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MOVING EVEREST CHARTER SCHOOL

Students' faces loom large through perforated metal on school's façade

The new Moving Everest Charter School, located in the Austin neighborhood in the Far West Side of Chicago, utilizes a unique model that accommodates both the new charter school as well as a provider of after-school programs. Grades K-5 constitute the school's enrollment, with each grade totaling 90 students.

The new building's vivid architecture signifies progress and innovation in the underserved neighborhood. More than 16,000 sq. ft. of PAC-CLAD 7/8-in. Corrugated panels finished in Charcoal dramatically clad the exterior of the 53,000-sq.-ft. structure. Approximately one-third of the Corrugated panels are perforated and installed in front of supergraphic gray-scale images of studious and smiling children that clearly show through perforated metal panels. The perforations are 3/8-in. on 9/16-in. centers.

The supergraphic images of children were printed on an aluminum composite material. A 4-in. cavity between the ACM and the PAC-CLAD perforated panels creates an eye-catching visual effect. The children pictured in the graphics are actual students in the after-school program.

Architectural design for the project was created by Team A in Chicago. The design team employed the graphic techniques to signify the building's dual uses, and to further establish the brand identity of the two participating non-profit organizations. "When you're working with non-profits, every penny counts. You try to get the most value from every component and material," said Joe Buehler, Team A principal.

This was Buehler's first use of Petersen corrugated material. "We considered two other manufacturers but settled on Petersen due to the local contractor's comfort and experience with PAC-CLAD. The material is great—very cost-effective," Buehler said.

Installation of the corrugated panels was completed by WBR Roofing in Wauconda, Ill. “We loaded the corrugated panels on the roof and lowered them down to be installed vertically,” said sheet metal superintendent Chuck Heintzleman. “Some of the panels were 40-ft. long and that was a bit of a challenge, but the job went smoothly once we got rolling on it.” WBR also installed the ACM image board behind the perforated panels.

The corrugated panels were fabricated at Petersen’s headquarters in Elk Grove Village, Ill. WBR Roofing fabricated all necessary trim, coping and brake metal on-site.

The use of corrugated architectural metal has become quite popular with designers during the past decade or so. “Corrugated material has historically been thought of as ‘barn material’ but there are plenty of projects over the past 15 to 20 years where architects have used it in a creative application, and were able to detail it in an innovative, modern way of taking an unrefined material and making it refined,” said architect Buehler. “The exposed fasteners are not a problem for me. I often think they sort of vanish within the concaves of the corrugation. It seems like where you strike the line of fasteners can present a very organized feel. The PAC-CLAD corrugated material served many purposes for this particular client.”

Moving Everest is a non-profit organization and has partnered with By The Hand Club For Kids, which owns the building, to offer after-school services and programs.

Petersen manufactures PAC-CLAD metal cladding products in multiple gauges of steel and aluminum. PAC-CLAD products include standing-seam roof panels, hidden- and exposed-fastener wall panels, flush panels, soffit panels, perforated metal, fascia and coping systems, composite panels, column covers, coil and flat sheet. All are available in full 70% PVDF finish (Kynar) in 45 standard colors that include a 30-year finish warranty. Most colors meet LEED, Energy Star and Cool Roof Rating Council certification requirements. Founded in 1965, Petersen’s facilities are located in Illinois, Georgia, Texas, Maryland, Minnesota and Arizona.

For information on the complete line of Petersen metal products call 800-PAC-CLAD, visit pac-clad.com or write to info@pac-clad.com.

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