A solid roofing system can provide protection against rain, hail, snow and even the scorching sun. But commercial low-slope roofs (installed on slopes less than or equal to 3:12) have more inherent challenges than steep-pitched roofs. They don’t drain as quickly and have a higher probability of condensation issues. “Green roofs” and photovoltaic solar panels are growing trends in low-slope roofing systems.

So how do you maximize the durability and energy efficiency of a low-slope roofing system?

The typical roof assembly consists of a structural roof deck, thermal barrier (if applicable), insulation, fasteners and/or adhesives, cover board, and a membrane. All of these components must perform well together.

Since 2000, the National Roof Contractors Association (NRCA) has recommended a cover board be integrated into all roofing systems. Yet some types of cover board—applied over the insulation and below the membrane of the roof—provide more benefits than others.

To answer the need in a superior way, National Gypsum developed the new DEXcell® BRAND Roof Board in three high-performance options. Two are gypsum-based and one is a cement board product:

**DEXcell Glass Mat Roof Board**
For mechanically fastened roof systems

**DEXcell FA Glass Mat Roof Board**
For fully adhered or glued down roof systems

**DEXcell Cement Roof Board**
Premium for all applications
(Provides lightweight moisture-resistance as well as a fire and thermal barrier)

According to Tony Fuller, National Gypsum product manager, cement board, “DEXcell Cement Roof Board provides a superior defense against moisture if trapped under the roofing membrane for an extended period, and it has exceptional freeze and thaw capabilities.”

And as Chuck Hockensmith, National Gypsum product manager, specialty systems and product development, adds, “DEXcell products carry a number of approvals and meet various industry standards to resist moisture and provide a fire barrier for commercial structures such as schools, hospitals and hotels.”

Remember, as you design your buildings, consider what you put above the horizon line as well as upon it. For details, click on DEXcell or contact your construction design manager today.