How can you protect collector cars from Florida’s hot, humid and hurricane-prone climate? With ArmorWall!

New to the ArmorWall product line, ArmorWall NP offers a non-permeable barrier that addresses unique needs in hot, moist and humid climates in cities like Fort Lauderdale, FL. ArmorWall’s ability to combine several traditional components into one - while also meeting high wind zone and continuous insulation requirements - affords the facility increased durability and weather protection while also saving time and money during the installation process. Keep reading to learn more!
What This Project Needed

For this building addition, a durable building envelope system was sought after that would be highly weather resistant, allow for a very strong attachment with the exterior metal cladding and also meet the continuous insulation requirements of Florida’s energy code. A strong supporter of continuous insulation for many years, the project architect evaluated several product options from Hunter, Kingspan and Centria before specifying ArmorWall.

And why did ArmorWall win out? The project team realized that ArmorWall’s ability to combine several traditional components into one - while also meeting high wind zone and continuous insulation requirements - would afford the facility increased durability and weather protection while also saving time and money during the installation.

“I’ve been heavily researching and specifying good solutions for continuous insulation since 2000. We had few options then and we still do now. Over the years, we’ve tried a variety of grid fastener and sheathing systems including mineral board over CMU to achieve the right insulation value and material thickness that best works with fasteners and code requirements. For this project, we needed something stronger and more durable than what we had used before.”

Kevin Leivian, Senior Associate, DLR Group

According to Mr. Leivian, one of the issues with cavity walls is that when you use rigid insulation boards with masonry ties or posyties as anchors, you are putting holes in the system that cause damage and can fail code requirements.

“For this project, we looked at products from Hunter, Kingspan and Centria but couldn’t make them work. With ArmorWall, the product’s durability and structural strength solve the framing problem, and the ability to seal the fasteners and joints quickly and easily solves the continuous insulation problem. It’s a real game changer and a unique product in the market.”
ArmorWall NP as a Cost-Effective Solution

ArmorWall helped solve the dual problem of a system that could meet the high wind velocity hurricane zone structural needs while also providing a vapor barrier on the exterior of the building enclosure, which is what is needed in warm, humid and oftentimes wet conditions that are found throughout Florida. “ArmorWall solves several unique construction needs for new buildings and renovations here in Florida,” said Clyde Copeland of Copeland Architectural Systems, the area ArmorWall Sales Rep. “I certainly recommend it for many types of commercial projects across the state.”

Specifying ArmorWall on this project wasn’t a slam dunk, however. The General Contractor, DPR Construction, wasn’t yet familiar with ArmorWall and took some convincing. But, as the project team began to dig in to ArmorWall’s benefits and the extensive technical literature available, they realized that it offered the best system to meeting the continuous insulation and wind zone requirements.

“It’s the simplicity of the product that I like,” said Mr. Leivian. “Smart CI is a lot of pieces. ArmorWall is one piece with fasteners and sealants that performs as an air and vapor barrier,” he said.

Fast Installation
DPR Construction saved several days and was able to self-install ArmorWall with traditional methods and no special tools.

Weather Resistant
ArmorWall panels are resistant to air and water penetration, making them an ideal solution for this hurricane-prone climate.
Installation Was a Breeze

Once the installation was ready to begin, first-time installer Rodolfo Alayon and his crew were quick to learn how to use ArmorWall following a short training with Clyde Copeland. To ensure that the ArmorWall system would provide the strongest and most durable building enclosure system available, fasteners were used every 4” instead of the traditional 16” or 24”. “It’s a really nice product,” said Mr. Alayon. “I like everything about it, it’s working perfectly,” he said.

“ArmorWall panels are 4’ x 8’ pieces that combine three to four individual components found in other products. Using these Structural Insulated Panels enables designers to more easily achieve continuous insulation and thermal bridging requirements while also being able to replace metal framing due to its structural characteristics.

Clyde Copeland, Copeland Architectural Systems

For more information on ArmorWall Non Permeable (NP):
www.MaxLifeindustries.com/ArmorWall-NP

For more information on this project:
www.MaxLifeindustries.com/Project-Highlights