

CertainTeed  
**GlasRoc**<sup>®</sup> BRAND  
 High Performance Exterior Sheathing

CASE STUDY: HAMPTON INN & SUITES



*Westmont Interiors recommended using CertainTeed's GlasRoc<sup>®</sup> Brand High Performance Sheathing on the project because of its fully-embedded glass mats and outside acrylic coating.*



*GlasRoc<sup>®</sup> Sheathing is covered by U. S. Patent No. 6,524,679, and other patents and patents pending.*

- Project:** Glass-Reinforced Exterior Gypsum Sheathing  
**Location:** Towanda Avenue, Normal, Illinois, McLean County (in the heart of Central Illinois, 125 miles southwest of Chicago)  
**Application:** Exterior Insulating Finishing System (EIFS)  
**Architect:** Mann Gin Dubin & Frazier Architects  
**Contractor:** Helton Contractors, Bloomington, Illinois  
**Distributor:** Westmont Interiors, Peoria, Illinois

The town of Normal, Illinois, spans less than 17 square miles and has a population of just over 50,000 people. Home to the first Steak 'n Shake restaurant, the farmland around Normal, and its sister-city Bloomington, population 70,000, ranks in the world's top three for corn and soybean production. There are two dozen hotels in the Bloomington-Normal area, including a new Hampton Inn & Suites<sup>®</sup>, part of the area's mid-priced hotel segment. Construction on the hotel, located on south Towanda Avenue, began in the spring of 2006, with a grand-opening set in autumn.

Westmont Interiors furnished DryVit for use on the EIFS system and recommended using CertainTeed's (formerly BPB) GlasRoc<sup>®</sup> Brand High Performance Sheathing on the project because of its fully-embedded glass mats and outside acrylic coating. In District Manager Rich Anderson's words, "I personally prefer the product from the standpoint that there is less chance of residue fibers." For that very reason, sub-contractor RG Construction, charged with installing the substrate, prefers working with CertainTeed's GlasRoc<sup>®</sup> Brand Sheathing, plus it's easier to cut and causes less skin irritations.

EIFS installers also prefer CertainTeed's GlasRoc<sup>®</sup> Brand High Performance Sheathing because their Backstop NT, which is applied with DryVit adhesive, adheres to CertainTeed's GlasRoc<sup>®</sup> Brand Sheathing better than other products. It's harder to pull the adhesive off CertainTeed's GlasRoc<sup>®</sup> Brand Sheathing which means the bond is stronger. "The face is embedded, not adhered," explains Anderson. "GlasRoc<sup>®</sup> performs much better than the competitors."

Anderson suggests that results are self evident using a simple pull test: "With your thumb, using several product samples, attempt to roll the matting back. The results will explain themselves. Wind-shear strength is much better with GlasRoc<sup>®</sup> Sheathing."

Prior to applying the DryVit, seasonal rains battered the 30,000 square feet of exposed CertainTeed's GlasRoc<sup>®</sup> Brand Sheathing for several months. Average monthly precipitation at the time was nearly four inches a month. Under the same circumstances, wood and gypsum-based sheathing products would likely incur mold and mildew, but because CertainTeed's GlasRoc<sup>®</sup> Brand High Performance Sheathing contains no paper or starches that can promote mold growth in EIFS systems, it remained unaffected by the rainfall.

"The GlasRoc<sup>®</sup> performed better and less degrading of the core was evident," Anderson attests. "It appears that less moisture was allowed to be absorbed."

With a twelve-month limited warranty against exterior exposure to the elements, as well as a five-year limited warranty, seasonal rains are a non-issue for CertainTeed's GlasRoc<sup>®</sup> Brand High Performance Sheathing. In an indirect way, that means CertainTeed's GlasRoc<sup>®</sup> Brand Sheathing will contribute to a healthier environment for guests at Normal, Illinois' Hampton Inn & Suites<sup>®</sup> for innumerable family vacations and business trips to come.

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