



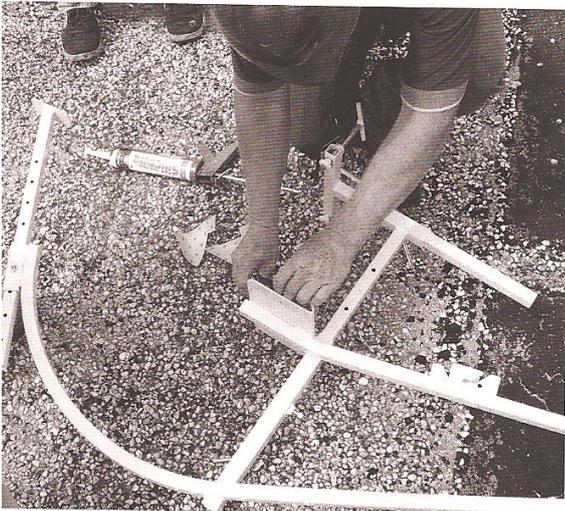


Mission Safety

Hamilton Roofing Leads the Way

Bill Coombs, FRSA - SIF Loss Control Consultant

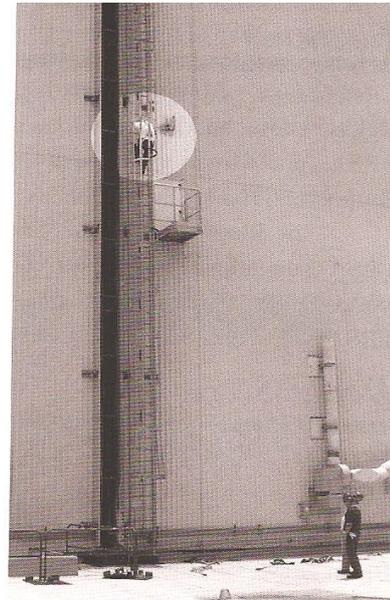
We all know that Kennedy Space Center/ NASA has one of the most, if not the most intense safety program of any company in the world. Their safety requirements do not just apply to their employees, they also apply to all of the contractors that work for them. Safety is not an option, it is required at all times with no exceptions. FRSA member Tony Hamilton, President of Hamilton Roofing, is well aware of these requirements, as he has worked on many projects at KSC over the past 7 years. During this time he has seen many changes and works hard at being proactive and innovative when it comes to safety. His latest mission was to find a system that would allow his crew to move and work freely on the roof of the space shuttle storage building yet provide the necessary fall protection. Tony attended the FRSA convention and trade show and met with Jim Brauner from Roofing Equipment of Florida and Tony Hutten from



Installing the pads

Garlock Equipment and found a solution - the Fall Ban System from Garlock.

Hamilton purchased two complete 400-foot-long systems - enough to surround the entire roof of the storage building. Delivered on its own all-inclusive cart, it consists of three cables



Jim Brauner (highlighted on photo) - Roofing Equipment of Florida, climbing to the roof of the space shuttle storage building.

attached to stanchions that are mounted either on the parapet wall or on the flat roof. Once hoisted up ninety feet to the roof by crane, it easily rolls around the roof.

The Fall Ban System was constructed under the direct supervision of Hutten, Brauner, Bill Coombs - FRSA-SIF Loss Control Consultant and several Kennedy Space Center safety employees. First, the stanchions were placed at the proper spacing and attached to the parapet walls. (The screw down clamping system made the job quick and easy.) Then the starting and ending anchors were mounted to the parapet wall and the cables were laced into the stanchions around the entire roof. Cables spools were mounted on the cart and the cart was rolled around the perimeter of

perimeter of the roof dispensing the cable. Next, the intermediate cable supports were installed between the stanchions and the cables were terminated using a ratcheting device to ensure the proper tension on the cables. Lastly, the highly visible pennant flag was installed on the top cable.

Once the system was completely installed KSC and NASA inspectors were on site checking the installation and giving the final approval to start work. They were quite pleased

and are considering this system as the minimum requirement for any roofing work at the complex. Hamilton was also pleased and figures it will save him a tremendous amount of time and money in the up-coming years. He estimates that it will pay for itself by the second job.

“When you factor in all of the expenses involved like setting up warning lines, using personal fall arrest systems for leading edge, the moving of lines to install roof and the replacement equipment, the Fall Ban System is much more cost effective,” notes Tony. “It allows workers to move and work freely around the roof saving time and eliminating excess work. Unlike wooden or steel guard systems, a complete 400-foot Fall Ban System can be installed by two people in about two hours.”

Hamilton Roofing was the recipient of one of the FRSA-SIF’s 2005 Outstanding Safety Awards. Tony Hamilton knows the importance of safety and how it affects the entire company from attitudes to profit to the overall success of the business. Tony Estimates that he spends between one to two percent of his annual business expense on purchasing safety equipment and training. “Safety is more than just buying equipment, it has to be the focus of all employees,” said Tony. “Understanding of what is required, why it is required and the importance of safety at all times, makes a successful program.”