

THE JOURNEYMAN ROOFER & WATERPROOFER

COVER STORY

ROOFING STORIES AND EVENTS THAT ARE MAKING HEADLINES

Minnesota Twins' Target Field Done the Right Way: the Union Way

In Minnesota, baseball fans and union construction workers alike have something to cheer about as the final touches are being put on the stunning new Minnesota Twins ballpark. The stadium, Target Field, is scheduled to open in spring of 2010, marking the Twins' 50th season of playing baseball in the Upper Midwest.

The 40,000 seat open-air ballpark is an all-union job being built under a Project Labor Agreement with the Minneapolis Building & Construction Trades Council. Roofing work on this project was awarded to Berwald Roofing, Spec 7 Group and SPS Infrastructure, all Local 96, Minneapolis, MN, contractors. Local 96 Business Manager Rob Snider said there were too many members on this project to name them all, but the skills of Local 96 roofers and waterproofers on this project continue to keep Local 96 a proud organization.

The construction work, when completed, will involve more than 3,500 craft workers and more than 1.3 million hours, as reported by general contractor Mortenson Construction. Proof that safety is a top priority, Mortenson Construction received a MNSHARP (Minnesota Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program) award—which has only been given to eight construction projects since its inception in 2007—for the job. Minnesota Twins President Jerry Bell praised the development, saying, "You built this ballpark with quality and safety, and both of them were number one priorities."

The ballpark is situated in the historic Warehouse District of Minneapolis. The design of glass and metal reflects the cosmopolitan location of the stadium, but it will also incorporate many features of Minnesota's natural beauty. Hearty, weather-resistant, native Minnesotan limestone



forms the mass of the ballpark's façade, and flowers, trees and shrubs native to the area will adorn the landscape. The environmentally friendly design integrates conservation, sustainability and energy efficiency in a modern environment.

So far, construction has been finished on time and under budget, according to Local 96 Business Manager Rob Snider. With Union Roofers on the job, we wouldn't expect anything less.

