

GENFLEX™ ROOFING SYSTEMS OFFER BEST SOLUTION FOR MINNESOTA FACILITY:

High-performance manufacturing needs met with high-performance roofing



Project Overview:

Proto Labs, a Minnesota-based manufacturer of custom parts for prototyping, acquired the Plymouth Industrial Building in April 2013 and invested \$19 million in purchasing and renovating the building. More than 170,000 square feet of new roof was needed along with significant rehabilitation work to the rest of the building.

A reliable, durable roofing system was important to Proto Labs, and GenFlex EPDM was selected based on the roofing contractor's history of positive experiences with GenFlex. This project was completed in April 2014, and GenFlex EPDM now protects Proto Labs' high-end computerized equipment, 180 injection molding systems and 425 CNC machines, all under one roof.

High-performance roofing for a high-tech factory

Proto Labs relies on proximity to customers and a "Real Parts, Really Fast" approach that has been wildly successful. In early 2013, the company was searching for room to expand and found a perfect opportunity in the Plymouth Industrial Building, a former foundry site in Plymouth, Minnesota.

"We operate worldwide, but it's our goal to help lead the renaissance of U.S. manufacturing from Minnesota," said Proto Labs President & CEO Vicki Holt. "Renovating the Plymouth site was a sustainable option that helped us meet customer demands quickly."

With more than a billion square feet of roofing membrane installed over the last three decades, GenFlex Roofing Systems is a dependable partner in the manufacturing market. Today's factories are filled with high-tech equipment, run by companies focused on "green" – the environment and the bottom line. GenFlex single-ply roofing systems provide the lasting durability and energy efficient performance demanded by modern manufacturing.

"With this project, there was a lot of very expensive equipment going into the building. I wanted to use the best roofing system, which I think is the fully adhered EPDM."

— Mike Thurnblom
*Roofing contractor of
Thurnco Roofing*



Quick-turn installation for a quick-turn manufacturer

The Proto Labs project had a large roofing area to cover (more than 170,000 square feet) with significant rehabilitation work on the existing building – but Thurnblom and his crew were undaunted.

“Working with GenFlex for more than 30 years, I know their people and products will help us get through big projects like Proto Labs on schedule and with an installation that will stand the test of time,” finished Thurnblom.



GenFlex: Putting performance above all

The energy-efficiency and long-term reliability of the GenFlex roof allowed the Proto Labs team to add energy savings efforts and sustainability into the project. By adding the GenFlex polyiso board as an enhanced thermal insulation, Proto Labs is able to maximize its building’s energy savings and add additional impact protection and fire and moisture resistance. The tough, weather-resistant EPDM system was also selected for its exceptional ability to withstand the harsh, Minnesota winters while offering superior wind performance.

The GenFlex EPDM Roofing System provided:

- ▼ Exceptional durability and weather resistance
- ▼ Enhanced building energy efficiency
- ▼ Easy installation due to product flexibility and elasticity

The polyiso insulation added value to the EPDM Roofing System by:

- ▼ Improving the roofing’s thermal performance
- ▼ Providing a better R-value performance per inch compared to other roofing insulations
- ▼ Maximizing energy savings while adding greater impact protection and fire and moisture resistance

