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Kirberg Builds Country's First Removable Solar Roof

(August 31, 2010) -- Kirberg Company recently completed installation on the country's first-ever removable solar roofing system. Using a version of Velcro, Kirberg was able to attach photovoltaic (PV) solar roofing panels to the existing metal roof on the Energy Systems Group headquarters building in Evansville, Indiana. The result is a truly detachable and portable structure that the Energy Systems Group can physically take with them if the company ever decides to move.

The Energy Systems Group's new eco-friendly roof is composed of 36 Flexlight PVL 136 panels that take up 7500 square feet of space (approximately 50 percent of the total square footage of the roof). The removable solar panels are projected to generate 5000 kwh of energy, which will run all of their backup file servers. In addition, the system will offset 9,000 lbs of carbon dioxide being released into our atmosphere – the equivalent of using 515 gallons of gasoline, and 3,000 pounds of propane. 9,000 pounds of carbon dioxide is about what an acre of trees absorbs.

“We've always had an active interest in solar roofing and its numerous benefits,” says Vice President Eric Kirberg. “And after all these years of laying the groundwork for a removable option, we finally got the opportunity to bring our ideas to fruition. We are so excited about the possibilities this technology can offer owners of flat-roof commercial buildings. And we can't wait to expand this type of construction and help share the benefits of removable solar roofing with companies nationwide.”

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As the country begins to witness more and more green initiatives and government mandates on alternative energy sources, solar roofing in general is becoming more and more of an asset to businesses.

“Photovoltaic panels allow building owners to realize financial profits from solar energy while creating an image of environmental responsibility for their business,” says Kirberg. “Today, your roof is a depreciating asset. But tomorrow, with federal subsidies and the ability to sell back surplus energy to the utility company, your roof could be the only part of your building making you money.”

For more information on the ESG project and the benefits of solar roofing, visit www.kirberg.com.

About Kirberg Company Kirberg Company is a professional roofing and related services contractor established in 1920, with extensive experience in commercial and residential roofing of all types. Kirberg Company is based in St. Louis and has satellite offices throughout Missouri and Kansas. As a founding member of RoofConnect, the premier nationwide professional contractor network, Kirberg Company can serve roofing needs anywhere in the U.S. For more information on Kirberg call toll-free at 1-866-547-2374.

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