Grace Under **Pressure**

Turning a curved, crumbling church roof into a 20-year warranty

By Jennifer Jensen

As this year's conference drew to a close, the Spray Polyurethane Foam Alliance (SPFA) announced the winners of its 2026 National Industry Excellence (NIE) Awards honoring the contractors and crews whose work represents the highest standard of SPF craftsmanship and the kind of forward-thinking projects that continue to push the industry forward.

Draper Construction and Commercial Roofing Inc. won the 2026 NIE award in the category of Roof Less than 40,000 Square Feet for its unique project involving the restoration of a roof system at a church in Oklahoma.

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>
> – Trace Bailey, Owner of Draper Construction

"Awards like this mean a lot to us because they recognize the craftsmanship and talent of the people in the field — our project managers and installers who bring these systems to life every day," Draper Construction and Commercial Roofing Owner Trace Bailey said. "We're proud to showcase their work on a national stage."

Draper Construction and Commercial Roofing is a commercial roofing contractor based in Oklahoma and specializes in spray polyurethane foam (SPF) roofing and advanced coating systems. It also focuses on restoring and protecting commercial roofs with seamless, energy-efficient solutions that extend service life and reduce long-term costs.

Bailey has more than 30 years of experience and his specialty is SPF and coatings roofing as well as repairing SPF roofs after a storm. He also manufactures the spray foam and coating equipment.

The award-winning 10,586-square-foot project involved restoring a distinctly designed, tall arched barrel roof system at the Bethany First Church of the Nazarene in Bethany, Oklahoma, that had been experiencing ongoing leaks and deterioration. The church was built in the 1960s, and the Oklahoma wind had taken its toll on the existing concrete roof. Several areas had been blown off and past repairs had failed.

"This project represents a unique combination of technical difficulty, craftsmanship and long-term performance," Bailey said.

The building's height and curved geometry created significant challenges for both access and application, Bailey noted.

"The structure required a custom approach that highlighted the versatility of SPF roofing," he explained.

The elevated arches of the church required specialized safety planning, lift access and precise installation techniques to ensure consistent coverage across the entire surface, Bailey said.

"Traditional roofing systems struggle in these conditions due to seams and transitions, which often become failure points, especially on curved and elevated structures," he added.

The dramatically vaulted structure not only made access difficult but required a high level of precision to ensure uniform foam thickness and coating application across each curved section, he added. A high-performance protective Everest Systems coatings were then applied to provide long-term durability, weather resistance and energy efficiency.

"The result was a watertight, monolithic system that eliminated leaks while preserving the architectural beauty of the building," Bailey said.

His team installed an SPF roofing system that expanded and conformed perfectly to the shape of the arches, creating a seamless, fully adhered surface. Unlike traditional roofing, there were no joints or fasteners – the very features that had made the previous system vulnerable to leaks, particularly at the peaks and along the curves. By eliminating those failure points entirely, SPF delivered what patch repairs and conventional materials never could: a watertight system built to last.

"This project showcases how SPF can be applied in challenging, elevated environments while delivering superior performance, durability and long-term value," he reflected.

In addition to using Everest Systems materials, Draper partnered with the company for technical support. SPFA PCP Project Manager Juan Montante, SPFA Master Installer Miguel Montante and Master Installer Steven Montante added their precision and expertise to help execute this complex project.

Surface preparation began with 4,000-plus PSI pressure washers, with multiple Graco Fixed HydroCats and Graco GH 733s handling application. A SkyTrak 1054 lift and two 80-foot boom lifts provided the access the elevated structure demanded. The material system – Everest Eversol spray foam, two coats of Everest Evercoat Base Coat and an Everest HT topcoat – was engineered as a complete, integrated solution backed by a 20-year warranty.

Despite rain, high winds and an unexpected pause for a funeral, Bailey and his nine-person crew wrapped the project in just eight days.

"Our crews take great pride in their work, and this project is a direct reflection of their ability to execute at a high level, even in challenging conditions like height, complex geometry and active leaks," he added.

The mission at Draper Construction is to do more than just install roofs. They engineer solutions that perform in real-world conditions. Bailey's team is equipped to deliver systems that last, no matter the height, design complexity or even existing damage.