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# Prime cuts

*The winners of RSI's 10th annual Metal Roofing Projects of the Year awards display craftsmanship and attention to detail*

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By Teresa O'Dea  
RSI Senior Editor

**A** decade on the cutting edge of recognizing outstanding metal roofing installations has enabled RSI's Metal Roofing Projects of the Year awards to spotlight this fast-growing market. Since RSI inaugurated our awards program in 1992, metal roofing usage has climbed dramatically.

The winners of RSI's 10th annual contest again embody time-tested skills on challenging jobs, as the following accounts will demonstrate. These outstanding roofing contractors are scheduled to receive their award plaques during the annual Metalcon convention in Las Vegas at the end of October.

RSI is proud to present its 2001 Metal Roofing Projects of the Year award winners:

- 1st Place, New Construction, Institutional: A & M Roofing & Sheet Metal Co. Inc., Andover, MA;
- 1st Place, Reroofing, Historic:



Metal roofing blends in perfect harmony with the brick and glass facade of the Phillips Music Center.

- WeatherGuard Roofing Co., Schenectady, NY;
- 1st Place, New Construction, Single-Family Residential: Classic Superroof, Hurst, TX;
- 1st Place, Multi-Family Residential:

- Pro Tech Roofing, Hatboro, PA
- 1st Place, Reroofing, Institutional: C.D. McKamie Contractors Inc., Justin, TX; and
- 1st Place, Retrofit, Institutional: BRB Roofing, Fort Gibson, OK.

## Metal roof hits right note at music school

**A** & M Roofing and Sheet Metal, Andover, MA, a first-place finisher in RSI's 2000 metal roofing contest, is continuing its winning ways with a completely different type of metal project at the recently built Phillips Music Center at Gordon College, Wenham, MA.

Located about 30 miles north of Boston and just a few miles from the ocean, the Phillips Music Center combines contemporary and traditional features. It is topped by an asymmetrical offset radius hip roof with concave surfaces. The double lock standing seam roof was constructed of lead-coated copper. The hips of each intersecting roof surface are gently radiussed. Plus, each of the four roof faces also has an inwardly curving surface.

Other A & M metal work on this job includes a freeform curved roof over the entrance to an adjacent pond and shed dormers.

Asphalt shingles, also installed by A & M, finished certain areas, per the architect's design.

The metal roof subsurface is clad with a waterproofing underlayment.

These concave roof surfaces, radius roof hips, freeform curves and steep surfaces presented challenges for this A & M metal roofing crew. Each roof panel had to be carefully measured and precisely installed in order to maximize the visual effect contemplated by the architect. The radius hips and concave surfaces required a high degree of precision so that standing seam joints on each roof surface would align at each hip with the joints on the corresponding roof surface.

The project took five months to complete. It was directed by Jose Arias Soliva, project architect of the architectural firm of William Rawn Associates, Boston.

Soliva praises A & M Roofing for their skilled installation, great team spirit, and helpful advice on several technical issues, such as



This college building's steeply sloped lead-coated copper roof posed the kinds of challenges relished by A & M Roofing and Sheet Metal, a repeat winner in RSI's metal roofing contest.

how to vent the roof and how to avoid oil canning. "A & M Roofing helped us fine-tune our design," Soliva says, "so that we could achieve the look and form we wanted and have the roof perform as desired."

To fabricate the metal panels, A & M Roofing used 16-oz. lead-coated copper sheets from Revere Copper Products Inc., Rome, NY. Produced to a maximum length of 16 ft. in A & M's metal shop, the panels' end laps were then seamed in place.

Furthermore, the project recorded 1,840 man-hours and zero work-related injuries, due to a strong company-wide emphasis on safety that features recurring safety inspections as well as worker accountability. Strict fall protection compliance includes the use of safety harnesses. Site work was facilitated with the use of pipe staging that surrounded the building and cleat boards to provide secure footing along sloped roof surfaces.

To date, A & M Roofing has now done four roofing projects at Gordon College, and a total of 15 in the last three years for this same general contractor, Pro Con

Construction, Hooksett, NH.

Allen P. Marin, president, reports that the amount of metal roofing his company does has grown strongly. Five years ago, metal was 5% of its workload and now it makes up about 30% of its business mix.

"We like the opportunity to shine in metal roofing work because there are not a lot of people who can do the detail-oriented, quality work that we can. As a roofer, we're keen on flashing details. We have the expertise to give the customer a nice looking job as well as one that performs well, too.

"People try to jump on the metal roofing bandwagon—as we saw previously with rubber roofing. It's very difficult when you take a lot of pride in your workmanship to compete," Marin admits, "but we try."

A&M offers a full range of services, including installation, inspection, consulting, scheduled maintenance, emergency repairs, and historic restoration. It installs a wide variety of roofing materials including, in order from most to least, EPDM, PVC, TPO, built-up roofing and slate. RSI

### A & M Roofing and Sheet Metal Co. Inc.

- Year Founded: 1978
- Primary Market Area: Eastern Massachusetts, southern New Hampshire, and Rhode Island.
- Average Number of Employees: 40
- Web site: [www.amroofing.net](http://www.amroofing.net)