done, Metalcon's about to open its doors, and half the industry is currently arguing over whether steel or wood is the one true pole barn material. (We're staying neutral. Mostly.)

Speaking of Metalcon — if you're headed to Orlando October 7-9, buckle up: the theme parks have nothing on 250 exhibitors showing off fasteners that can survive a hurricane and a toddler simultaneously. There will be coatings that outlive their warranties out of spite, roll-formers that make grown men emotional, and at least one booth rep who will try to explain "thermal bridging" to you using only hand gestures. Coverage lands next issue, but consider this your permission slip to walk the floor guilt-free. Yes, even the booth with the free popcorn. Especially that one.

This issue also digs into oil and gas infrastructure buildings, because nothing keeps a structure honest like living a few feet from something combustible. We talk to the people who build for that particular flavor of pressure, and what it takes to sleep at night when your building's neighbor is a wellhead.

We've also got agricultural heating and cooling built for weather that refuses to check a forecast. Because livestock don't care about your HVAC budget, they care about not being miserable at 6 a.m. in a 20-degree swing. And we're rounding out the issue with a look at "bonus" safety features: the upgrades nobody asks for, nobody budgets for, and nobody notices until the day they save a finger, a roof, or a Tuesday.

So grab your coffee, brace for cooler mornings, and let's get to it.

— Kathleen Riley







TABLE OF CONTENTS

6 **MIKE ROWE WORKS**
Meet Jacob Trout

10 **BUILT FOR THE PATCH**
Oil and Gas Infrastructure

19 **BUILT IN PROTECTION**
Double Duty Safety Gear

22 **METALCON**
Featured Products

38 **HEATING AND COOLING**
Options for Agriculture

46 **FLASHBACK**
Trends in Tunnel Ventilation

50 **HIGH TOUCH IN A HIGH TECH WORLD**
Randy Chaffee

53 **MAX BUILDS KIDS' SKILLS**
Max Goes to School

58 **PROJECT OF THE MONTH**
Hobby Shop



DEPARTMENTS

Editor's Note 3
Business Connections 54



GO TO PAGE 15 TO SUBSCRIBE TO MORE FREE MAGAZINES

CORRECTION: In the August 2026 issue of Frame Building News, a placeholder quote from David Gruhkle of Pasti-Sleeve from on page 35 was inadvertently included in the printed magazine. The quote was not meant for publication. We apologize for the error and any confusion it may have caused.

ON THE COVER:
PHOTO COURTESY OF YELLOW BOAT-STOCK.ADOBE.COM

FOLLOW US AT:
ruralbuildermagazine.com

CONTACT THE EDITOR AT:
kathleen@shieldwallmedia.com

INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

Company	Page #
AceClamp	3, 29
Acu-Form	29, 55
AkzoNobel	29
American Garage Door Factory	17
ASC Machine Tools Inc	29, 54
ASCO USA, Inc.	CVR, 7, 29, 55
ASTA America by Janus International	13
Aztec Washer Company	55
Balcan Innovations/rFOIL	33, 34
BECK America, Inc.	41
Bradbury Group	29
Coil Spot / Wildcat / SpeedLap	55
Cold Spring Enterprises	54
Creekside Manufacturing LLC	55
DMI Direct Metals LLC	54
Dripstop	11, 30
Dutch Tech Inc.	30
Dynamic Fastener	CVR, 1FC, 30
E-Impact Marketing LLC	56
Englert, Inc.	31
Everlast Roofing, Inc.	55
Flack Hill Machine	57
Formwright	54
Golden Rule Fasteners	28, 55
Graber Post Buildings, Inc.	31
Grandura Distribution LLC	55
GSI Rollformers & Machinery	32
Hixwood	37
Kevmar Manufacturing	54
Koble Systems	39
Lakeside Construction Fasteners	CVR, 32, 37
Levi's Building Components	32
Malco Tools, Inc.	32
Marion Manufacturing	57
Metal Rollforming Systems	CVR, 32, 36
Metalforming LLC	CVR, 32
MFM Building Products	CVR, 33, 35
MWI Components	9
New Tech Machinery	CVR, 33
Palram Americas	21
Planet Saver Industries / GreenPost	56
Plasti-Sleeve	57
Plyco Corporation	33
Progressive Metals	34
Red Dot Products, LLC	34, 56
Rigidply Rafters	40
Roll Former LLC	34
Roper Whitney	34, 35
Royal Metal Works	54
S-5!	34
Schweiss Doors	34, 54
SmartBuild Systems	31, 35
Smartbuild_SurfaceBid	36
Stan Group dba: Liberty Seamless	43
Starwood Rafters	44
SteelGrip SAMM, Inc.	56
Stockade Buildings	57
StruxSure Plans	39
SWI Machinery	36
Tennsmith	36
Trac-Rite Door	CVR, 30, 37
Triangle Fastener Corporation	37
United Steel Supply	CVR, 37, 54
Wick Buildings	43
Worldwide Steel Buildings	27

Rural Builder®
BY SHIELD WALL MEDIA

Managing Editor
Kathleen Riley
kathleen@shieldwallmedia.com
715-952-1644

Editorial Staff
Karen Knapstein, Linda Schmid

Circulation/Subscriptions
Cari Ullom
cari@shieldwallmedia.com
715-952-1629

Publisher/CEO
Gary Reichert
gary@shieldwallmedia.com

Director of Events
Missy Beyer
missy@shieldwallmedia.com
715-350-6658
Fax: 1-715-227-8680

Digital Products Manager
Chad Ellis
chad@shieldwallmedia.com

Executive/Advertising Assistant
Kathy Budsberg
kathy@shieldwallmedia.com

Graphic Designers
Tom Nelsen
Kevin Ulrich

Fax: 1-715-304-3604

Rural Builder (ISSN: 0888-3025) (Volume 60, Issue 8) is published ten times per year (February, March, April, May, July, August, September, Annual, October and December) by Shield Wall Media LLC, 150 Depot St., Iola, WI 54945. Periodical postage paid at Iola, WI, and at additional mailing offices. Canadian Agreement Number: 40665675. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Rural Builder, Cari Ullom, PO BOX 255, Iola, WI 54945.

Copyright 2026 Shield Wall Media LLC. Rural Builder and its logo are registered trademarks. Other names and logos referred to or displayed in editorial or advertising content may be trademarked or copyright. Rural Builder assumes no responsibility for unsolicited materials sent to it. Publisher and advertisers are not liable for typographical errors that may appear in prices or descriptions in advertisements. Mailed free to rural contractors and their suppliers throughout North America. Others may subscribe: $29.98 for 1 year, $55.98 for 2 years, and $79.98 for 3 years in the U.S.; $39.98 for 1 year, $74.98 for 2 years in Canada.

POST-FRAME BUILDER SHOW
POST-FRAME ▪ RURAL ▪ PLAIN
By Shield Wall Media

WWW.POSTFRAMEBUILDERSHOW.COM

YOUR PRIVACY IS IMPORTANT TO US

Unrelated third parties often attempt to sell mailing lists for what they say are our publications. You can be assured that WE DO NOT, HAVE NOT, AND WILL NOT EVER SELL OUR SUBSCRIBER LISTS. We will also NOT sell the attendee or exhibitor lists from our shows. We do provide attendee lists to the exhibitors free of charge and as a courtesy for their support, but we NEVER provide this or any other information to independent vendors.

Gary Reichert,
Publisher, Shield Wall Media

MIKE ROWE WORKS FOUNDATION

WORK ETHIC SCHOLARSHIP

“If something needs doing, just do it.”

As true in life as it is in your career

BY LINDA SCHMID

Jacob Trout was a farm kid who enjoyed the usual farm kid fun... helping out with chores, playing outside, and learning to fix things. In fact, he was the only one on the farm who knew how to weld.

His grandfather, who was a welder, taught him. He was unable to weld anymore due to a heart condition, so he would tell Jacob what to do. Then Jacob would go do it and report back to his grandpa, and grandpa would tell him everything he had done wrong.



His experiences told him that sitting at a desk somewhere wasn't for him. He knew he liked working with his hands and going outside. He had also enjoyed welding, so he started attending trade school.

Trade school was a novel experience for Trout.

“In high school you have all these people going here and there, following different paths, and chasing different dreams. When you start taking classes at the trade school, you are all going down the same path together. I felt like I found my people,” he said.

THE WORK ETHIC SCHOLARSHIP

Growing up, Trout had watched Mike Rowe on the TV show *Dirty Jobs*; his parents always tuned in, so when the scholarship came to his attention, he thought, “I'll just apply and see what happens.”

He was required to answer some essay questions, as is generally true when applying for scholarships. He had to provide references and make a video so scholarship committee members could see a bit of who he was. Trout thought it was fun.

Receiving the scholarship was helpful financially, but it also gave him confidence. A lot of people apply for the scholarships, and they chose him because they believed in him.

THE MAN HIMSELF...MEET MIKE ROWE

When Trout was awarded his scholarship, he, his mom, and his grandfather met Mike Rowe. He was excited at meeting the *Dirty Jobs* star.

ARE YOU (OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW) LEARNING A TRADE?

Every year the mikeroweWorks Foundation awards dozens of applicants with money to help them pay for school. Would you like the next award to go to you? Check out the details at www.mikeroweworks.org/scholarship/. As Jacob Trout says, “Just do it.”



THE FUTURE OF METAL FOLDING IS ELECTRIC

Discover the ASCO V2.5, a fully electric metal folding machine built for the demands of modern fabrication. With innovative 300° clearance geometry, Dynamic Pressure Regulation System, intelligent gripper automation, and automated cutting, the V2.5 delivers the precision, speed, and flexibility to produce complex profiles efficiently, consistently, and with greater control throughout production.

SEE THE V2.5 IN ACTION AT METALCON

October 7-9 | Orlando, FL | Booth #1025

www. ascomachines.com | info@ascomachines.com | 217-955-ASCO

"You know, he talked to me, a twenty-year-old kid, and just as easily spoke to my grandfather, a 90-year-old farmer from Minnesota.

"The guy I talked to was the guy I watched on TV. He is just that down-to-earth.

"He gave me a signed copy of the S.W.E.A.T. (Skill & Work Ethic Aren't Taboo) Pledge, and he said, 'Keep it dirty.'"



THE RIGHT JOB

In his second year at school, Jacob began learning pipe welding. He liked it, and when he started looking at job openings, he knew he was pursuing the right path. The jobs looked enticing, and he realized he was being prepared to qualify for them.

Then he graduated, and it was time to look in earnest. An experienced tradesman told him, "Don't worry about the pay when choosing your first job."

Trout said it was good advice. He saw jobs that paid well, $40 or $50 per hour, but there was always a trade-off. Most of the jobs in his local area were in factories, which could be great jobs, but he knew that he didn't want to be inside all day. Some jobs involved doing things he didn't particularly want to do, or they were located very far away. In the end, he took a more modestly paid job that included going from one place to another to do repairs. It wasn't in his hometown, but it was in the next state, at Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Trout is very happy with his choice. When he began his job, he was doing gofer work; since then he has become a certified welder, and he is doing the welding work he enjoys. The pay has increased along with his status.

Importantly, he is not stuck inside all day, every day, doing the very same thing. The company at which he works does plumbing work as well as welding, so one day he may be at the potato processing plant fixing flanges for a high-pressure water system, and the next he might be at the water treatment plant fixing the stainless steel piping.



WHAT THE JOB TAKES

Problem-solving is a big part of the job, Trout said.

"At first when I was called in after hours to fix something, I would be calling others and asking them what they would do," Trout said. "But eventually you realize you don't have to call anyone; you see that something needs to be done and you just do it."

Trout continued, "I think it's a combination of time and experience – and the confidence that experience brings."

His advice for others who are thinking about entering the welding industry is to stick with it. Trust your gut. That's what he did, and it worked pretty well for him.

FUTURE WORKS

Trout sees himself continuing to work in the job he is in because he really likes it. He does think that eventually he would like to work his way up in the company and become a foreman. He wants to lead and mentor a crew in doing quality work.

The welding trade offers great opportunities, and even if you completed a training program and ended up not liking the job, there are always other opportunities if someone likes your work ethic and your attitude. Trout applied for a position with an excavating company, and they told him that in the future he wouldn't be limited to just pipe welding. If he wanted to he could end up training for and becoming an equipment operator. For example, he could operate a bulldozer or an excavator.

"Anybody out there who is thinking of entering the trades or deciding whether they should apply for the mikeroweWORKS Foundation scholarship... Just do it," he said. "It's a good program." **RB**

MWI COMPONENTS

Amera Shield™

The American-Engineered Reflective Foam Insulation.

Built with a highly-reflective metallized exterior film, foam insulator, and a UV protected sleek white woven polypropylene interior, Amera Shield™ delivers powerful radiant-heat control, full moisture management, and jobsite-ready durability — all backed by MWI's fast lead times.

Why Amera Shield™

- Reflects Radiant Heat
- Blocks Air Movement
- Reduces Vapor Transfer
- Energy Efficiency



With Tab

50" x 125'	74" x 125'
Part #: SF50125	Part #: SF74125

No Tab

48" x 125'	72" x 125'
Part #: SF48125	Part #: SF72125

Call for a Quote Today!

800-360-6467 mwicomponents.com Spencer, IA

BY RURAL BUILDER STAFF

BUILT FOR THE PATCH

Post-Frame and Metal Buildings Rise to Meet Oil & Gas Infrastructure Demands

From compressor stations in the Marcellus to wellhead enclosures on remote Permian leases, low-rise construction has become the go-to solution for an energy industry that needs buildings fast, tough, and code-compliant — and the builders who understand that market are finding a durable niche.

Drive the back roads of eastern Ohio, western Pennsylvania, or the Permian Basin outside Midland, Texas, and the skyline isn't skyline at all — it's tank batteries, pump jacks, gathering lines, and, increasingly, a scattering of clean-lined metal buildings doing the unglamorous work of keeping the oil and gas industry running. Compressor buildings. Wellhead enclosures. Control rooms. Chemical injection skids. Crew quarters and equipment storage on leases that may not see a paved road for miles. None of it looks like the barns and pole buildings that built this industry's reputation. Still, the bones underneath are strikingly familiar: post-frame and pre-engineered metal building systems, adapted for one of the most demanding built environments in North America.

For post-frame and metal building contractors willing to learn a new rulebook, the oil and gas sector represents a market that rewards precision, documentation, and relationships as much as it rewards square footage. It is also a market with its own vocabulary — API, NFPA, Class I Division 2, hazardous area classification — that can feel like a foreign language to a builder used to talking trusses and snow load. This Project Focus is a primer on what's driving demand for these buildings, what makes them different from a standard agricultural or commercial structure, and where the opportunity sits for builders who want in.

WHY THE ENERGY SECTOR TURNED TO LOW-RISE CONSTRUCTION

Oil and gas operators did not arrive at pre-engineered metal and post-frame buildings by accident. Midstream and upstream construction budgets are driven by a variable that traditional commercial construction rarely faces head-on: the clock. A compressor station or gathering site generates no revenue while it sits unbuilt, and drilling programs move on schedules set by lease terms, not by construction crews. Framing systems that can be engineered, fabricated, and erected in weeks rather than months have become the default. That timeline advantage is the single biggest reason steel-frame and post-frame construction now dominates oilfield building specs.

The economics reinforce the pattern. Clear-span framing eliminates interior columns that would otherwise crowd compressor skids, separators, and the maintenance access around them. Panelized wall and roof systems ship efficiently to sites that are, by definition, often remote — a consideration that matters enormously in shale plays like the Marcellus, Utica, Bakken, and Permian, where the nearest fabrication yard may be hours away. And because leases and production profiles change, a bolted, modular structure can sometimes be disassembled and relocated to a new pad rather than demolished outright, an option that stick-built or masonry construction doesn't offer.

None of that is new to builders who already work in post-frame agricultural and commercial construction. What's different is the operating environment the building has to survive, and the paperwork that has to prove it will.

A FIELD GUIDE TO OIL & GAS BUILDING TYPES

"Oil and gas building" is a broad label covering a range of structures, each with its own design drivers. Builders entering this market benefit from understanding where each type sits in the production chain.

Compressor and Pump Buildings

Found throughout midstream gathering and transmission systems, compressor buildings house the engines and equipment that move natural gas through pipelines. These structures carry

DR!PSTOP™

INCREASE PROFIT, NOT LABOR COSTS, WITH DRIPSTOP CONDENSATION CONTROL

Condensation control

Corrosion resistant

Saves time and money

Durable

Maintenance free

HOW IT WORKS

1. ABSORBS

Dripstop absorbs condensation as it forms on the underside of the metal roof.

2. HOLDS

Moisture is held within the membrane until conditions improve.

3. RELEASES

Moisture naturally evaporates as the temperature rises and air circulates.

Proper ventilation is required for optimal performance.

TRUSTED ACROSS INDUSTRIES



CELEBRATING 30 YEARS 1996 – 2026

THE ORIGINAL. SINCE 1996.

The high-performance membrane that helps protect buildings and goods from the damaging effects of condensation.

2026 RB Gold Key of Excellence Award Winner

METALCON BOOTH #858

Whatever your need, get in touch and we'll be happy to assist. Phone: **(937) 660-6646,** E-mail: **info@dripstop.com**

Scan the code for more information or to get in touch.

some of the sector's toughest requirements: sound attenuation to meet local noise ordinances, ventilation systems engineered around the heat load of the equipment inside, and framing designed to handle vibration loads a typical pole barn never has to consider. Acoustic wall and roof panel systems, often layered with insulation and mass-loaded barriers, are common upgrades over a standard metal building envelope.

Wellhead and Production Enclosures

At the wellhead itself, smaller enclosures protect metering equipment, chemical injection systems, and production controls from weather and tampering. These tend to be modest in size but heavy on code compliance, since they frequently sit inside or adjacent to a classified hazardous area where flammable vapors may be present.

Control Rooms and SCADA Buildings

As automation has spread through the industry, dedicated control buildings housing SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition) equipment have become common at both midstream and upstream sites. These structures prioritize climate control and electrical isolation over square footage, and they're frequently among the most heavily insulated buildings on a given pad.



BOBO1980-STOCK.ADOBE.COM

Storage, Warehouse, and Crew Facilities

Pipe yards, tool storage, and crew facilities round out the picture, and these are the structures that look most like traditional post-frame commercial buildings — open-span storage, insulated crew quarters, and covered laydown areas for pipe and equipment that needs to stay off the ground and out of the weather.

THE CODE ENVIRONMENT: HAZARDOUS AREA CLASSIFICATION

The single biggest technical departure from conventional post-frame and metal building work is hazardous area classification, and it's worth builders taking the time to understand the basics even if the engineering itself is typically handled by a licensed electrical engineer or the operator's own compliance staff.

Facilities that produce, process, or store flammable liquids and gases are classified under systems built around API RP 500, the American Petroleum Institute's recommended practice for electrical installations at petroleum facilities, and its companion document, API RP 505, which uses the international Zone system rather than the Division system. NFPA 70 (the National Electrical Code), NFPA 30 (Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code), and NFPA 497 provide the broader framework that many jurisdictions layer on top of or alongside the API guidance.

In practice, a building — or more precisely, the space around and sometimes inside it — gets classified as Class I, Division 1 or Division 2, depending on whether flammable vapors are expected to be present continuously, intermittently, or only under abnormal conditions. That classification dictates everything from the type of electrical fixtures and conduit that can be installed to how the building is ventilated. For the builder, the practical takeaway is straightforward: don't guess. Qualified specialists engineer hazardous area classification based on the specific process equipment and chemicals on site, and the building shell has to be designed around their determination — not the other way around.

Builders who want to be taken seriously as oil and gas contractors do well to get comfortable with the vocabulary — Division 1 versus Division 2, Class I versus Class II, Group C versus Group D — even if they aren't the ones performing the classification. It signals to engineering firms and operators that a contractor understands the stakes involved.

MATERIALS AND ENVELOPE: BUILT TO SURVIVE THE SITE

Corrosion protection dominates the materials conversation on most oil and gas projects. Production sites can expose a building envelope to hydrogen sulfide, high-salinity produced water, chemical injection fluids, and — depending on region — everything from Gulf Coast humidity to high-desert temperature swings. Standard galvanized steel, adequate for most agricultural and light commercial buildings, often isn't enough. Heavier gauge steel, upgraded coating systems such as Galvalume or specialized paint systems, and, in the harshest chemical environments, non-metallic wall and liner panels have all become standard specification items.

That last category — chemical-resistant plastic and composite wall systems — has carved out a meaningful role in oil and gas construction specifically because it sidesteps corrosion concerns altogether in high-exposure interior applications like containment areas and chemical storage rooms. Builders sourcing these systems increasingly look to manufacturers who already serve the broader post-frame and metal building trade and have extended their product lines to meet petrochemical-grade requirements.

Door and access hardware is another area where oilfield specification diverges from standard construction. Compressor and equipment buildings often need oversized openings capable



BUILT FOR THE REAL WORLD—PRICED FOR IT, TOO.

ASTA America delivers trusted performance in commercial and rolling doors. Now, our Mt. Airy facility expands that legacy with durable, easy-to-install carport and shed components—manufactured and stocked on-site for faster turnaround. From doors and galvanized steel tubing to panels, trim and hardware, ASTA provides the quality, value, and reliability you need—without compromise.

ASTAAMERICA.COM

For more information on **ASTA AMERICA**
scan or call **770-974-2600**.

of accommodating large stationary equipment during installation or major maintenance, which has driven demand for heavy-duty hydraulic and bi-fold door systems engineered specifically for post-frame and steel building applications. This niche overlaps directly with equipment doors already familiar to builders serving large agricultural and equestrian structures.

REMOTE SITES, REAL LOGISTICS

Ask any contractor who has built on an active lease, and they'll tell you the jobsite itself is often the biggest variable. Well pads and gathering sites are frequently miles from paved roads, utilities, or easy equipment access, and pad construction, site grading, and access road conditions are typically outside the builder's control and subject to change without much notice. Materials have to be palletized and staged for delivery by truck onto surfaces that may not tolerate standard construction equipment, and crews often work within safety protocols set by the operator — site-specific safety orientations, personal protective equipment requirements, and permit-to-work systems that a builder used to residential or agricultural jobsites may not have encountered before.



ANDREW 0-STOCK.ADOBE.COM

This is also where the pre-engineered and panelized nature of post-frame and metal building systems earns its keep. Because the bulk of fabrication happens off-site, on-site labor and dwell time are compressed, which matters enormously when every day on an active production lease carries both a cost and a safety exposure that the operator is tracking closely. Builders who can demonstrate a track record of clean safety performance and schedule reliability on remote sites tend to find themselves back on the bid list for the next pad.

REGIONAL BUILDOUT: WHERE THE INFRASTRUCTURE IS GOING UP

Demand for oil and gas infrastructure buildings is not evenly distributed, and builders considering the market do well to understand where activity is concentrated and what each region tends to require.

Appalachian Basin — Marcellus and Utica Shale

Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia have seen more than fifteen years of sustained natural gas development, and the midstream gathering and compressor infrastructure needed to move that gas to market continues to expand alongside it. This region overlaps directly with the existing readership base of Rural Builder and Frame Building News, giving established post-frame contractors in the area a natural on-ramp into energy sector work without having to relocate their operations. Winters here bring snow load and freeze-thaw considerations that are already second nature to post-frame builders in the region, which is an advantage over out-of-region competitors.

Permian Basin — West Texas and Southeastern New Mexico

The Permian remains the largest single concentration of active drilling and completions activity in the country, and the pace of new wellhead, gathering, and processing infrastructure reflects it. Builders working this region contend with extreme summer heat, blowing dust, and long distances between fabrication yards and remote pad sites, all of which put a premium on panelized systems that minimize on-site labor hours and crews accustomed to desert working conditions.

Bakken — Western North Dakota and Eastern Montana

Bakken infrastructure work is defined by its own extremes: brutal winter cold, limited local labor pools, and some of the most remote pad access in the Lower 48. Buildings here often carry heavier insulation packages and cold-weather-rated equipment enclosures than their southern counterparts, and logistics planning around winter road restrictions is as much a part of the job as the construction itself.

Gulf Coast and Permian-to-Coast Corridors

Downstream and export-related construction along the Texas and Louisiana Gulf Coast brings a different set of drivers — hurricane wind load requirements, high humidity, and proximity to large-scale petrochemical and LNG facilities that often require the most stringent hazardous area classification work in the industry. Builders here frequently work alongside larger EPC (engineering, procurement, and construction) firms rather than serving as prime contractor, which changes the nature of the client relationship compared to a smaller upstream or midstream project.

MODULAR AND RELOCATABLE DESIGN: BUILDING FOR A DEFINED PRODUCTION LIFE

Unlike a commercial building designed for decades of fixed use, many oil and gas structures are built with a known — and sometimes short — service life tied to a specific lease or production phase. That reality has pushed a meaningful share of the market toward bolted, modular construction that can be disassembled, trucked, and re-erected on a new pad rather than demolished when a well reaches the end of its economic life or a gathering system gets rerouted.

Designing for relocation changes the engineering approach in ways that aren't always obvious to a builder used to permanent construction. Connections are specified as bolted rather than welded wherever structurally feasible. Foundation systems favor

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

















BuildMyBarndo.com, a website dedicated to people considering building a barndominium.

Shield Wall Media brands are dedicated to serving the information needs of construction professionals.

SCAN TO SUBSCRIBE

SUBSCRIBE ONLINE: shieldwallmedia.com/subscribe or fill out & mail form below.

PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL REQUIRED TO RECEIVE YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS

Metal Roofing Magazine | Plain Builder | Metal Builder | Rural Builder | FrameBuilding News | Rollforming Magazine | Roofing Elements Magazine | BuildMyBarndo.com

FREE 3-YEAR SUBSCRIPTIONS!

1. Please check one or more boxes, sign & date:

I wish to receive: ❑ **Metal Roofing** ❑ **Plain Builder** ❑ **Metal Builder** ❑ **Rural Builder** ❑ **Frame Building News** ❑ **Rollforming** ❑ **Roofing Elements** (❑ **BuildMyBarndo.com** (digital only))

Signature (REQUIRED): _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone or Email (REQUIRED): _____

❑ Check this box if you wish to receive the email newsletter associated with the magazine subscription(s) above.

I would like to receive my subscription:
❑ By Mail
❑ Digitally

SWM2026

2. Choose which title applies:
- ❑ President/Vice President
- ❑ Principle/Shareholder
- ❑ Sales Manager or Rep
- ❑ Foreman/Crew Manager
- ❑ Engineer/Architect
- ❑ Other:_____

3. Describe your business:
- ❑ Builder/Contractor
- ❑ Dealer/Distributor
- ❑ Manufacturer
- ❑ Engineer/Architect
- ❑ Other:_____

4. Please check all of the types of building or manufacturing you are involved with:

❑ Post Frame	❑ Residential	❑ Metal Roofing	❑ Rollforming
❑ Metal Frame	❑ Commercial	❑ Trusses/Columns	❑ Trim & Flashings
❑ Fabric	❑ Equine	❑ Foundations	❑ Insulation/ Moisture Control
❑ Agricultural	❑ Roofing	❑ Gutters/Snow Retention	

SHIELD WALL MEDIA LLC

MAIL TO:
Shield Wall Media
ATTN: Cari Ullom
PO Box 255, Iola, WI 54945

pier or skid-mounted designs over full concrete slabs, both to speed initial construction and to simplify eventual removal. Panel systems are selected and installed with an eye toward disassembly rather than only toward initial weathertightness. None of this is more complicated than standard post-frame construction — it simply requires planning the building's eventual disassembly at the same time as its initial design. This mindset shift pays off for both the builder's reputation and the operator's long-term asset flexibility.

TOTAL COST OF OWNERSHIP: WHY OPERATORS SPEND MORE UP FRONT

Builders accustomed to competing primarily on upfront price will find oil and gas procurement decisions weighted differently. Operators evaluate buildings against a total cost of ownership model that accounts for downtime risk, maintenance access, and asset life — not just the bid number. A compressor building that requires the compressor to be taken offline for repairs because of a poorly planned door or access panel costs the operator far more in lost throughput than the incremental cost of specifying a better door system up front would have. Similarly, a coating system that fails at year twelve of a projected thirty-year service life creates a maintenance and liability cost that dwarfs the original savings from choosing a cheaper paint system.

SOURCES & RESOURCES

- American Petroleum Institute (API) — api.org — Publisher of API RP 500 and API RP 505, the recommended practices governing electrical area classification at petroleum facilities. API's standards program is the starting point for understanding hazardous location requirements referenced throughout this article.
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) — nfpa.org — Publisher of NFPA 70 (National Electrical Code), NFPA 30 (Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code), and NFPA 497, which together form the broader hazardous-location framework many jurisdictions apply alongside API guidance.
- National Frame Building Association (NFBA) — nfba.org — The post-frame industry's national trade association, and a source of ongoing education for builders expanding into specialized commercial and industrial applications, including oil and gas infrastructure.
- Oil & Gas Journal — ogj.com — A long-running trade publication covering upstream, midstream, and downstream operations, including infrastructure and facilities construction trends relevant to builders serving the sector.
- Pipeline & Gas Journal — pgjonline.com — Trade coverage focused on pipeline, gathering, and midstream infrastructure, including compressor station and facility construction.
- Hart Energy — hartenergy.com — Energy industry research and news covering upstream and midstream development activity across major U.S. shale plays, useful for builders tracking where infrastructure investment is concentrated.
- U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) — eia.gov — Federal data on drilling activity, production volumes, and infrastructure buildout by region, useful for identifying where midstream and upstream construction demand is trending.



ELEONIMAGES-STOCK.ADOBE.COM

This total cost of ownership mindset is a useful one for builders to adopt in their own proposals. Bids that walk an operator through lifecycle considerations — corrosion protection strategy, maintenance access planning, relocation flexibility — tend to be received more favorably by procurement and engineering staff than bids that compete purely on square-foot pricing, even when the latter is lower.

SAFETY CULTURE AND WORKFORCE CONSIDERATIONS

Safety performance carries outsized weight in oil and gas contractor selection compared to most other construction sectors, and operators routinely vet contractors through formal safety prequalification programs before allowing them on an active site. Builders new to the sector should expect site-specific safety orientations, personal protective equipment requirements beyond standard jobsite practice, and permit-to-work systems governing hot work, confined space entry, and other activities that would be routine on a typical post-frame jobsite but require documented authorization on an active production lease.

Crew training is part of the cost of entry. A framing crew skilled at agricultural and commercial post-frame work generally adapts well to the physical construction tasks involved in oil and gas buildings. Still, they'll need orientation to the safety culture and documentation expectations of the sites they're working on. Contractors who invest in that training up front, and who can show a clean safety record when bidding subsequent work, tend to build the kind of trust with operators and EPC firms that turns a single project into a repeat relationship.

WHERE THE OPPORTUNITY SITS FOR POST-FRAME CONTRACTORS

For an established post-frame or metal building contractor, the entry point into this market is rarely a full compressor station on day one. It's more often a storage building, a crew facility, or a smaller wellhead enclosure built for a regional operator or midstream company — projects that use largely the same skill set a builder already has, just layered with a new set of specification

PREMIUM PRO LINK

SIDE MOUNT
GARAGE DOOR OPENER

INCLUDED ACCESSORIES

- Safety Beam Sensors
- Wireless Wall Console
- Door Lock
- CarHome Button Remote
- 3 Button Remote



DIRECT
NO MIDDLE MAN

$325 PLUS TAX

Delivered to your door or JOB site floor!

Space saving design and easy to mount.
Fits on right or left side of door.

For Sectional Residential Doors 7 ft to 14 ft Tall

WHISPER-QUIET OPERATION



NO CABLE SLACK!

*MEANS **NO** SPUN CABLES! **NO** SERVICE CALLS FOR OFF TRACK DOORS.*



10 YEAR MOTOR / 5 YEAR PARTS POWER UNIT WARRANTY

The Best! Even Better! It's not made in CHINA

Backed, Trusted and Endorsed by

THE AMERICAN GARAGE DOOR FACTORY

ORDER ON-LINE. QUESTIONS? CALL 888-600-8852

Note: For battery back-up or California model add $25.00

WWW.PREMIUMPROPRODUCTSUSA.COM

requirements and a new client relationship to develop. Contractors who deliver well on those smaller jobs, and who invest the time to understand the code environment described above, frequently find themselves invited to bid larger and more technical work as the relationship matures.

It's also a market where relationships with component and material suppliers matter as much as the relationship with the client. Sourcing corrosion-rated fasteners, chemical-resistant wall systems, and heavy-duty door hardware from manufacturers who understand oilfield specifications — rather than adapting standard agricultural building components after the fact — tends to separate contractors who build one oil and gas project from those who build a steady pipeline of them.

THE SUPPLY CHAIN BEHIND THE BUILD: COIL, COATINGS, AND COMPONENTS

Every metal-clad oil and gas building starts as flat-rolled steel long before it becomes a wall or roof panel, and that puts steel service centers and rollforming equipment suppliers squarely in the supply chain — even though few of them market themselves as oil and gas specialists the way a compressor-building manufacturer might.

It's worth builders understanding that the steel, coatings, and fasteners specified on an oil and gas project usually trace back through this same rollforming and coil-distribution supply chain that already serves their agricultural and commercial work — which means an existing supplier relationship can often flex to meet a new project type without starting from zero. Builders sourcing coating systems for high-corrosion applications should also ask their panel supplier directly what paint system and warranty terms apply, since coating chemistry — not just gauge — often determines how a panel performs against hydrogen sulfide exposure or coastal humidity over a multi-decade service life.

COATING SYSTEMS: THE DETAIL THAT DETERMINES SERVICE LIFE

If corrosion protection is the headline material concern on an oil and gas project, coating chemistry is where that concern actually gets resolved. Standard G-90 galvanized steel, adequate for most agricultural applications, is frequently upgraded to Galvalume or a heavier zinc coating class for oilfield work, and painted systems layered on top of that substrate carry their own hierarchy of performance. Polyester and modified-polyester paint systems represent the economy end of the spectrum; fluoropolymer coatings such as PVDF-based systems sit at the premium end, prized for chalk and fade resistance in coastal and high-UV environments common to Gulf Coast and Permian Basin operations.

Warranty language deserves particular attention. A film-integrity warranty covering chalking and fading is not the same thing as a corrosion warranty, and an operator specifying a 30- or 40-year building envelope needs to know which one applies to a specific coating system in a specific chemical environment. Builders unfamiliar with these distinctions do well to loop in their coil or panel supplier's technical staff early in the estimating process rather than after a coating failure becomes a warranty dispute.

QUICK REFERENCE: QUESTIONS TO ASK BEFORE BIDDING AN OIL & GAS BUILDING

- Has the hazardous area classification been completed, and by whom? A builder should never assume a standard building envelope meets Class I requirements without engineering documentation.
- What is the corrosion exposure at this specific site — H2S, produced water salinity, coastal humidity — and does the coating and material spec reflect it?
- What equipment needs to move in and out of the building over its service life, and does the door and opening spec accommodate future maintenance, not just initial installation?
- What are the site access, staging, and safety orientation requirements, and how will they affect the construction schedule?
- Is the structure intended to be permanent, or does the operator want a bolted, relocatable design for a lease with a defined production life?

LOOKING AHEAD

Domestic oil and gas production shows no near-term sign of retreating from the pace that has driven infrastructure buildout across the Appalachian, Permian, Bakken, and Gulf Coast regions over the past decade, and the compressor stations, wellhead enclosures, control buildings, and storage structures that support that production will need to keep pace with it. For post-frame and metal building contractors already comfortable with panelized, clear-span construction, the fundamentals of that work translate directly. What separates a contractor who builds one oil and gas project from one who builds a steady pipeline of them comes down to the details covered in this article: understanding hazardous area classification well enough to have an informed conversation with an engineer, specifying corrosion protection and coatings that match the actual site chemistry, planning for the safety culture and documentation an operator will expect, and building supplier relationships that can flex from an agricultural building order to an energy sector specification without missing a beat.

It's a demanding niche. It's also one where the builders willing to do the homework tend to find themselves with a durable, repeat-business relationship — which, in an industry where the next job is never guaranteed, is worth the extra rulebook. RB

BY RURAL BUILDER STAFF

Built-In Protection

The Components Quietly Doing Double Duty as Safety Gear



SABREWOLF-STOCK.ADOBE.COM

How underlayment, insulation, and structural sheeting are being engineered to protect the people installing them — not just the buildings they cover.

Ask a crew what keeps them safe on a roof, and you'll hear the expected answers: harnesses, guardrails, toe boards, a foreman who won't look the other way. What you won't hear as often is a product name. Yet a growing share of the components already specified into post-frame and metal-frame jobs — underlayment, insulation systems, and structural sheeting — are being engineered with a secondary job description: keeping a falling worker from becoming a falling statistic.

Call it "bonus" safety. It's not a harness or a net. It's a slip-resistant surface underfoot, an insulation assembly rated to arrest a fall through a roof deck, or a sheeting material strong enough to shrug off the kind of impact that would otherwise mean a trip to the ER. None of it replaces fall protection required by OSHA. All of it changes the odds when something goes wrong anyway.

A CONCEPT WITH A NAME: PREVENTION THROUGH DESIGN

This kind of dual-purpose engineering has a formal name in the safety and design world: Prevention through Design, or PtD. Many everyday building components serve a primary structural or aesthetic function while simultaneously acting as critical life-safety features.

Roofing and building-envelope components are only part of the picture. Once you start looking for it, PtD shows up throughout a structure — in stairways, glazing, walls, and even the landscaping around a building.

STRUCTURAL AND SPATIAL ELEMENTS

- **Staircase Handrails**: Provide ergonomic support for daily vertical movement while preventing slip-and-fall accidents.
- **Retaining Walls**: Manage landscaping slopes and soil erosion while functioning as vehicle barriers or flood diverters.
- **Corridor Widths**: Accommodate regular daily traffic flow and furniture moving while serving as code-mandated emergency egress paths.
- **Balustraded Balconies and Parapets**: Define outdoor usable space and architectural style while preventing accidental falls from heights.

MATERIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES

- **Tempered or Laminated Glass**: Transmits natural daylight and provides outdoor views while resisting impact and

SOURCES & RESOURCES

- Everlast Roofing, Inc. — metal roofing and wall panels — everlastroofing.com
- Cold Spring Metal — metal roofing and siding products — coldspringmetal.com
- Steel Grip SAMM — steel building components — steelgripsamm.com
- Red Dot Products, LLC — insulation and sealant/closure products — reddotproducts.com
- PoleSaver — post and pole protection systems — polesaver.com
- Direct Metals, Inc. — steel coil and sheet supply — directmetalsinc.com
- Marion Manufacturing — post-frame building components — marionmanufacturing.com
- Aztec Washer Company — fasteners and washers — aztecwasher.com
- Golden Rule Fasteners, Inc. — fastening systems — goldenrulefastenersinc.com
- Creekside Manufacturing — engineered wood trusses and building components — creeksidemanufacturing.com
- Grandura — building components — grandura.com
- Stockade Buildings, Inc. — post-frame building supply and construction — stockadebuildingsinc.com

containing shattered fragments during an event.

- **Non-Slip Floor Finishes**: Offer interior design aesthetics and wear resistance while actively preventing pedestrian slips.
- **Intumescent Door and Window Frames**: Support door panels during normal operation while expanding under extreme heat to seal off fire and smoke paths.
- **Integrated Planters and Bollards**: Enhance exterior landscaping and define property boundaries while stopping vehicular ramming attacks.

The same logic applies to post-frame and metal-frame components — it just tends to hide in plain sight in the roof and wall system rather than the lobby. That's the throughline for the rest of this piece: underlayment, insulation, and sheeting that are doing a second job most people never notice.

UNDERLAYMENT THAT GRIPS BACK

Roof underlayment has always had one job: keep water out. But a wet, dew-slicked, or frost-covered deck is one of the most common places a foot slides out from under a roofer, and manufacturers have taken notice. Synthetic underlayments increasingly ship with textured or coated top surfaces engineered specifically for foot traction — a finish that behaves more like a walking pad than a moisture barrier.

The traction benefit shows up earliest in the job, during dry-in, which is exactly when crews are moving fastest, and the deck is at its most exposed. A textured top sheet doesn't eliminate the need for care on a pitch — steep-slope work is still steep-slope work — but it measurably reduces the number of "oh no" moments crews report when the morning dew hasn't burned off yet.

For post-frame and metal roof retrofits in particular, where crews are often walking purlins or open decking before panels go down, that added grip is doing real work long before a single screw goes into a panel.

INSULATION ENGINEERED TO CATCH, NOT JUST INSULATE

Thermal performance used to be the whole conversation around insulation. Increasingly, it isn't. Insulation and fall-protection systems are being paired — or in some cases fully integrated — so that an insulation assembly installed below a metal roof deck is also rated to arrest a fall if a worker breaks through the panel above it.

This matters most on re-roof and retrofit jobs, where an existing metal panel can hide advanced corrosion, and a worker's first indication of a problem is the panel giving way underfoot. A fall-arrest-rated insulation system installed as part of the original build, or retrofitted ahead of re-roofing work, gives that scenario a very different ending: instead of a fall to grade or to a lower level, the system is designed to catch and hold.

These assemblies are typically tested and rated against recognized fall-arrest standards, and specifying one is as much a design decision as a thermal one. For agricultural and rural buildings with open interiors — grain facilities, machine sheds, riding arenas — where a fall from roof height often means a fall a long way down, that rating can be the difference between an incident report and a fatality.

SHEETING BUILT LIKE IT EXPECTS TO GET HIT

The third category is structural: wall and roof sheeting engineered for strength well beyond what's needed to shed weather. High-strength coated steel sheeting — sometimes marketed using strength comparisons to titanium — is designed to resist punctures, denting, and structural failure under impact loads that would compromise a standard panel.

For builders, the safety case is straightforward. A panel that resists puncture under impact is a panel that's less likely to fail underfoot, less likely to give way under debris or storm impact, and less likely to create a secondary hazard — a jagged edge, a sudden gap — during or after a failure event. In high-wind regions and buildings sited for hail exposure, that added structural margin is increasingly treated as a safety spec, not just a durability one.

The same strength-to-weight profile that makes these panels attractive for long clear spans and reduced structural support also means less material fatigue over time, which keeps a roof or wall system performing the way it was designed to for longer — including in the moment a worker's weight ends up somewhere it wasn't supposed to be.

SPECIFYING FOR THE BONUS, NOT JUST THE BASE JOB

None of these products are marketed first and foremost as safety equipment, and none of them should replace a documented fall-protection plan, guardrails, or PPE. But as competition among post-frame and metal-frame component manufacturers pushes performance specs higher across the board, builders have an opportunity that didn't exist a decade ago: to choose materials that pull double duty, providing the thermal, structural, or weatherproofing performance a job already requires — with a meaningful safety margin built in at no extra step.

For builders bidding jobs where crew safety records, insurance costs, or OSHA exposure are part of the bottom line, that's worth a line item in the spec sheet. A slightly more traction-rated underlayment, a fall-arrest-rated insulation assembly, or a higher-strength sheeting package costs more up front. It's increasingly hard to argue it doesn't pay for itself the first time it's tested.

QUESTIONS TO ASK BEFORE YOU SPEC

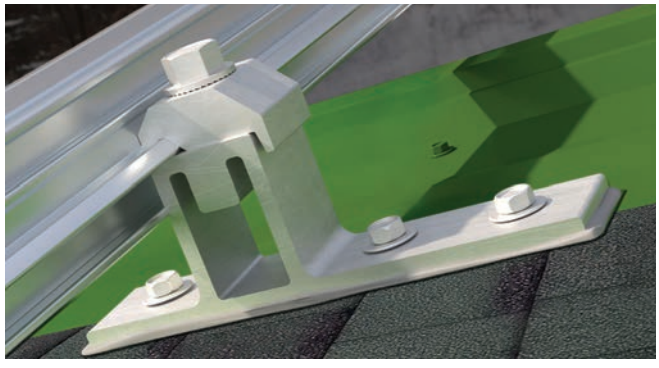
- Is the underlayment's top surface rated or tested for slip resistance, or is "textured" just a marketing word?
- Does the insulation assembly carry a documented fall-arrest rating, and under what test standard?
- What impact or puncture rating does the sheeting carry, and how does it compare to standard-gauge panels at the same price point?
- Does the manufacturer publish third-party test data, or only in-house claims?
- How does the added safety margin affect installed cost per square — and how does that compare to the potential cost of a single fall incident? **RB**

To share your news announcements with Rural Builder readers, send them to editor Kathleen Riley at kathleen@shieldwallmedia.com.



METALCON 2026

Find These Products and Problem Solvers in Orlando, October 7-9



ACECLAMP • BOOTH #807

Introducing the ColorSnap Universal Screw Down bracket. Our patented ColorSnap snow retention system is not just for SSMR anymore. Now you can get the same benefits on an exposed fastener system, asphalt roof or any screw down application. Pre-assembled for time-saving installation, it's compatible with nearly all roof types.

www.aceclamp.com



ACERO INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS • BOOTH #657

In today's manufacturing environment, success demands more than production; it requires flexibility, efficiency, automation, and the ability to adapt to changing market demands. That's the vision behind ACERO's Maximus Purlin Line: a revolutionary structural roll-forming system designed to eliminate limitations and unlock new possibilities.

The Maximus combines the production of five structural profiles in one fully automated machine C-Purlins, Z-Purlins, U-Channels, L-Angles, and E-Strut allowing manufacturers to maximize production capacity while reducing equipment footprint and operational complexity. Instead of investing in multiple machines, fabricators can streamline operations with a single heavy-duty platform engineered for versatility and performance.

Built with an ultra-heavy reinforced welded frame, premium D2 tooling, servo-driven punch stations, high-performance servo motors, upgraded PLC controls, and premium bearings, the Maximus delivers exceptional precision and continuous production at speeds exceeding 150 feet per minute.

Capable of processing material from 10 gauge to 16 gauge and producing profiles from 4-inch to 14-inch webs, the Maximus empowers manufacturers to take on more projects, serve more markets, and increase profitability without sacrificing quality.

www.aceroindustrialsystems.com



ACU-FORM EQUIPMENT • BOOTH #607

Acu-Form Panel Lines are engineered for accuracy, consistency, and operational ease. Built with long-term durability in mind, these versatile systems efficiently produce highly precise metal parts across an extensive variety of profiles, including custom matches tailored to your exact project specifications.

To guarantee an exceptionally long wear life and resist heavy industrial abrasion, all of our premium forming dies are precision-crafted from D2 tool steel 58RC. Furthermore, these robust machines adapt seamlessly to your specific shop infrastructure, offering flexible power configurations available in high-efficiency electric, hydraulic, or mechanical drive options.

www.acuformequipment.com



AKZONOBEL • BOOTH #817

AkzoNobel's CERAM-A-STAR® Select Expressions is a unique, high-performance silicone-modified polyester textured coating that achieves a wood grain effect finish in wood and stone prints. It was developed using the advanced CERAM-A-STAR® 1050 platform, showcasing industry-leading technology.

Utilizing AkzoNobel's proprietary resins and additives, it delivers excellent performance backed by an industry leading warranty.

The innovative technology is applied through a traditional print roll process, delivering natural looking prints with a wood grain texture in the final film. This convincingly mimics natural materials like wood, slate, or granite for versatile aesthetics in lap siding and board and batten applications.

Beyond its appealing appearance, CERAM-A-STAR® Select Expressions boasts superior performance, providing outstanding durability, moisture and UV resistance, flexibility, and abrasion resistance. It is available in a standard color palette, providing readily accessible print materials to simplify the ordering process.

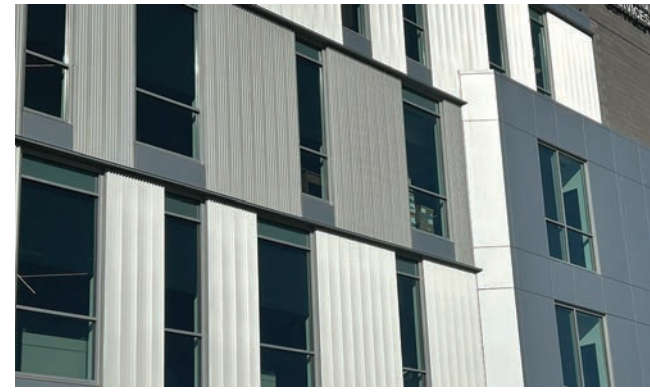
https://coilcoatings.akzonobel.com



ASCO USA, INC. • BOOTH #1025

The ASCO V2.5 is a next-generation, fully electric metal folding machine designed to help manufacturers produce complex parts faster, more accurately, and more efficiently. Its innovative 300° clearance geometry expands profile capabilities, while Dynamic Pressure Regulation (DPR) ensures consistent, high-quality bends across a wide range of materials. Intelligent automation, including advanced gripper technology and automated cutting, reduces setup times, simplifies operation, and increases throughput. Powered by ASCO's advanced E-Drive system, the V2.5 delivers fast, accurate performance with lower energy consumption and less maintenance than conventional hydraulic machines. Built for today's fabrication industry, the V2.5 gives manufacturers the speed, precision, and flexibility to tackle increasingly demanding applications with confidence.

www.ascomachines.com



ATAS INTERNATIONAL • BOOTH #1543

ATAS International's new MultiFin series of wall cladding features a distinctive fin-style profile available in multiple variations, designed to pair seamlessly with the MetaFlex panel through a shared interlock. As a structural rainscreen wall panel system, MultiFin encourages design flexibility and elevated aesthetics across a wide range of building façades. Mix and match colors, finishes, and fin spacings to bring virtually any design vision to life with MultiFin. Panels are offered in both aluminum and steel, with a range of thicknesses to meet project needs. MultiFin is well suited for commercial, educational, and healthcare facilities, as well as multi-family residential and mixed-use developments.

https://atas.com

BECKERS GROUP • BOOTH #1432



Beckry®Tex by Beckers Group is a high-performance textured coil coating that helps metal manufacturers create products with added depth, visual appeal, and lasting durability. Its low-gloss textured finish provides a distinctive alternative to traditional smooth coatings while delivering excellent weatherability,

color retention, and surface protection.

Meeting AAMA 2604 and 2605 requirements and formulated to be PFAS-free, Beckry®Tex supports high-performance metal building applications while providing design flexibility for roofing, wall panels, and other architectural uses.

www.beckers-group.com/



COIL SPOT • BOOTH #1385

Coil Spot has launched LUXR, a new metal shingle system designed to help rollformers, roofing suppliers, and contractors compete more effectively in the residential roofing market. Engineered to offer the durability of metal with the convenience of asphalt shingles, LUXR eliminates many of the logistical challenges associated with traditional metal roofing, such as field measurements, long lead times, and off-site panel production. Available to qualified rollformers nationwide beginning in Fall 2026, LUXR comes in three textured finishes—Charcoal, Matte Black, and Burnished Slate—and is manufactured from 26-gauge steel with a Sherwin-Williams SMP paint system backed by a 40-year warranty. The system creates multiple revenue opportunities by allowing suppliers to stock and sell shingles, manufacture matching trim in-house, and supply related accessories such as fasteners, underlayment, and closures—all through a streamlined single-source supply model.

www.luxroof.com

COMBILIFT • BOOTH #1285

At METALCON, Combilift will showcase its innovative multidirectional C-Series and CB forklift range, engineered to deliver exceptional manoeuvrability in tight spaces.

With the ability to travel sideways, these forklifts are ideal for handling long, bulky steel products such as steel beams, columns, coils, metal roofing, and insulated panels. Their multidirectional capability eliminates the need to carry long loads overhead, allowing operators to navigate safely through narrow aisles and confined spaces while significantly reducing the risk of injury and product damage. The result is improved operational safety and



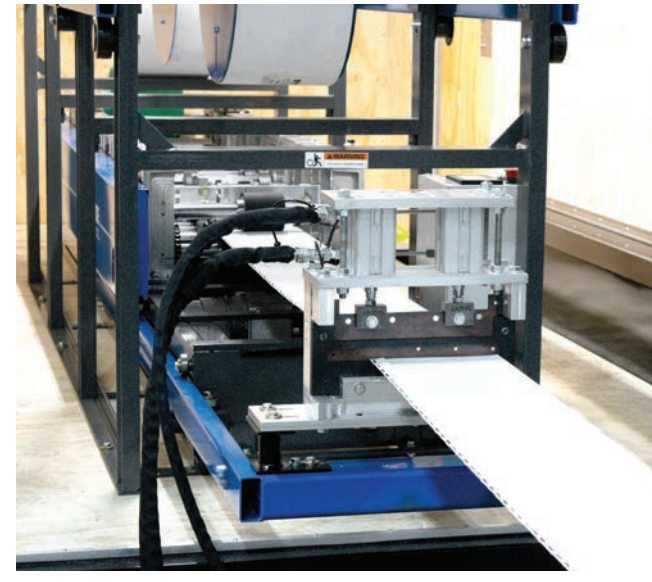
more efficient use of valuable storage space.

The multidirectional range also features a low centre of gravity, ensuring stable, low-to-the-ground load handling for enhanced safety and confidence during transport.

Available with electric, diesel, or LPG power, the C-Series and CB models are designed for both indoor and outdoor operation. Their robust construction enables reliable performance in demanding environments and all weather conditions.

With lifting capacities ranging from 5,000 to 15,500 lbs for the CB range and 5,000 to 55,000 lbs for the C-Series, these compact forklifts offer a space-saving alternative to traditional counterbalance trucks while providing outstanding performance for long-load handling.

www.combilift.com



EASTSIDE MACHINE • BOOTH #1261

Eastside Machine Company's EM 6/8/10 Multi-Profile Seamless Siding Machine delivers jobsite flexibility and performance in a rugged, American-made design. Capable of producing more than 40 seamless siding profiles—including Traditional, Dutch Lap, Board and Batten, and Plank styles—this portable roll-

former allows for quick profile and attachment changes to meet evolving project demands.

A key upgrade to the machine is the hydraulic cutter. Its dual-cylinder design maximizes strength and minimizes travel, enabling faster, cleaner cuts on 26- to 29-gauge steel. With quick-connect couplers, a universal upper blade, and easily interchangeable lower blades, this cutter streamlines production while reducing operator fatigue and improving safety.

www.eastsidemachine.com

ENGLERT • BOOTH #785

The Englert FP Machine is a roll forming system designed to help contractors produce high-quality metal roofing panels directly on-site. Built for speed and consistency, it allows operators to run panels to exact job lengths, reducing waste and improving installation efficiency.

With user-friendly controls and durable construction, the machine is designed for reliable performance in the field or at the shop. Contractors can take on more jobs, reduce material handling, and improve margins by producing panels on demand.

Whether for residential or commercial applications, the Englert FP Machine helps streamline operations and gives contractors greater control over their production process.

www.englertinc.com



FORGE MACHINES • BOOTH #1065

The D Series Double Folder dramatically increases productivity by eliminating one of the biggest bottlenecks in metal folding—handling the material instead of bending it. Single folders require operators to repeatedly turn, flip, and reposition long, heavy panels, wasting valuable time and increasing fatigue. The Variobend D Series performs bends from both the top and bottom without rotating the piece, allowing common profiles to be completed in one continuous operation. This reduces handling time, improves accuracy, and delivers consistent, repeatable results. Built and serviced in the United States by Forge Machines, the D Series combines world-class engineering with dependable local support. The result is faster production, lower labor costs, improved operator safety, and greater profitability. Less handling means more bending—and more parts completed every day.

www.forgemachines.com

LELAND INDUSTRIES • BOOTH #1149

Leland Industries is a North American manufacturer that provides quality powder coated fasteners for the roofing and siding industry. Leland Industries has over 30 years of experience and expertise in powder coating, ensuring a finish that lasts the life of your metal panel. Leland's Powder Coated Tough fasteners will outlast conventional spray-painted finishes, eliminating chipping and premature fading. Leland Industries stocks over 120 colors providing peace of mind that their fasteners will match your panel. Leland powder coats under the head where corrosion begins, adding protection and durability in any environment. Leland's Powder Coated Tough exceeds 3000 hours salt spray life and exceeds 50 cycles, 2L S02/Cycle Kesternich, setting the standard in painted finishes.



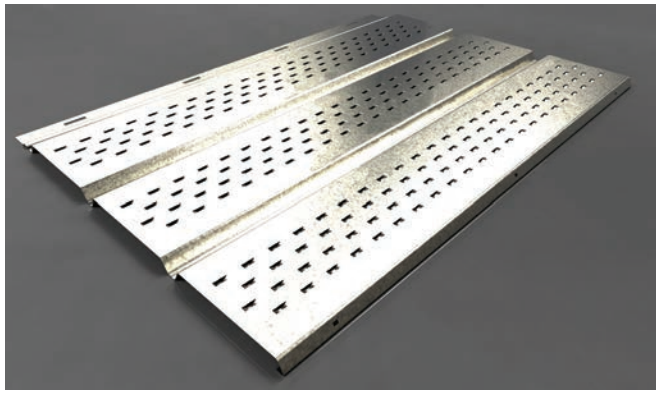
www.lelandindustries.com



MALLET SUPPLY • BOOTH #1005

Mallet Supply, LLC presents GreenCoat PLX by SSAB. GreenCoat PLX is the "Roofer's choice" line of premium steel which provides installers with unmatched durability and foldability. GreenCoat steel maintains a high tensile strength while offering low yield strength, allowing for premier quality rollforming. The PLX line is tension-leveled, which translates to ease and reliability of pan-forming as well as a low-distortion appearance for the finished roof. Coated with Pural BT paint system which replaces 70% of the petrochemical ingredients with sustainable Rape seed oil. A PFAS free system with a 50 year technical and 25 year aesthetic warranty (provisional coastal warranties available). The material is also solderable thanks to a thicker-than-standard zinc coating and comes with an easy-release protective film pre-applied.

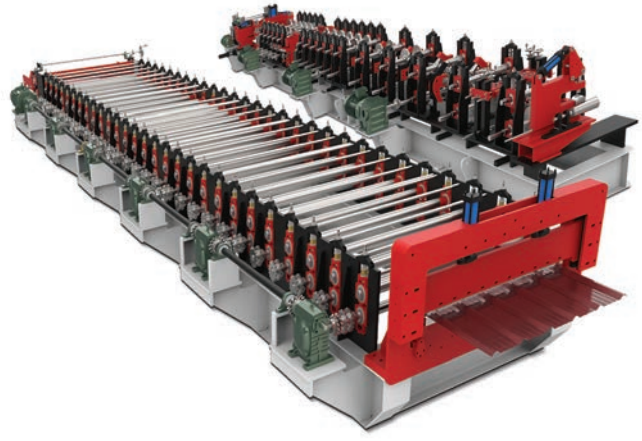
malletsupply.com



METAL ROLLFORMING SYSTEMS • BOOTH #1431

The Metal Rollforming Systems (MRS) Soffit Line was developed through close collaboration with valued customers who use, sell, and install the product, ensuring broad market fit. It utilizes industry standard 20.125" coil stock, allowing customers to leverage existing inventory and drastically reduce initial investment costs. Key features include concealed fastener "S lock" lap, standard rib height, and a top rib flat for easy fastening. Innovated changes over standard soffits include nail slots and weep holes for horizontal applications. With class leading speeds over 150 FPM, customers can produce more in less time. Coupled with industry leading service, support, and warranty, the MRS Soffit Line truly stands out.

www.mrsrollform.com



METALFORMING • BOOTH #911

The VietSteel SH Model Single AG Panel Roll Forming machine, available exclusively in the North America from MetalForming LLC, produces AG-style exposed fastener roofing and siding panels. Engineered for roofing manufacturers, metal building suppliers, and contractors, the SH Model combines heavy-duty construction with modern technology to deliver consistent panel quality and increased production capacity. Featuring:

• Hands Free Loading table: Efficient and safety minded feeding of material from decoiler into the rollformer.

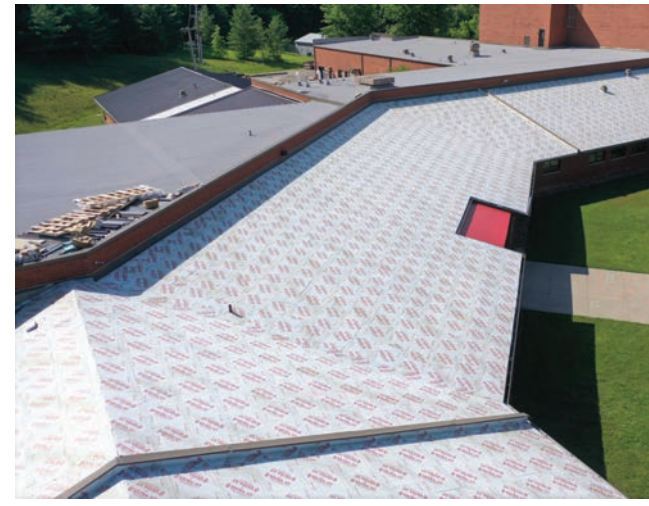
• Auto Material Thickness adjusting system: compensation for variations in material thickness with little or no manual adjustments

• Precut and post cut length shearing as standard

• Full electrically interlocked safety cage system.

The SH Model offers manufacturers the flexibility to serve multiple market segments from a single platform. By delivering reliable, repeatable production with low maintenance requirements, the VietSteel SH Model helps fabricators increase throughput, improve profitability, and meet growing demand for high-quality metal roofing and siding products.

www.metalforming-USA.com



MFM BUILDING PRODUCTS • BOOTH #1365

MFM Building Products, a US-based manufacturer of self-adhering waterproofing membranes since 1961, will be highlighting the company's Ultra HT Wind & Water Seal® steep-slope underlayment which has several recent fire-ratings and approvals. This self-adhering underlayment is high temperature rated to 250°F and boasts UL, ICC and WUI fire ratings. Ultra HT® is composed of a tough white, non-slip cross-laminated polyethylene top surface laminated to an SBS adhesive system. The product is engineered for whole roof protection and as an ice and water barrier to limit damage from severe weather. In addition, the company will be showcasing several other self-adhered high temperature rated underlayments, specialized roofing membranes and roof flashing tapes all designed for the metal roofing marketplace.

www.mfmbp.com

ROPER WHITNEY • BOOTH #300

The AutoKut M20 is a compact slit-to-width and cut-to-length coil processing machine that straightens, slits, and blanks sheet metal in one pass. It reaches feed speeds up to 85 fpm, blanking and slitting up to 20 gauge mild steel and accommodating 8"–50"



coil widths. The AutoKut M20 is equipped with a user-friendly touchscreen interface and comes with all mechanisms outside the machine for long-term serviceability.

roperwhitney.com



SWI MACHINERY • BOOTH #725

The Marxman Plus automatic slitter provides all of the capability and reliability of SWI's flagship Marxman slitters, with the added benefit of 8 pairs of auto-setting slitter blades.

Other features include a pneumatic infeed guide, automatic nesting, 5-roll straightener, chrome-plated and induction-hardened shafts, quick blade change-out, and plastic film applicator.

WORLDWIDE
STEEL BUILDINGS

YOUR STEEL BUILDING PARTNER
FROM DESIGN TO DELIVERY.

Whether you're building a barndominium, workshop, garage, or commercial project, Worldwide Steel gives you everything you need to build with confidence.

- Custom Building Designs
- Engineered Plans Included
- Made in USA
- Design-to-Delivery in 90 Days or Less
- Industry-Leading Customer Service
- 50 Year Structural Warranty

50 YEAR STRUCTURAL WARRANTY

worldwidesteelbuildings.com | info@worldwidesteelbuildings.com | 800-825-0316

The Marxman Plus comes with a 21.5" touchscreen interface, coil management software, the ability to network, access remotely, and integrate with many back-office software solutions.

Processing sheet metal at 150'/minute, this machine has the capabilities and the technology to minimize waste and boost production efficiency for metal building manufacturers, pole barn manufacturers, and roofing/sheet metal fabrication operations.

Material capability: Mild Steel up to 1.2mm (18GA), Stainless Steel up to 1mm (20GA), or Aluminum up to 1.6mm (.060").

www.swimachinery.com

TRIANGLE FASTENER CORPORATION • BOOTH #664

Triangle Fastener Corporation (TFC) BRANDS™ are engineered for ease of installation and reduced in-place costs.

TFC brands for metal roofing, siding, and trim include:

• PANEL-TITE® Metal-to-Wood Screws: #9, #10, #12, and #14 diameters in lengths up to 3".

• CONCEALOR® Pancake Head Screws: Available in lengths up to 9". Our Ultra Low Profile is designed for SSR clip attachment!

• BLAZER® Drill Screws: For attaching panels to steel, in lengths up to 10".



• APS500® Advanced Polymer Sealant: Widely specified and available in over 24 standard colors.

• TFC BUTYL™: Offered in tubes and tape for exceptional performance in panel laps.

• KALIDA-KOTE™ Proprietary color-matching system for painted screws, rivets, and closures.

www.trianglefastener.com

RB

ARCHIE VENTS™



U.S. Patent #11946263, 10907358 & 11649635



NEW—PanelVents™ and Jacked Vents™ designed for metal roofing

Golden Rule FASTENERS

Ph: (334) 283-4030 Fax: (334) 283-4032 Email: info@goldenrulefastenersinc.com

PLAN YOUR VISIT

Be sure to visit these exhibitors at METALCON, October 7-9, 2026

AceClamp by PMC Industries Inc.

Booth #807
87 Spring Lane
Plainville, CT 06062
860-351-0686
860-351-0689 (fax)
sales@aceclamp.com
www.aceclamp.com

AceClamp®, The Smarter Clamp, is the set screw alternative and a manufacturer of non-penetrating clamps for all metal roof attachment needs. Our patented push-pin design comes pre-assembled, saving on time and labor while protecting metal roof panels from installation damage. With AceClamp, you get the "Power of Pre-assembled" for secure and efficient rooftop solutions.

Acu-Form

Booth #607
10550 Township Road 262
Millersburg, OH 44654
330-674-4003
330-674-4035 (fax)
wayne@acu-form.com
www.acuformequipment.com

Acu-Form has been the trusted name for premium roll-forming machines in the steel roofing industry. Our unwavering commitment to tried-and-true manufacturing processes, founded on proven design principles and strict quality control checks, sets the foundation for the Acu-Form promise — quality, reliability, and longevity. When you choose Acu-Form, you're choosing a partner dedicated to your success.

AkzoNobel Coil and Extrusion Coatings

Booth #817
1313 Windsor Ave.
Columbus, OH 43211
614-294-3361
coilcoatings@akzonobel.com
www.coilcoatings.akzonobel.com/us

Beyond Performance - it's what makes us different. Backed by more than 200 years of experience, we uphold the highest standards, creating coil and extrusion products of proven, enduring quality. Working in partnership to best serve our customers, we deliver genuine added value, protecting reputations as much as surfaces.

ASC Machine Tools, Inc.

Booth #842
900 North Fancher Road
Spokane, WA 99212
509-534-6600
contact-us@ascmt.com
www.ascmt.com

ASC Machine Tools, founded in 1949 in Spokane, Washington, is a leading American manufacturer of rollforming machinery and coil processing equipment. ASC designs, engineers, manufactures, and supports high-performance systems for metal construction industries, including roofing, decking, purlins, framing, and other applications, serving customers worldwide.

ASCO USA, Inc.

Booth #1025
410 Richmond Avenue
Mattoon, IL 61938
217-955-ASCO
info@ascomachines.com
www.ascomachines.com

ASCO Group is a leading provider of metal trim machinery across the world. We are excited to deliver top-quality products and exceptional customer service. Our team is dedicated, skilled, and passionate about ensuring our clients receive the best solutions and support.

Bradbury Group

Booth #613
1200 E Cole St.
Moundridge, KS 67107
620-345-6394
bradbury@bradburygroup.com
www.bradburygroup.com

The companies within The Bradbury Group design and build quality roll forming equipment, cut-to-length equipment, levelers, automated production systems, metal tile roofing systems, and controls for entry level operations to full scale facilities. Whether you need a single machine or an entire manufacturing system, we have the expertise and experience to build equipment that will exceed your expectations.

Freudenberg Performance Materials

Booth #858
3500 Industrial Dr.
Durham, NC 27704
937-660-6646
info@dripstop.com
www.dripstop.com

Dripstop is a factory-applied condensation control membrane for metal roofing panels. Installed during the roll-forming process, it absorbs condensation and releases as conditions change. Used worldwide, Dripstop helps manufacturers offer a proven value-added roofing solution while helping protect buildings from condensation-related problem.

Dutch Tech, Inc.

Booth #676
107 Third Ave. E
Lobelville, TN 37097
931-325-0000
931-901-1382 (fax)
office@dutchtech.com
www.dutchtech.com

Providing builders with high performance, American made, reflective insulation.

Dynamic Fastener

Booth #816
800-821-5448
www.dynamicfastener.com

Dynamic Fastener offers same-day shipping of screws, painted rivets, anchors, flashings, safety equipment, hand tools and power tools. In-house custom painting of screws and rivets, with one or two-day lead time. A stock level of 145 million rivets including over 325 different rivets that are prepainted — in handy bags of 250 pieces. Dyna-Guard snow retention system for metal roofs. The company's free, 140 page, full color, Tool and Fastener Hand Guide provides engineering data, details product offering and pricing. Locations: Kansas City (Main office), Kansas City

BUILT TO PROTECT.
BUILT TO LAST.

DEPENDABLE DOORS
BUILT THE TRAC-RITE WAY.

Trac-Rite roll up doors are the smart choice for rural sheds and outbuildings.

From equipment storage to hobby shops, our doors deliver the durability, security and reliability you need - season after season.



9-Time RB 2026 Gold Key of Excellence Award Winner

Trac-Rite
A TBS COMPANY

608-837-8895
tracrite.com • tr@tracrite.com

(Annex), Chicago, Houston, Las Vegas, Memphis, St. Louis, and St. Paul.

ENGLERT
a Great Day Improvements brand

Englert, Inc.

Booth #785
1200 Amboy Ave.
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
800-364-5378
info@englertinc.com
www.englertinc.com

Englert is a leading manufacturer of metal roofing and gutter systems. We are built on a simple core principle, dedicating ourselves to help our customers succeed. With our unmatched sales, support, technical, and customer service teams, we will be with you every step of the way to ensure your success.

GRABER POST BUILDINGS INC.

Graber Post Buildings

Booth #755
7716 N 900 E
Montgomery, IN 47558
800-264-5013
info@graberpost.com
www.graberpost.com

Graber Post Buildings is a leading distributor and manufacturer of post-frame and metal roofing supplies and materials. We roll-form 6 different metal panels, and we have a custom trim department that can produce almost any trim profile needed for your projects. We also produce nail-laminated columns and pre-engineered wood trusses up to 100' clear span. We also stock overhead doors, windows, sliding door components, cupolas, fasteners, underlayments, vapor barriers, insulation, and much more.



PHOTO COURTESY OF METALCON



3D Models Instantly
Generate accurate 3D models in minutes

Automated Pricing & Proposals
Create professional bids fast — close more jobs

Material Lists in Minutes
Eliminate take-off errors and costly misses

Website Options Available
Add a building configurator to your website

Ready To Sell More Buildings?
SCAN TO LEARN MORE
Call us today
303-443-8033
smartbuildsystems.com

GSI Rollers & Machinery

Booth 1717
1109 Katy St.
Lancaster, TX 75146
908-347-3467
g.wong@gsirollers.com
www.gsirollers.com

We have 17+ years of experience and a presence in 20+ countries. We specialize in high-quality metalforming machinery f panel profiles, c/z , ssr, cut to length, slitters, deck, storage profiles, customs & foldings, punch prices and more. Whether you need a complete production line or a specialized machine, our team is ready to discuss solutions tailored to your business. Come visit us at our booth and discover how GSI Rollers & Machinery can take your production to the next level!

Lakeside Construction Fasteners, Inc.

Booth #1642
6500 AR-135
Paragould, AR 72450
800-537-4160
sales@lakeside-fasteners.com
www.lakeside-fasteners.com

Lakeside Construction Fasteners is a manufacturer and distributor of specialized fasteners and accessories serving the metal construction industry. Now part of DMI Direct Metals, Lakeside continues under the leadership of President and Co-Founder Eric Velliquette, maintaining its focus on innovation, product integrity, quality, and personal service while gaining additional resources.

Levi's Building Components

Booth #1235
400 Burkholder Drive
Ephrata, PA 17522
877-897-7020
info@levisbuilding components.com
www.levisbuilding components.com

Levi's Building Components is a leading wholesale supplier of metal roofing solutions, known for quality products, fast shipping, and accurate order fulfillment. We offer a full range of fasteners for Metal-to-Wood, Metal-to-Metal, and specialty applications, along with Snow Defender snow guards available in 40+ colors and textured finishes.

Malco Tools, Inc.

Booth #1376
14080 Hwy. 55
Annandale, MN 55302
www.malcotools.com

Malco Tools, Inc. is one of the nation's leading solution developers and manufacturers of a variety of high-quality specialty hand tools for the building and construction trades. Backed by over 70 years of history, Malco offers hundreds of tool innovations for trade professionals. Headquartered in Minnesota, Malco manufactures tools that are built to last, rigorously tested and backed by a limited lifetime warranty.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NEUBEK PHOTOGRAPHERS

MetalForming, LLC

Booth #911
100 International Dr.
Peachtree City, GA 30269
770-631-0002
info@metalforming-usa.net
www.metalforming-usa.com

MetalForming LLC offers A World Of Possibilities for sheet metal folders, shears, roll formers, slitters, and coil processing solutions. For over 25 years we have provided solutions from the most innovative and best-in-class global machine partners. Our service and support are bolstered by our stock of machines and parts.

Metal Rollforming Systems

Booth #1431
4511 North Freya St.
Spokane, WA 99217
509-466-6854
info@mrsrollform.com
www.mrsrollform.com

Metal Rollforming Systems designs and manufactures industry leading rollforming equipment and accessories. Our complete in-house design and manufacturing facility allows us to price our equipment at a very competitive price, making us a leader in rollforming equipment manufacturing. MRS' product lines consist of single and double deck rollformers, single and multitrim rollformers, slitters, sheet stackers and much more.



PHOTO COURTESY OF METALCON

MFM Building Products Corp.

Booth #1365
525 Orange St.
Coshocton, OH 43812
800-882-7663
740-622-6161
info@mfmbp.com
www.mfmbp.com

Metal Roofing Underlayments.
MFM offers several self-adhering roofing underlayments designed for metal roofing systems where high heat is generated. These include Ultra HT, MFM Wind & Water Seal, Premium HT Tile & Metal, and StormStopper FSU. These will be highlighted in the company's Metalcon booth along with free samples. Made in USA.

New Tech Machinery

Booth #1525
16265 E 33rd Dr. Suite 40
Aurora, CO 80011
303-858-2180
rick.zand@newtechmachinery.com
www.newtechmachinery.com

New Tech Machinery has been building industrial grade portable metal roof panel and seamless gutter machines for over 30 years. NTM was the first to commercially produce a polyurethane drive-roller machine with separate forming rollers, now an industry standard. NTM continues to innovate and release new rollforming products, including its latest flagship SSQ3.

Plyco Corporation / East Coast Fasteners

Booth #1511
500 Industrial Drive
Elkhart Lake, WI 53020
800-558-5895
marketing@plyco.com
www.plyco.com

For over 70 years, Plyco has been a leading supplier of products to the post-frame, metal clad building and commercial construction industries. Providing metal doors, windowws, horse stall systems, ventilation products, reflective insulation, fasteners and closures, and more.

TRANSFORMING THE WAY YOU INSULATE

- **Blocks 96% of Radiant Heat Transfer**
- **Class 1/A Fire-Rated** (ASTM E84)
- **UV-Resistant and Durable**
- **No Protective Clothing Needed**
- **Safe and NO ITCH!**
- **Will Not Harbor Mold, Mildew or Fungi**
- **Industry-Best UV Warranty**

Come see us at:
METALCON
BOOTH# 1448









One-Stop Shop: rFOIL's Staple Guard, 2200, 2500 & 2600 bubble insulation series, all available from one trusted partner. One truckload for multiple applications.

rFOIL®
888-887-3645
www.rFOIL.com

Progressive Metals

Progressive Metals

Booth #900
PO Box 685
Cornwall, PA 17016
855-835-9762
www.progressivemetals.com

Progressive Metals aims to meet and exceed all customer coil needs. Offering a wide variety of colors in high-quality 28-gauge coil and 26- and 24-gauge slit coil, excellent customer service, and exceptional delivery across the United States. We also offer a full line of accessories to finish your build.

RED DOT PRODUCTS

Red Dot Products

Booth #1449
34 Denver Road
Denver, PA 17517
833-473-3368
717-740-6644 (fax)
www.reddotproducts.com

Most rollformers, metal distributors, and building supply companies are limited by their inventory space and can't stock everything their customers ask for. **Red Dot Products helps you expand your product offering with access to an extensive inventory, competitive pricing, and fast, reliable shipping for coils, fasteners, snow retention, color-matched accessories, and more.**

rFOIL®

rFOIL Reflective Insulation

Booth #1448
279 Humberline Dr.
Etobicoke, ON M9W 5T6
Canada
800-837-8961
www.rFOIL.com

rFoil is the largest manufacturer of reflective insulation and radiant barriers in North America. Our products are fiber-free so you don't need personal protective equipment when installing them. They are lightweight and easy to handle, as well as moisture resistant so they won't harbor mold.

ROLL FORMER

Roll Former LLC

Booth #300
140 Independence Lane
Chalfont, PA 18914
215-997-2511
215-997-5544(fax)
info@rollformerllc.com
www.rollformerllc.com

Roll Former LLC manufactures efficient, effective roll forming equipment for all things architectural sheet metal and roofing. From roof and wall panels to hemming, perforating, seaming, and even custom builds, Roll Former has you covered with versatile, reliable, American-made machines built for both in-shop and jobsite demands.

ROPER WHITNEY
CHANGING THE SHAPE OF METAL

Roper Whitney

Booth #300
2833 Huffman Blvd
Rockford, IL 61103
815-962-3011
815-962-2227(fax)
info@roperwhitney.com
www.roperwhitney.com

Roper Whitney offers trusted metal fabrication solutions ranging from the industry-leading AutoBrake® to shears, coil processing equipment, and classic hand tools. Backed by over a century of American manufacturing and innovation, Roper Whitney's reliable, easy-to-use machines help operators get more done and confidently shape metal every day.

S-5!® The Right Way

S-5!

Booth #1517
12730 Black Forest Rd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80908
888-825-3432
719-495-0045 (fax)
info@s-5.com
www.s-5.com

Since 1992, S-5! has been the global leader in metal roof attachment solutions. Its zero-penetration clamps and brackets support a variety of roof-mounted applications across all metal roof types while preserving roof integrity and warranties. Building on that legacy, S-5! has now extended its proven expertise to include single-ply roof solutions.

SCHWEISS DOORS

Schweiss Doors

Booth # 1279
72121 470th Street
Hector, MN, 55342
507-426-8273
www.schweissdoors.com

Schweiss Doors manufactures lift straps bifold doors and one piece hydraulic doors for a wide variety of applications including industrial, commercial, agriculture, aviation and residential. Schweiss can build any size door, hydraulic or bifold, without sacrificing headroom. Check out our newest Designer Doors at schweissdoors.com

smartbuild systems

Smartbuild Systems

Booth 1271
PO Box 501
Morton, IL 61550
303-443-8033
sales@smartbuildsystems.com
www.smartbuildSystems.com

SmartBuild Systems builds software that runs your whole job — design, quote, sell, produce. **SmartBuild PF** and **AM** turn post-frame and all-metal building leads into live 3D designs, instant pricing, and signed proposals in minutes. We also offer **Surface Bid**, our metal roofing takeoff and bidding tool. One platform, every step.



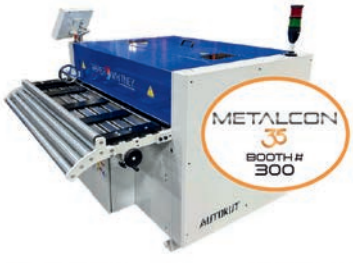


PHOTOS COURTESY OF METALCON

The Fastest Way to Feed Your Sheet Metal Shop

AUTOKUT 100

Coil Processing Made Simple.



The simplest, most efficient material handling solution for greater production and safety.

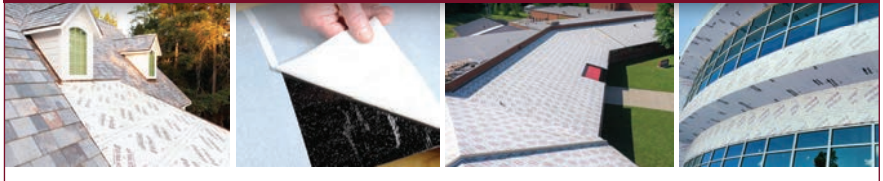
Cut to Length & Slit to Width in one compact package.

ROPER WHITNEY.
Rockford, IL 815-962-3011
www.roperwhitney.com



Self-adhering. High-temp.
Go ahead and turn up the heat.

Premium performance you can count on job after job.



Maximum protection against extreme heat, wind-driven rain and ice dams. Ultra HT Wind & Water Seal® is engineered to roll out smooth, lay flat and protect your project from the harshest environments. Suitable for both commercial and residential projects, count on Ultra HT for complete piece of mind on your next project!

Ultra HT Wind & Water Seal® Features:

- **Durable cross-laminated, cool white, non-slip surface**
- **Self-adhering and self-sealing around fasteners**
- **High temperature rated to 250°F**
- **Suitable for vertical applications under metal wall panels**



mfm® BUILDING PRODUCTS CORP.

Request a free sample at mfmbp.com or call 800.882.7663.

Surface Bid

Booth 850
PO Box 501
Morton, IL 61550
303-443-8033
sales@smartbuildsystems.com
www.surface-Bid.com

Surface Bid turns roof measurement files from leading providers like GeoSpan and Roofscope into panel layouts, material lists, and pricing — in minutes, not days. Down to the exact piece, not just square footage. Faster bids, fewer errors, and more accurate quotes that win more jobs. Metal roofing takeoffs, done right.

SWI Machinery, Inc.

Booth #725
400 Naeco Way
Peachtree City, GA 30269
770-766-0880
info@swimachinery.com
www.swimachinery.com

SWI is among the top brands of sheet metal processing equipment with heady-duty, easy-to-use machines for coil handling, uncoiling, slitting/blanking, folding, and recoiling. With significant advancements in programming, controls and mechanics, SWI is delivering fully-automated processes that achieve exceptional production throughput for today's sheet metal fabricators. Brands include: CX5, Marxman, Simplex, and Duplex.

Tennsmith

Booth #300
6926 Smithville Highway
McMinnville, TN 37110
931-934-2211
931-934-2220(fax)
info@tennsmith.com
www.tennsmith.com

Tennsmith is the trusted American manufacturer of sheet metal fabrication equipment and proud owner of Roper Whitney and Roll Former LLC. From dependable manual shears and brakes to advanced powered folders, shears, and forming tools, Tennsmith builds durable, reliable equipment that help fabricators work with confidence and efficiency.



Trac-Rite

Booth #1006
314 Wilburn Rd
Sun Prairie, WI 53590
608-837-8895
608-825-6745(fax)
tr@tracrite.com
www.tracrite.com

Trac-Rite, the premier manufacturer of high-quality roll-up doors, is a 100% employee-owned company with over 45 years of experience, specializing in American-made steel roll-up doors for self-storage, sheds, garages, and metal/wood frame buildings. Renowned for durability and reliability, Trac-Rite provides comprehensive solutions backed by unmatched customer service.

Triangle Fastener Corporation

Booth #664
1925 Preble Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15233
800-486-1832
trianglefastener.com

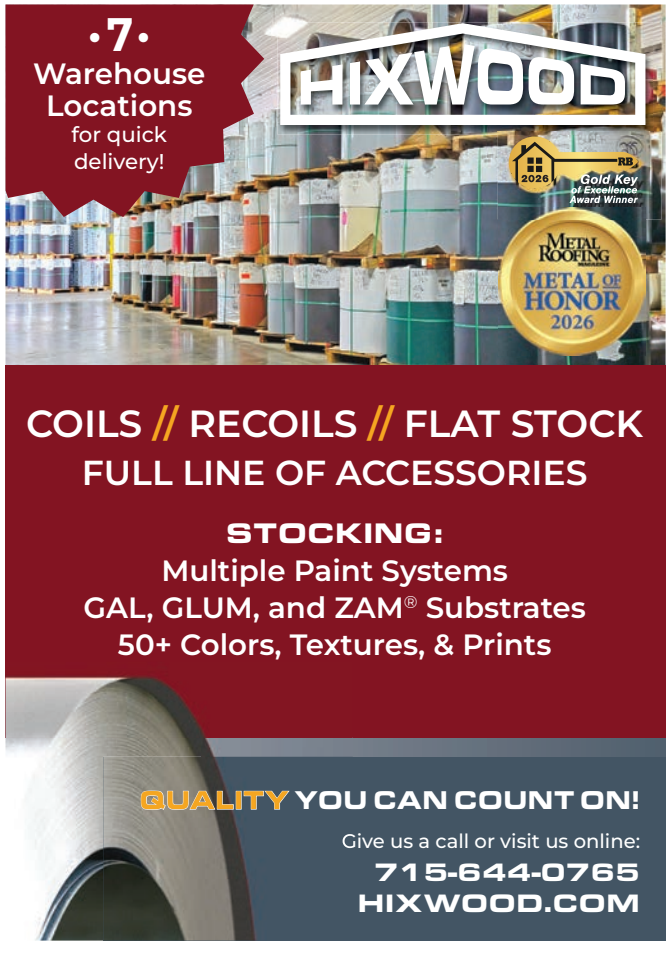
Triangle Fastener (TFC) supplies fasteners, sealants, and tools for metal roofing and building. Innovative products like CONCEALOR, BLAZER, and Burr-Buster Stitch deliver easy installation and cost savings. With 32 stocking locations and 9 painting facilities nationwide, TFC ensures products are always where and when you need them.

United Steel Supply

Booth #533
248 Addie Roy Road,
Suite C200
Austin, TX 78746
512-263-0954
sales@unitedsteelsupply.com
www.unitedsteelsupply.com

United Steel Supply™ is the premier domestic supplier of American-made painted Galvalume® steel coils for the construction industry. With thousands of coils in stock in multiple gauges and over 100 available paint colors and finishes, we specialize in just-in-time delivery from our 6 locations across the United States.







PRAPAT-STOCK.ADOBE.COM

Heating and Cooling Options for Agriculture

Building the right climate control strategy into a post-frame structure starts long before a furnace or fan ever gets ordered.

Every agricultural building has a climate problem to solve, whether it's a dairy barn that needs to keep cows comfortable through a July heat wave, a horse barn that has to stay dry and draft-free in January, or a heated shop where a customer wants to work on equipment in shirtsleeves year-round. Heating and cooling decisions on agricultural buildings carry more weight than they do on a typical pole barn used strictly for dry storage, because animal welfare, worker safety, and equipment performance are all riding on the outcome.

For builders, understanding the full range of available options — and how they work together — makes it easier to guide customers toward a system that fits their budget, their climate, and how the building will actually be used. The strategies below, drawn from suppliers who work in the post-frame and metal-frame space, cover the building envelope, ventilation, radiant heat, and daylighting, all of which play a role in how a finished building performs.

MATCHING THE SYSTEM TO THE BUILDING'S JOB

Before any product gets specified, it helps to define what the building actually needs to do. A dairy freestall barn, a horse boarding facility, a heated equipment shop, and a poultry house all have wildly different heating and cooling requirements, even if they share the same post-frame construction method. Livestock buildings have to manage ammonia, moisture, and heat stress without trapping animals in stagnant air. Equine facilities need to control dust and drafts while keeping horses dry. Heated shops are built around human comfort and equipment operation, often with higher target temperatures in smaller, more tightly sealed zones. Poultry housing runs on tight tolerances for temperature, humidity, and air exchange rates that shift as birds grow.

Climate zone matters as much as building use. A shop in the upper Midwest is fighting subzero temperatures and heavy snow loads for months at a time, while a livestock barn in the Southeast is built primarily to shed heat and humidity. Builders working

across multiple regions, or who take on projects outside their usual service area, benefit from treating climate zone as a starting input rather than an afterthought, since it changes the insulation R-value, the ventilation rate, and the heating capacity a building needs before a single product gets ordered.

START WITH THE ENVELOPE

Mechanical equipment can only do so much if the building itself is losing conditioned air. Insulation is the first line of defense, and reflective insulation systems remain a common choice in post-frame construction because they install quickly without adding significant labor time to a project. Fiber-free reflective products have gained traction in part because they don't require installers to wear respiratory protection or other personal protective equipment typically associated with fiberglass batts, which keeps crews moving on tight schedules.

That kind of insulation is typically lightweight and moisture-resistant, with no fiber content, which means installers can work without the respirators, gloves, and other personal protective equipment fiberglass installation usually calls for, while the product still resists mold and mildew over the life of the building.

Durability during installation matters just as much as long-term thermal performance. Woven-faced reflective bubble insulation products built around a heavy-duty HDPE film are designed to resist tearing on the job site and to shed dirt and grime that could otherwise work its way into the material over time. Other reflective systems pair a foam core with a metalized face to reflect radiant heat in summer while adding thermal resistance in winter, giving builders a single product that addresses both ends of the seasonal swing.

A super-strong woven backing that resists tearing on the job site, paired with a foam core and a reflective metalized face, is what allows this style of product to keep a building's interior comfortable across both ends of the calendar, rather than trading winter performance for summer performance or the other way around.

CEILING SYSTEMS CHANGE THE INTERIOR ENVIRONMENT

Ceiling treatments are an often-overlooked piece of the climate

OUTGROWN?
Your business has grown.
It's time your systems do too.
QuickBooks, spreadsheets, and separate programs leave information scattered.
EBMS brings sales, inventory, purchasing, delivery, and financials together in one ERP.
Don't take our word for it. Take theirs.
DAMAR
"EBMS makes it very easy to track what's moving."
PREMIERE Building Products
"EBMS is the backbone of our business."
HOME IMPROVEMENT OUTLET
"We know our margins and where our money is at."
Are you ERP ready?
Take the 3 minute quiz to identify if your systems are holding you back.
or reach out for a FREE 15 minute assessment
(717) 442 3247 ×3
EBMS by Koble
koblesystems.com
Your Operational ERP Partner

STRUXSURE PLANS
SMARTBUILD IN.
STAMPED PLANS OUT.
You design it. We get it stamped.
smartbuild systems
BUILD IT IN SMARTBUILD
Create your building and finalize your design.
STRUXSURE PLANS
SEND IT TO STRUXSURE
Get permit-ready stamped plans directly from your design.
FLAT-RATE PRICING
Simple. Predictable.
FAST TURNAROUNDS
Ready in as little as 2 weeks.
BETTER FROM THE START
Reduce unnecessary delays.
800-460-4030
info@struxsureplans.com
SCAN TO START

control puzzle in agricultural buildings. A finished ceiling system does more than dress up a shop or barn aisle — it closes off unconditioned attic or truss space, reduces heat stratification, and, when paired with the right insulation package, cuts down on how hard heating and cooling equipment has to work. Ceiling and liner systems built specifically for agricultural, commercial, and residential applications allow each installation to be customized to the space rather than treated as an afterthought.

Done well, a ceiling and insulation package like this gives an agricultural or commercial building a genuinely finished interior environment, rather than leaving an open truss cavity working against whatever heating and cooling system is trying to condition the space below it.

VENTILATION IS THE OTHER HALF OF THE EQUATION

Insulation keeps conditioned air where it belongs, but agricultural buildings also generate moisture, dust, and heat from the inside — from livestock, from equipment, from people working — that has to go somewhere. Ridge vent systems remain one of the most straightforward ways to move that air out of a building continuously, without relying on powered equipment. Component manufacturers serving the post-frame industry have built out full ventilation product lines, from ridge vent to soffit, designed to work together as a system rather than as one-off parts.

Reliable hardware, cupolas, ridge-vent products, and soffit delivered as a coordinated system, rather than as separate parts sourced from different suppliers, is generally what keeps a job moving without sacrificing the airflow a building needs to manage moisture and temperature.

Beyond ridge and soffit venting, broader building component suppliers offer ventilation products alongside doors, windows, and insulation, giving builders a single source for the pieces that work together to manage airflow through a structure, particularly in livestock buildings where stall systems and ventilation needs are closely linked.

When doors, windows, stall systems, ventilation products, and reflective insulation all come from the same supplier, a building package can be planned as one connected system rather than assembled from mismatched parts that were never designed to work together.

MOVING AIR WITH HIGH-VOLUME, LOW-SPEED FANS

Static ventilation like ridge and soffit vents handles a building's baseline air exchange. Still, most agricultural buildings also need a way to actively move air on demand, particularly during periods of extreme heat or when people, animals, or both fully occupy a space. High-volume, low-speed (HVLS) fans have become a standard upsell for builders because they deliver a large volume of gentle airflow across a wide area without the noise or energy draw of smaller, faster fans. Beyond comfort, moving air steadily helps keep flies and other pests off livestock and can slow the spread of airborne pathogens in tightly packed spaces.

Construction materials matter more in agricultural settings than they might elsewhere, since fans in barns and shops are exposed to moisture, dust, and corrosive washdown chemicals that would quickly degrade standard residential equipment. Manufacturers building specifically for agricultural environments have moved toward stainless steel, galvanized steel, and high-impact polypropylene housings to hold up under those conditions, paired with energy-efficient motors and variable speed controls that let a fan run at low



output most of the time and ramp up only when conditions call for it.

Housings built from stainless steel, galvanized steel, or high-impact polypropylene, combined with energy-efficient motors and variable speed controls, are generally what separates a fan built for these conditions from one that will corrode or burn out within a few seasons.

Fan selection also depends heavily on what a builder is trying to accomplish for a given customer. A farm shop that needs to clear welding fumes or paint overspray from one corner of the building has a different airflow problem than a shop that needs to redistribute conditioned air evenly across a large open floor. Asking a customer how the space will actually be used, before recommending fan placement or count, keeps the ventilation plan aligned with the building's real purpose rather than a one-size-fits-all layout.

RADIANT HEAT FOR FLOORS AND WORKSPACES

For buildings where forced air isn't the right fit — heated shops, horse barns, or spaces where blowing dust and dander around is a concern — in-floor radiant heat offers an alternative that warms a space from the ground up rather than through moving air. PEX piping systems designed specifically for in-floor applications have been used in agricultural and commercial buildings for decades, and suppliers with a long track record in the category typically offer design and technical support to help builders size a system correctly for the space and expected use.

Piping engineered specifically for in-floor heating applications, along with design and technical guidance from the supplier, helps a builder get the full benefit of a radiant system rather than guessing at layout and output and finding out later that a room heats unevenly.

AUTOMATED ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROLS

Many rural buildings once relied on manual adjustments — someone opening a curtain sidewall in the morning and closing it at night, or switching a fan on when a room felt stuffy. That approach still works for smaller, lower-stakes buildings. Still, larger and more specialized structures increasingly use automated environmental controls that monitor temperature, humidity, and carbon dioxide levels continuously and adjust fan speed, vent position, and heating output accordingly. For poultry and livestock operations in particular, automated systems reduce the swings that come with manual management and can respond to fast-moving weather changes well before a person would notice.

Curtain sidewalls paired with ridge venting remain a cost-effective way to handle mild-weather natural ventilation, with mechanical systems reserved for the extremes. Combining that approach with automated controls gives a building the best of both: low operating cost during moderate weather and a fast, reliable mechanical response when temperatures spike or drop. For builders, flagging this option to customers who are planning a livestock building — even if they don't select full automation on day one — can make a later retrofit easier if the wiring and control infrastructure are roughed in during initial construction.

RETROFITTING EXISTING BUILDINGS FOR BETTER CLIMATE CONTROL

Not every heating and cooling conversation starts with new construction. Builders are regularly asked to improve an existing post-frame building's comfort and efficiency, whether that means adding



insulation to a structure that was originally built for dry storage, cutting in ridge vent on a building that was never vented properly, or adding a heated zone to a shop that's outgrown a single space heater. Retrofits come with constraints new construction doesn't: existing truss spacing, whatever insulation is already in place, and a customer who's living with the building's current shortcomings and wants a clear explanation of what will actually change.

Reflective insulation products that install without major structural changes are often the most practical starting point for a retrofit, since they can be added to the interior face of existing framing without disturbing the exterior steel. Ridge vent retrofits are similarly straightforward on most roof profiles. Radiant floor systems are more involved in a retrofit scenario, since they typically require access to the slab, which makes them a better fit for a full renovation or an addition than a quick upgrade. Setting realistic expectations up front about what a retrofit can and can't accomplish, given the building's existing condition, heads off disappointment once the work is done.

DAYLIGHTING AS A PASSIVE STRATEGY

Heating and cooling strategy isn't only about mechanical systems — how a building manages natural light plays a role too. Poorly designed skylights can turn into a liability, letting in glare and uncontrolled heat gain in summer while losing heat in winter. Natural lighting systems built around an insulated curb and lightshaft are designed to spread daylight evenly through a building while limiting the thermal transfer that comes with a conventional skylight, which means less reliance on artificial lighting and fewer hot spots for a cooling system to fight.

An insulated curb, lightshaft, and lens can deliver thermal performance well above what a conventional skylight offers, spreading even, glare-free daylight through a building without the extreme temperature swings that come with direct sunlight pouring through a single sheet of glazing.

SIZING IT RIGHT: WORKING WITH MANUFACTURERS EARLY

Every product covered in this article performs best when it's sized to the specific building rather than dropped in based on a rule of thumb. Insulation manufacturers, fan companies, and radiant heat suppliers generally offer design or technical support to help builders work through square footage, ceiling height, insulation values, and expected occupancy before equipment gets ordered. Looping a manufacturer's technical team in early, rather than after a system underperforms, tends to save both time and callbacks.

A short list of information speeds that process along considerably. Before reaching out to a manufacturer for sizing help, it's worth having on hand:

- Building dimensions, including eave height and roof pitch
- Intended use — livestock type, shop occupancy, storage, or a mix

Heating and Cooling Options at a Glance

The table below summarizes where each strategy covered in this article tends to fit best, as a quick reference when talking through options with a customer.

Reflective insulation	Any post-frame building envelope, new or retrofit	Fast install; pair with a vapor strategy suited to the climate
Ceiling systems	Shops, barn aisles, finished agricultural spaces	Closes off unconditional truss space above occupants
Ridge & soffit ventilations	Baseline air exchange in nearly any agricultural building	Passive; needs to be sized to the building's footprint
HVLS/circulation fans	Livestock comfort, occupied shops, large open spans	Choose materials rated for moisture and washdown exposure
Infloor radiant heat	Heated shops, horse barns, dust-sensitive spaces	Best planned before the slab is poured
Daylighting systems	Any building looking to cut artificial lighting and heat gain	Insulated curb design matters as much as the lens
Automated controls	Poultry, dairy, and other tightly manages livestock spaces	Rough in wiring and infrastructure even if adding later

- Climate zone and typical seasonal temperature extremes
- Planned insulation package and target R-value
- Whether the project is new construction or a retrofit
- Any existing mechanical systems the new work needs to integrate with

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Heating and cooling equipment is often the highest recurring operating cost a customer will face over the life of an agricultural building, which makes energy efficiency worth discussing even when a customer is focused on up-front price. A well-insulated, properly ventilated envelope allows smaller and less expensive mechanical equipment to do the same job a larger system would otherwise need to do, which lowers both the initial equipment cost and the ongoing energy bill. Variable-speed fans and automated controls extend that savings further by matching output to actual conditions instead of running at full capacity around the clock.

Many local utility providers offer rebates or credits for high-efficiency equipment, and it's worth encouraging customers to check with their energy provider before finalizing a system, since those programs can shift the math on which option makes the most financial sense. Framing the conversation around total cost of ownership, rather than sticker price alone, helps customers see the connection between the building envelope decisions made early in a project and the utility bills they'll be paying for years afterward.

BRINGING IT TOGETHER

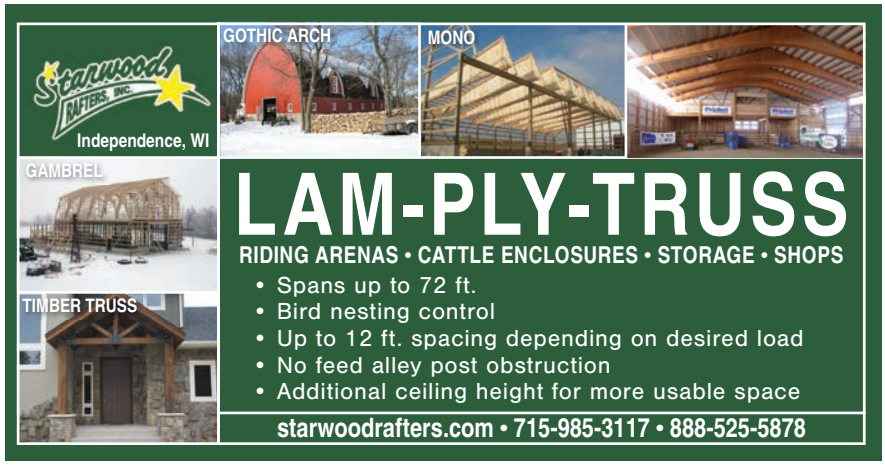
No single product solves an agricultural building's heating and cooling needs on its own. The buildings that perform best tend to combine a well-insulated envelope, a ventilation system sized for the structure's use, and a heating approach — radiant, forced air, or another method — matched to how the space will actually be occupied. Daylighting decisions add another layer, reducing the load that mechanical systems have to carry in the first place.

For builders, that means the conversation with a customer about heating and cooling shouldn't start with picking a furnace. It starts with the envelope, moves through ventilation, and only then gets to mechanical equipment — with each decision along the way affecting how well, and how efficiently, the finished building performs. **RB**





STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION (required by Act of August 12, 1970: Section 3685, Title 39, United States Code). 1. RURAL BUILDER. 2. (ISSN: 0888-3025) 3. Filing date: 8/24/26. 4. Issue frequency: Monthly except January, April, June and November. 5. Number of issues published annually: 8. 6. The annual subscription price is 29.98. 7. Complete mailing address of known office of publication: Shield Wall Media LLC 1990 Godfrey Dr., Waupaca, WI 54981. 8. Complete mailing address of headquarters or general business office of publisher: Shield Wall Media LLC 150 Depot St., Iola, WI 54945. 9. Full names and complete mailing addresses of publisher, editor, and managing editor. Publisher: Gary Reichert 150 Depot St., Iola, WI 54945. Editor: Karen Knapstein 1990 Godfrey Dr., Waupaca, WI 54981. Managing Editor: Gary Reichert 1990 Godfrey Dr., Waupaca, WI 54981. 10. Owner: Shield Wall Media LLC, Gary Reichert 150 Depot St., Iola, WI 54945 and My Time Media Americas, 1675 Broadway, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10019. 11. Known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities: None. 12. Tax status: Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months. 13. Publisher title: RURAL BUILDER. 14. Issue date for circulation data below: September 1, 2026. 15. The extent and nature of circulation: A. Total number of copies printed (Net press run). Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 0. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 0. B. Paid/requested circulation. 1. Mailed outside-county paid subscriptions/requested. Average number of copies each issue during the preceding 12 months: 220. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 223. 2. Mailed in-county paid subscriptions/requested. Average number of copies each issue during the preceding 12 months: 26,500. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 25,879. 3. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales. Average number of copies each issue during the preceding 12 months: 0. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 0. 4. Requested copies distribution through other classes mailed through the USPS. Average number of copies each issue during the preceding 12 months: 0. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 0. C. Total paid/requested distribution. Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 26,720. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date; 26,102. D. Non-requested distribution (by mail and outside mail). 1. Outside-County Non-requested copies. Average number of copies each issue during the preceding 12 months: 0. Number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 0. 2. In-county non-requested copies. Average number of copies each issue during the preceding 12 months: 0. Number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 0. 3. Non-requested copies mailed at other Classes through the USPS. Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 20. Number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 10. 4. Non-requested copies distributed outside the mail. Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 70. Number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 90. E. Total Non-requested distribution. Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 90. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 100. F. Total distribution (sum of 15c and 15e). Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 26,810. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 26,202. G. Copies not Distributed. Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 50. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 25. H. Total (sum of 15f and 15g). Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 26,860. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing: 26,227. I. Percent paid. Average percent of copies paid/requested for the preceding 12 months: 99%. Actual percent of copies paid/requested for the preceding 12 months: 99%. 16. Electronic Copy Circulation: A. Paid Electronic Copies. Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 0. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 0. B. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a). Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 26,720. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 26,102. 183. C. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a). Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 26,810. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 26,202. D. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c x 100). Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 0%. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 0%. I certify that 50% of all distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above nominal price. 17. Publication of statement of ownership for a Requester publication will be printed in the October 2026 issue of the publication. 18. Signature and title of editor, publisher, business manager, or owner: Gary Reichert, Publisher. I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanction and civil actions.



SOURCES & RESOURCES

- Henco Industries — Manufacturer of in-floor radiant heating products and PEXc-AL-PEXc piping, with design and technical support for in-floor systems. https://www.henco.be/en/home
- Indiana Warm Floors- Installer of in-floor radiant heating, snow melt systems, geothermal and more. https://www.indianawarmfloors.com
- MWI Components — Wholesale manufacturer and distributor of American-made metal products for the post-frame industry, including Ridge-Vent products and soffit and ventilation solutions. https://www.mwicomponents.com/
- Plyco Corporation — Supplier of metal doors, windows, horse stall systems, ventilation products, and reflective insulation for the post-frame, metal-clad, and commercial construction industries. https://www.plyco.com/
- Simco of Southern Indiana — Manufacturer of heavy-duty woven-faced reflective bubble insulation for post-frame buildings. http://www.simcosouthernindiana.com
- Dutch Tech, Inc. — American manufacturer of Therma-Guard reflective thermal insulation, RIMA Verified, for post-frame buildings. https://www.dutchtech.com/
- rFOIL Reflective Insulation (Balcan Innovations) — Manufacturer of reflective insulation products for the North American building market. http://www.rFOIL.com
- Mid-Atlantic Triply Ceilings LLC — Supplier of ceiling systems and insulation for agricultural, commercial, and residential buildings. https://midatlanticceilings.com/
- DayStar Systems LLC — Manufacturer of natural lighting systems, including insulated curb and lightshaft skylight assemblies, for agricultural and commercial buildings. https://www.daystarsystems.com/
- Patterson Fan Co. — Manufacturer of HVLS and high-performance fans engineered for agricultural, industrial, and commercial air movement. https://www.pattersonfan.com/
- National Frame Building Association (NFBA) — National trade association for the post-frame industry, offering building resources, research, and education for further reference. https://www.nfba.org/

Construction Rollforming Show

by Shield Wall Media

October 6-7, 2027

First Financial Center
Cincinnati, OH

BY SHARON THATCHER

Trends in tunnel ventilation

OCTOBER 2016 FLASHBACK



Ten years ago, tunnel ventilation was still winning converts.Coverage described a system built on brute simplicity: negative pressure, a bank of exhaust fans at one end, curtain inlets at the other, and a controller that mostly just turned things on and off. Producers liked it because it worked, and because "it worked" was about as much sophistication as the technology needed to offer.

Now, variable-speed fans modulate airflow instead of cycling on and off. Sensors track humidity, ammonia, and static pressure in real time, feeding controllers that adjust automatically rather than waiting on a producer's phone alert. Backup power and failure alarms have gone from upgrade to expectation.

The core idea held up. Everything wrapped around it got smarter — proof that good engineering ages well, even when the technology around it doesn't stand still.

As farm buildings grow in size, and livestock herds grow in numbers, so too are the concerns for proper ventilation.

While natural ventilation is still common—especially in the beef industry—the poultry and swine industries use a lot of tunnel ventilation which uses large fans to generate air movement over the animals. That concept is also showing up in some dairy facilities.

Morgan Hayes, PhD, P.E., University of Kentucky, has worked in several areas of the Midwest and has seen the various trends. She noted: "People are more conscious of heat stress right now and concerned about it. As a result more people have moved from either natural ventilation or traditional sidewall ventilation to tunnel ventilation.

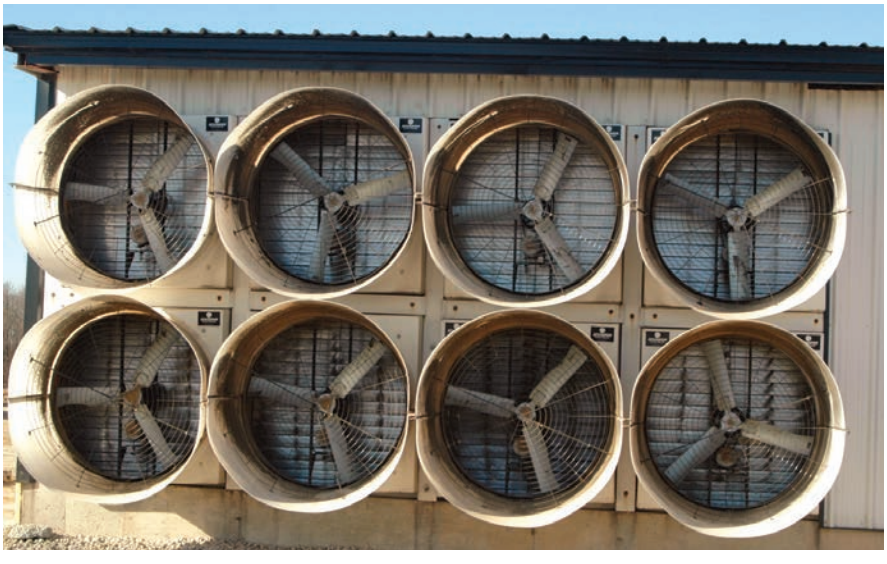
"The poultry industry traditionally uses a lot of tunnel ventilation," Hayes continued. "The concept with tunnel ventilation is that you pull air in and you move it along the length of the barn with the most air speed that you can gain."

Fans are located at one end of the barn and the air entry point at the opposite end. Air entry can be either through multiple basic openings or openings designed with evaporative cooling pads. This system is particularly used in the broiler industry and larger fans, in the 48- to 54-inch range, are the most desirable.

For the layer industry, sidewall or cross ventilation is popular. Fans are evenly distributed along the sides of the barn. Air enters through ceiling inlets and is drawn down through the space.

Hayes has seen the swine industry move from more natural ventilation in the Midwest to more mechanical ventilation in the past few years. Some producers are also commonly using 48- and 54-inch fans.

The dairy industry has been taking some steps toward tunnel ventilation systems but the larger dairy barns can require a lot of airflow and the desire for bigger and better fans is an ongoing goal



for those facilities. Doug Overhults, PhD, P.E., also with the University of Kentucky, explained: "One of the attractions of the bigger fans is that you have fewer of them to maintain, and for the builder, it's easier and less costly to put in fewer larger fans than more smaller fans…"



NEW TRENDS

Tunnel ventilation systems have been around for a long time, but there are some interesting new trends.

Positive pressure ventilation (PPV) "In the swine industry, at least some of the farmers have started using a positive-pressure design for their barns," said Hayes. "They build barns with filtration systems that push air into the barn rather than pull air out."

Hayes noted that it requires a fairly large inlet area, "so they build large gables to handle all the filters, or offsets to the side of the barn to allow air into the barns. That's a really unique and different design. It requires a little different construction because positive pressure means we need to focus on construction methods to keep moisture out of the walls."

So far, Hayes has only seen the design used for the swine industry. "It's gained popularity in the Midwest," she noted. "I think the first barn we saw with this design was about a year-and-a-half ago, but a couple of farmers are using it, or at least testing the waters with their breeding herds, their more valuable animals. For some frame builders, long term, that could be a very interesting topic."

Direct-drive fans. Another trend that Hayes has seen are direct-drive fans. "Traditionally we've had to put a variable speed control before the motor and they're sort of inefficient when fans go below 100 percent [of operation speed]," she said.

Winter conditions are a case in point when fans are turned down. In those lower ranges, fans become more inefficient.

"And now they've come out with a direct-drive motor that's able to reduce RPM on the fan and maintain or improve the energy efficiency of those fans. It's an interesting concept for the industry as a whole," she noted.

The new fans are more expensive, but Hayes believes they could become game changers for winter ventilation systems.

VENTILATION BASICS

The objective of proper ventilation is always the same regardless of the animal, Overhults explained. "The general nature of ventilation is similar in that, in the wintertime, it's all about removing moisture, ammonia and dust, just keeping the air fresh, supplying oxygen ... In cold weather that's usually a pretty low rate of ventilation," he said.

"Then you progress to moderate weather when the rate goes up a little and you're trying to maintain the target temperature in the building. And that target rate would be different for different animals and different growth stages. For poultry, for instance, smaller birds [with the exception of young chicks], you might be looking at temperatures inside that are 75 or 80 degrees; where for pigs you might be looking at 70 degrees or lower. And for dairy cattle the target temperature would be much lower, maybe 55-60 degrees. That makes your ventilation requirements a little different.

"Then you progress into summer, more hot weather conditions. Most all animals needs some cooling of some kind, and you can accomplish some of that just by exchanging the air in the building more rapidly. But air exchange alone usually is not sufficient to get the animals into their desired comfort zone."

Evaporative cooling pads are a popular cooling system in some parts of the country for tunnel ventilation systems, particularly for poultry and swine. "The effectiveness really depends on what part of country you're in," Overhults said. "Where it's really humid, they don't work quite as well as they do in dryer climates."

Evaporative cooling pads are part of the air inlet system located on the end opposite the fans. The incoming air passes through a cellulose pad about 6 inches thick. That pad is wetted and the air evaporates the water as it passes through the pad. The cooling effect can be from 10 to 20 degrees depending on weather conditions.

PROBLEMS/SOLUTIONS

While most experienced builders make the correct decisions for helping to assure optimum results for tunnel ventilation, there are some common mistakes that are made.

"The most common error is when people are putting in a ventilation system and they don't have enough openings in the inlet side. You're looking for fairly large openings for the air to come through, because every time you choke it down, it makes the fan work harder," Hayes said.

That can happen particularly when a barn is being retrofitted for a larger fan or when a second barn is built using the blueprint of the first. "[The builder] has cut bigger openings for the fans but they haven't made a bigger opening for the inlet," Hayes said. "If you are a builder and asked to frame out an additional fan, it would be good to ask if the farmer also wants additional inlet area."

Another mistake Hayes has seen is fans that aren't squared into their openings.

"Fans operate best if they go in square into a nice tight opening, properly built for the size of their shroud. So when those aren't squared or not built right and someone has to jerk them into position and it torques the fan itself, it can change the efficiency on a fan. So make sure those openings are properly sized. It's like putting in a window: it just doesn't work well if it's not a square opening."

Overhults points to potential electrical problems. "It's pretty important that they get their electrical system setup so they can operate all these fans. We've seen problems with some low voltage at the fans. Some of these barns can get really, really long and the wiring runs are very long. If the wiring is undersized, you can get some excessive voltage drops. I know many builders subcontract someone to do the electrical work, but they need to make sure that the electrician has his ducks in a row, because it does come up as an issue sometimes, and it's pretty critical and hard to fix."

Orientation is also important, especially for naturally-ventilated barns. "The best orientation sort of varies with location in different parts of the country. An east-west ridgeline works well in many places but you generally want to limit your exposure to wintertime prevailing winds and maximize your exposure to summertime prevailing winds. Avoiding any nearby airflow obstructions on the site is also important," Overhults reminded.

Having two barns built too close together can change the wind dynamics. When building a second barn, know what changes may be needed to assure proper ventilation for both barns.

Still other issues arise when a new trend in caring for animals is introduced. An example is compost-bedded pack barns. Overhults has seen these in dairy operations in Kentucky.

A compost-bedded pack barn is an open barn where the cows are housed between milkings. They rest on top of a manure pack that is stirred with a rototiller or shank-type cultivator at least once or twice daily and topped with dry sawdust. "It's stirred frequently to keep air in it, so it composts," Overhults said. "It's relatively dry because the heat generated from the composting action tends to drive off some of the moisture."

Most compost-bedded pack barns have been built for use with natural ventilation systems and it is important to allow adequate space for the moisture to escape from those barns. Although the composting action tends to drive off some of the moisture, it is critical for the bedded pack not to become too wet Overhults noted. "Having an outlet for moisture in wintertime, a ridge vent, is something we've had to talk to people about a lot," he said. "That's a pretty important part of the building, to give an air outlet and take advantage of the fact that warm, moist air will rise and needs a place to exit the barn. **RB**

Tests reveal efficiency stalls for some 60-inch ag fans Bigger is better only to a point

When it comes to big fans and their benefits for agricultural ventilation, the old logic that bigger is better has hit a snag. Researchers at BESS Lab operated by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign have tested a number of 60-inch fans only to discover that, at a certain point, energy efficiency does not always continue to increase.

Morgan Hayes, Ph.D., P.E., formerly at the University of Illinois, and now at the University of Kentucky as a Livestock Systems Extension Specialist, believes the problem may lie in the dead air space of a fan's standard design.

"A fan pushes most effectively at the end of the propeller blade," she explained. "That's where it can push the most air, on the outside of those blades. The companies that design fans constantly work on the propeller geometries and dimensions to get the most air through a fan. I think with these very large fans the center portion, the sort of dead area of that fan, grows as well and they haven't successfully been able to move through that dead area to get the efficiency as high as they would like it to be."

That's not to say that fan companies won't find a solution to the problem. They are working on it. But in the meantime, you might want to consider the alternatives.

"The bigger-is-better philosophy is somewhat true, but sometimes you'd be better to have a few more smaller fans depending on the set-up of your barn," Hayes said.



Bottom line, the 48- and 54-inch size fans, prevalent for tunnel ventilation systems, is still optimum size for efficiency.

"The assumption was always that going from an 18 to a 24 inch, or a 36 to a 48 inch fan, you're going to move more air and you're going to do it more efficiently. The trick is, when you get to 60 inches, you can move more air but you can't do it more efficiently," Hayes explained.

The industry most affected by the 60-inch fan conundrum is the dairy industry. "The dairy industry has moved the most aggressively to the 60-inch fans, probably because they want air speed with big animals," Hayes said. "They think: big animals, big fans. The goal is always to move more air through the same size opening by improving that design on the propellers, and to do it with less energy. Energy efficiency has become very important in the last couple years."

Just remember that, as a general rule, bigger fans are more efficient than their smaller counterparts until you hit that 60-inch mark when efficiency flatlines.

BESS LAB

Not all fans that fit in a given opening perform equally. To determine the most efficient fans available, the BESS Lab is a good place to keep an eye on testing results. The lab was developed in the 1990s in response to the need for testing agricultural fans. Previously, testing was available at a facility that was geared primarily towards commercial and industrial fans. Fan companies that were focused on the ag industry felt a need for a more ag-focused option.

Hayes explained that the lab is "basically a large wind tunnel where we can precisely control air speeds and pressures to determine how well the fan performs. … It's designed to give you a standardized way to evaluate your fans and to confirm the performance values the company is suggesting a fan can do."

BESS Lab does not test every fan available, it relies on the fan companies to request their testing services, but because the testing is highly regarded in the field, there are a number of companies that seek the testing to help validate their product claims. Tests conform to official protocol set by the AMCA (Air Movement and Control Association International, Inc.)

Always reference performance data rather than assuming bigger is better. "The data of BESS Labs should give you a best-case scenario of how that fan will perform in the field," Hayes said, noting that the results should be considered only a guide. "Realistically, your [fan] performance won't be as good because dust and dirt will build up, but at least it will give you a baseline about how the fans can perform."

Results are available online. Find them at: http://bess.illinois.edu. Other performance test results can be found there for circulating fans and poultry house light traps. **RB**

BY RANDY CHAFFEE



High Touch in a High-Tech World

Why Relationships Still Build Rural Business

A while back, I was talking with a gentleman from the Plain community when he surprised me with a comment. "I loved that guest you had on who talked about the plane that went into the river in New York City."

"Oh, you mean Dave Sanderson?"

"Yes, that's the guy. What a great story. That must have been pretty scary. I've never been on an airplane, but that must have been something."

Dave was one of the passengers aboard US Airways Flight 1549, famously known as the Miracle on the Hudson. He has since become a friend, and his story of leadership and survival is incredible.

What caught me off guard that day was learning that this gentleman had watched the podcast.

I had assumed that because he lived and worked in a community that generally uses less digital technology, he probably had no idea what I was doing online. He knew far more than I expected, remembered the conversation, and had taken something meaningful from it.

I had misjudged him.

I have also made the opposite mistake.

Before an industry trade show, I repeatedly posted on social media that I had free admission passes available. I talked about the show, promoted the opportunity, and believed I was telling the world.

Then I walked into a customer's place of business.

"Hey, Randy, is there any way you can get us free passes for that show?"

Fortunately, I laughed to myself before answering. I suddenly realized that while I thought I had told everyone, I had missed some of the people I most wanted to reach.

That was another eye-opener.

We cannot assume people haven't heard us because they aren't active in our digital world. We also cannot assume people have heard us simply because we've been active in ours.

That is the challenge of developing relationships in a high-tech world.

COMMUNICATING IS NOT ALWAYS CONNECTING

We have more ways to communicate than at any other time in history.

We can email, text, post, message, record videos, host podcasts, conduct virtual meetings, automate follow-up, and use artificial intelligence to help us prepare and organize. Builders can create estimates, drawings, and proposals faster than ever. Suppliers can manage inventory, track deliveries, and communicate product information almost instantly. Manufacturers can provide technical information, installation instructions, and training without waiting for the next in-person meeting.

These are remarkable tools. I use many of them every day and take a certain amount of pride in being the Hybrid Road Warrior Randy.

Technology has allowed me to stay connected with customers while traveling, share information across the industry, host conversations with people from around the country, and maintain relationships that would be difficult to manage through personal visits alone.

However, we can become so busy communicating that we forget to connect.

We send the email. We schedule the post. We automate the reminder. We check every box and still miss the person standing

ABOVE PHOTO BY CHRIS GARDNER, USACE NEW YORK DISTRICT PUBLIC AFFAIRS - HTTPS://WWW.FLICKR.COM/PHOTOS/30539067@N04/3218595520/ (USACE PUBLIC AFFAIRS; DIRECT IMAGE URL [1]), PUBLIC DOMAIN, HTTPS://COMMONS.WIKIMEDIA.ORG/W/INDEX.PHP?CURID=5872710

on the other side of the transaction.

Technology may help us reach the customer. High touch gives the customer a reason to trust us.

PEOPLE STILL DO BUSINESS WITH PEOPLE

Rural construction includes a wide range of businesses. Some use highly sophisticated systems throughout their operations. Others use technology selectively. Some rely mainly on phone calls, personal visits, handwritten notes, and face-to-face conversations.

There is room for all of them.

A growing metal-building company may have advanced estimating software, customer relationship management systems, automated scheduling, and a strong social media presence. A smaller post-frame builder may use email, text, and a basic website. A shed builder serving a local market may generate most of the company's business through referrals and a reputation developed over many years.

The right amount of technology will not look the same for everyone.

The better standard is to use technology as much as it serves the customer, the relationship, and the way you do business.

More technology does not automatically create a better customer experience. The right technology can make us faster, better prepared, more consistent, and easier to reach. The wrong application can make customers feel like numbers moving through a system.

Regardless of the tools being used, customers still want many of the same things.

They want someone to listen.

They want honest answers.

They want realistic expectations.

They want communication when something changes.

They want people to keep their word.

They want to know somebody will answer when a problem shows up.

That is the high-touch part of the business, and no software can replace it.

RELATIONSHIPS RUN THROUGH THE ENTIRE CHAIN

In rural construction, the relationship with the end user receives much of the attention. It should. That property owner may be investing a significant amount of money in a barn, post-frame building, shed, garage, barndominium, workshop, or metal building.

Yet that customer's experience depends on several relationships they may never see.

The manufacturer serves the supplier. The supplier serves the builder. The builder serves the property owner. Every person along that chain is somebody else's customer.

When those relationships are strong, information moves more quickly. Problems are addressed earlier. Expectations become clearer. Everyone is better equipped to serve the person at the end of the chain.

Suppliers play an especially important role in this industry. The relationship between a rural builder and a trusted supplier often runs much deeper than ordering products and checking prices.

The best suppliers understand how their builders operate. They know the types of projects they handle, the products they prefer, and the challenges they regularly encounter. They communicate shortages and delays early. They bring ideas that may improve an installation or help the builder offer additional value. When a job goes sideways, they help find an answer.

That supplier relationship eventually reaches the property owner.

If the builder can get accurate information quickly, the customer receives a better answer. If the supplier catches a potential problem before materials ship, the builder avoids a delay. If the manufacturer supports the supplier when a product issue occurs, everyone has a better chance of taking care of the end user.

Customers may never know how many conversations occurred behind the scenes. They will certainly feel the result.

USE HIGH TECH TO STRENGTHEN HIGH TOUCH

High tech and high touch work best when they feed each other.

A social media post can begin a conversation with someone you have never met. A video can allow a potential customer to see your personality before calling for a quote. A customer management system can remind you to follow up after a building has been completed. A text can provide a quick jobsite update. A virtual meeting can bring together a builder, supplier, and manufacturer to solve a problem without losing days to travel.

AI adds another powerful set of tools.

I use AI and believe businesses need to understand what it can do, what it cannot do, and where it fits within their operation.

AI can help us research a customer before a meeting, identify trends, organize schedules, prepare questions, manage information, and make better use of the knowledge available to us. It can reduce the amount of time spent on repetitive work and help us walk into conversations better prepared.

What we do with the time it saves matters.

If AI saves us an hour and we spend that hour staring at another screen, we haven't gained much. If we use that hour to call three customers, follow up on a delivery, visit a builder, or help someone solve a problem, technology has strengthened the relationship.

Use technology to create more time for people, not more distance from them.

That should be the test for every new tool.

Does it help us serve customers better?

Does it make communication clearer?

Does it help us respond more quickly?

Does it give us better information before a conversation?

Does it free us to spend more time listening, helping, and building relationships?

If the answer is yes, the technology is doing its job.

If it allows us to hide from customers, avoid difficult conversations, or replace personal attention with generic communication, we may be using efficiency as an excuse.

MEET CUSTOMERS WHERE THEY ARE

My experiences with the Plain community gentleman and the free show passes taught me the same lesson from opposite directions.

Never assume.

We should never assume customers do not use technology because their businesses appear traditional. We should never assume they saw an email, post, or video because we published it. We should never assume their preferred communication method is the same as ours.

Ask them.

Would you prefer a phone call, text, or email?

Do you want printed product information or a link to the website?

Would a video help explain the installation?

Who else should be included when we discuss the project?

How often would you like an update?

These are simple questions, but they show respect. They also save time because we stop guessing about what the customer wants.

Meeting customers where they are does not require abandoning the technology we use. It means giving customers reasonable ways to work with us.

A customer who prefers phone calls should not have to chase an automated system to reach a person. A digitally focused customer should not have to wait several days for information that could have been sent immediately. A builder working from a jobsite may need a quick text. A supplier reviewing a complicated order may need a detailed email and a follow-up conversation.

The communication method can change. The commitment to the relationship should not.

HIGH TOUCH SHOWS UP WHEN THINGS GO WRONG

Technology looks its best when everything is working.

The online order goes through. The automated confirmation arrives. Inventory numbers are accurate. Deliveries appear on schedule. The customer receives progress updates without asking.

High touch becomes especially important when the plan breaks down.

A product becomes unavailable. A truck is delayed. A measurement is wrong. A customer changes the scope. Materials arrive damaged. Weather moves the schedule. Someone made a mistake.

This is where relationships earn their keep.

A builder who calls the customer early and explains the situation preserves more trust than one who sends a vague message after the customer begins asking questions. A supplier who starts working on alternatives before making the call brings value to the conversation. A manufacturer's representative who stays involved until the problem is resolved becomes somebody the supplier will remember.

The customer does not expect every project to be perfect. They do expect the people involved to care about what happens next.

No automated message can replace a sincere conversation that says, "Here is what happened. Here is what we are doing. Here is when you will hear from me again."

Then you have to follow through.

CROSS-POLLINATE THE TWO

We sometimes talk about high tech and high touch as though we must choose one side.

We don't.

The real opportunity is to cross-pollinate the two.

Use high tech to extend your reach. Use high touch to deepen the relationship.

Let your website answer the basic questions, then make it easy for someone to reach a real person. Use social media to remain visible, then pick up the phone. Use AI to prepare for a customer meeting, then listen closely enough to learn what the research could not tell you. Use automation to remind you to follow up, then make the follow-up personal.

A high-tech company can still be warm, responsive, and deeply personal. A low-tech company can adopt tools that make it easier to communicate without changing the character of the business.

The goal is to use each one to make the other more effective.

Rural building remains a relationship business. Reputation matters. Referrals matter. Showing up matters. Answering the phone matters. Keeping your word matters. Staying present after the order has been placed matters.

Technology can help us do all of those things more consistently and across a much larger market.

But it cannot care.

That part is still up to us. RB



Randy Chaffee *brings four-plus decades of experience to the post-frame and metal roofing industries. Author of #1 Amazon Best Seller "Asphalt and Algorithms," he is a board member for the Buckeye Frame Builders Association and the National Frame Builders Association. Find his podcast at facebook.com/BuildingWins or call (814) 906-0001 at 1 p.m. Eastern on Mondays to listen in.*

BY LINDA SCHMID

Max Goes to School

Shield Wall Media's Mascot Helps Kids Relate to the Trades

Many of you may have seen one of our Max Builds titles at a Shield Wall Media show, or perhaps a colleague has one. There are now two published titles, Max Builds a Metal Roof and Max Builds a Pole Barn, and a third title is currently in production.

The series is the brainchild of Gary Reichert, publisher of Shield Wall. As a long-time industry professional, he wanted to support the trades, and the best way to do that, he thought, was to get kids interested in the trades early.

Gary has a husky named Max that he shares with the team at the office, a gentle soul whose favorite pastime is eating cheese. Kids love dogs, so Gary decided Max would be a great teacher. Max, being as humble as he is, declined the opportunity, so the cartoon version of him was born.

Max was a hit with kids from the start, and Shield Wall has received many requests for the initial title, Max Builds a Metal Roof, and the second book, Max Builds a Pole Barn. A third title is currently in the works.





EDUCATORS SEE MAX'S POTENTIAL

Last spring, Lisa Smith, Library Director and Dual Enrollment Teacher for the Sandusky Community School District in Sandusky, Michigan, was handed a copy of Max Builds a Pole Barn to add to the school library. Smith reviewed the careers section of the library collection and found that though there were books on many types of careers, there wasn't much on the skilled trades for the very young students.

Smith said, "After reviewing the book, I immediately knew that this series would be perfect as a starting point for a new elementary program. The colorful images and simple storyline would be perfect for our kindergarten students."

Smith continued, "I inquired about the possibility of obtaining enough copies of 'Max' so that I could send home a copy of the book and a supplemental activity book with each of our kindergarten students. Shield Wall Media LLC generously supported this idea and provided me with additional books for our students. With so many of our students coming from families involved in skilled trades, I knew that these books would be a welcome addition not only to our elementary library, but also utilized by our staff, students and their families."

Smith decided to develop an activity book to accompany the book, composed of mazes, word finds, matching exercises, coloring pages and more, all embracing the building theme. The book and activity book together made a nice packet for the kids to work on during summer vacation.

MAX TEACHES AS HE ENTERTAINS

The kindergarten students enjoyed hearing Max's story and discussing it as a group. They began pointing out the tools Max used and naming them. They got excited when they were told they could take the book home to read with their families.

Many of the children's families work in the trades, so this is a great tool for parents or grandparents to sit down and talk to their kids about what they do at work. It can also make kids more aware at an early age that there are alternatives to becoming firemen, ballerinas and astronauts.

Everyone involved — students, teachers and parents — agreed this was a good thing. Smith elaborated that it is always a good thing when a student is introduced to something new, and when it comes in the form of a book that can help the student develop reading skills, it is doubly beneficial. Smith was happy to find that the kindergarten teachers in question wanted to repeat the experience with next year's students.

"The overwhelming joy that this program brought to the students was incredible," Smith said. "As a school librarian, my passion is to create lifelong readers. The Max series is a tool that will reach so many of our youngest students." RB

PHOTOS COURTESY OF SANDUSKY SCHOOL DISTRICT.

Manufacturers of Storage, Specialty and Post Frame Garage Doors



KEVMAR MFG.

Arthur, IL. 61911

sales@kevmar.net
217.543.2828

SCHWEISS

THE DOOR LEADER

DOORS

HYDRAULIC – OR – BIFOLD

ONE-PIECE DOORS STRAP LIFT DOORS

• AG DOORS • BARN DOORS
• SHOP DOORS • MAINTENANCE DOORS



SCHWEISSDOORS.COM 507-575-4999

METAL ROOFING TRANSPORT



Standard Features:
• Dexter Axles • Sand Blasted & Painted
• Safety Locks on Dump Cylinders
• 42" Wide Pop-up Rollers On Each Sides
• Wireless Trailer Remote Control • Full LED Lights

STARTING AT $29,000

ROYAL METAL WORKS | 931-739-7777
1954 Hickory Valley, Sparta, TN 38583

BECOME A MANUFACTURER OF METAL GARAGES & CARPORTS

ESTD 1977 VERSABEND COLD SPRING ENTERPRISES



864-446-3645
coldspring@wctel.net • www.coldspringmetal.com
2139 Hwy. 20 N • Abbeville, SC

UNITED STEEL SUPPLY

PAINTED STEEL COILS

MADE IN USA 512-263-0954
UnitedSteelSupply.com

Premium Quality
ROLLFORMING MACHINERY

PANEL LINES
TRIM ROLLFORMER
PURLIN LINES
ROLL UP DOOR LINES
SEAMING STATIONS
ROLL UP STATIONS
TRACK LINES
DECKING LINES
COIL UPENDER
DOUBLE HEMMER



Made in the USA since 1949!
ASC MACHINE TOOLS, INC.
TEL (509) 534-6600 www.ASCMT.com

Formwright

Outfitting Standing Seam Rollforming Businesses

Machines | Trailers | Tools | Service



NTM New Tech Machinery A MAZZELLA COMPANY

Give Us A Call Today • 260.463.4010

DIRECT METALS Everything but the coil on one pallet.

Fasteners and Accessories for Rollforming Manufacturers and Wholesale Building Products Distributors.

Accessories and Components for
● Metal Roofing ● Standing Seam ● Low Slope ● BUR ● TPO
● Asphalt Shingle Roofing ● Post and Steel Frame Buildings

Home of the WoodZip, SteelZip, ConZip, Dekzip, Panclip, and S.C.A.M.P. line of premium fasteners.



www.directmetalsinc.com Phone: 855-800-8878

Distinguish your roofs
with Grandura snow guards.

Grandura

- Unique shapes
- 40+ color options
- Easy installation

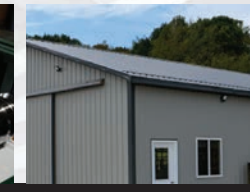


Are you a standing seam roofer?
Request your free demo kit today!

Order Now! 272.215.7196

MANUFACTURER OF ROLL FORMING EQUIPMENT





• Coil Upenders • Shears • Slit Line • Uncoilers • Trim Roll Formers
• Wrappers • Panel Lines

Acu-Form ROLL FORMING EQUIPMENT
Millersburg, Ohio
(330) 674-4003 - ACUFORMEQUIPMENT.COM

Superior Quality Telehandler Boxes
In-Stock For Next Day Shipping



Creekside MANUFACTURING LLC

WANT TO SEE ALL OF OUR DUMPSTER PRODUCTS?
Ask for our FREE catalog!

Call us at **(717) 355-2008**
137 Meadow Creek Road, New Holland, PA 17557

Everlast Roofing, Inc.
OUR NAME SAYS IT ALL

PROFILE OPTIONS



EVERLAST II™ EVERDRAIN™

WHY EVERLAST?
AZM™ with Activate Technology
Synergy® Paint System
Cut Edge Corrosion Inhibitor™ (CECI™)
Heat Forming
Most corrosion resistant panel in the industry

AZM ACTIVATE TECHNOLOGY

Lebanon, PA	Howe, IN	Bridgton, ME	Orwell, OH
10 Enterprise Court Lebanon, PA 17042	7180 N 050 E Howe, IN 46746	24 JR Mains Drive Bridgton, ME 04009	161 Grand Valley Ave Orwell, OH 44076

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: 888.339.0059 OR VISIT US AT WWW.EVERLASTROOFING.COM

Aztec Washer Company



MASTER FLASH®
ROOFING • PLUMBING • ELECTRICAL • HV/AC • SOLAR
From the smallest to the **LARGEST,**
the most complete line available.
Pipe Range: Fits: 1/8" to 39-1/2" Pipes
Base Range: 2-1/4" to 44" (1 meter)

20 YEAR WARRANTY

1-800-WASHER 5 (927-4375 • Ph: 858-513-4350 • info@aztecwasher.com • www.aztecwasher.com

Golden Rule FASTENERS
QUALITY PRODUCTS
COMPETITIVE PRICES
& MOST ORDERS SHIP THE SAME DAY

• Screws • Closures • Ridge Vent
• Pipe Flashings • Butyl Tape • And much more!

Ph: (334) 283-4030 - FAX (334) 283-4032
info@goldenrulefastenersinc.com - www.goldenrulefastenersinc.com



ASCO machines USA



(217) 955-ASCO
WWW.ASCO-MACHINES.COM

We Help Construction Businesses GROW!!!

"My website traffic grew quickly and in the last 5 years I have had more then enough work. They listened to our needs and built a clear plan." J. Lapp, Extreme Pole Buildings

Marketing | Strategy | Websites | SEO | PPC ADs | & More

E-IMPACT marketing www.eimpact.marketing (717) 929-8780

SteelGrip SAMM, Inc.
Preventing Injuries and Saving Lives®

SAMM MATS:
Easy to use magnetic grip provides safer footing when working on steel roofing. Get maintenance jobs done faster and easier.

SteelGrip SAMM
Safety Assist Magnetic Mat

231-944-0109
SteelGripSamm.com

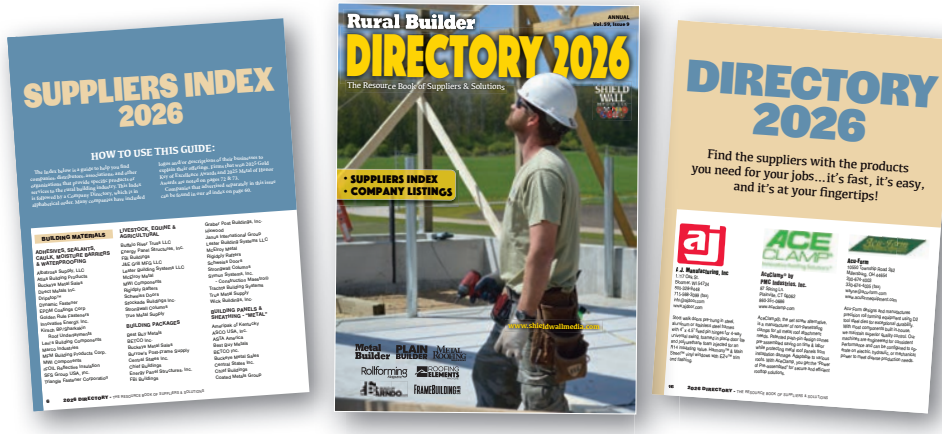
COLOR-MATCHED
ROOF ACCESSORIES
KEEP YOUR METAL ROOF CLEAN, CONSISTENT, AND SHARP

RED PRODUCTS
833-473-3368
34 Denver Rd.
Denver, PA 17517

PSI Green Post™
Planet Saver Industries
THE MOST AFFORDABLE, ALL-IN-ONE SOLUTION FOR IN-GROUND POST DECAY AND UPLIFT RESTRAINT
P (610) 377-3270
www.planetsaverind.com
Made in the USA

Download Your Copy Of The Shield Wall Media Business Directory 2026:

www.shieldwallmedia.com/directory



To get your company into the 2027 Directory, use our online form or contact:

Gary Reichert • 715-952-1657 • gary@shieldwallmedia.com

WE ADD THE VALUE TO THE METAL

MARION MANUFACTURING



- Automation Systems
- Metal Construction Rollformers
- Coil Processing
- Forming & Fabrication
- Recondition Existing Machines

620-382-3751
www.marionmanufacturing.com



SUPPLYING OUR DEALERS THE BEST MATERIALS & SERVICES FOR OVER 45 YEARS!

Commercial • Equestrian
Suburban • Industrial

CONTACT US TODAY!
800-548-6765
stockadebuildingsinc.com

Stockade Buildings
"Building for the future"

MANUFACTURER OF
CUSTOM ROLL FORMING EQUIPMENT

We manufacture:
- Gutter Guard Machines
- Drip Edge Machines
- Custom Roll Formers
- Slitters
- Uncoilers
- Recoilers
- Cupola Roof Hemmer

EXCELLENT QUALITY AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE

Stop in or write to us, include your phone number and we will call you back.

Flack Hill Machine
7671 State Rte 514 • Big Prairie OH 44611

PLASTI-SLEEVE®
POST PROTECTION



The "Original" post protector

•Low cost - Easy slide on
•Also available, PLASTI-SHIRT board protector

sales@plastisleeve.com
Toll free 877-775-3383
www.plastisleeve.com



Reach Every Subscriber

in print & online of every Shield Wall Media Magazine for under $900 per month! That represents 150,000+ impressions.

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT GARY REICHERT:
gary@shieldwallmedia.com
715-952-1657

Hobby Shop

www.rambuildings.com

This hobby shop building was built to help accommodate the owner's need for storage space, and his need for a dedicated location to grow his train hobby. The idea of regaining his attached garage parking space, and move his hobby to a new structure has been a thought of his since they moved in. The building is tucked in nicely behind the owner's house among his mature trees, with the grading and landscaping completed by the owner, to make it feel like the structure was there many years ago.

The building was designed with specifically located garage doors to allow for future train tracking to run up inside the building, through the other end, and back on the tracks that circle the owner's property. Because the building sits lower in elevation than the house, the concern of a shiny metal roof was combatted by using a more matte-finished roof steel panel (Metal Sales: Burnished Slate Crinkle Coat)

The cedar corbels, and porch design, were added as an ode to the features once seen on many historical train stations. Future plans include adding a lean-to from the building's sidewall, down over the tracks, to have a specific place for the train to sit protected from the weather. RB







THE DETAILS:

Building: Post Frame Hobby and Storage
Building Size: 30’ x 40’ x 14’ w/ 8’ x 30’ porch
Materials: Xxx
Trusses: Littfin Wood Trusses
Roof and Wall Panels: Metal Sales 29-gauge Classic Rib
Fasteners: SFS Woodgrip+ screws
Overhead Doors: Midland 2” Energy Saver w/ 24” x 12” Insulated Windows
Walk Doors: AJ Manufacturing 7100 Steel Walk Door
Posts: Littfin Truss 3-ply 2x6 Wood Columns
Windows: Thermo-Tech Classic Series Vinyl Casement Windows
Ventilation: ProfileVent
Miscellaneous Features: Tyvek HomeWrap

For more information: www.rambuildings.com



POST-FRAME BUILDER SHOW

POST-FRAME ▪ RURAL ▪ PLAIN

June 23-24, 2027

Century Center
South Bend, IN