COREFLEX™ minimizes hazardous particles in hospital restoration

One of the first medical colleges in the Midwest, Rush University is one of the nation’s top-ranked nursing colleges. Its hospital is comprised of 676 beds and boasts national rankings in 10 of 16 specialty areas in U.S. New & World Report’s 2011 “America’s Best Hospitals” issue.

CHALLENGE:
This was a restoration project that had operational rooms beneath the plaza deck. The deck contained a cold-applied waterproofing membrane in unknown condition. The schedule was tight, so the product needed to be installed quickly with little to no delay due to weather and surface conditions. Most importantly, consideration had to be taken that this was a hospital and air intakes were located directly above the waterproofing site.

SOLUTION:
The original specification called for hot rubberized asphalt. This, however, could negatively impact the operational status of the hospital if the fumes were to enter through the air intake. In addition, because this was a restoration project, additional surface prep would have been required in order to install hot rubber, causing additional construction delays and costs. Another concern was weather limitations – hot rubber cannot be installed on a wet surface. If it were to rain (which it did many times), they would
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have to wait for the concrete to dry-out before continuing the application. As a result, COREFLEX was chosen for its high jobsite survivability and ease of installation, especially during the rainy spring season. The only surface prep it required was the sweeping away of loose debris and standing water. Moreover, because COREFLEX is a loose-laid system with heat welded seams, installation emitted very little fumes, thus posing no threat to the hospital’s air quality.

RESULT:
Thanks to COREFLEX’s ease of installation, the tight schedule was met and operational rooms below were unaffected. COREFLEX’s redundancy and heat welded seams have provided superior waterproofing. The clients were very pleased, and no signs of water ingress have been reported.