



The Fordham Tower Chicago, Ill.

Architect: Solomon Cordwell Buenz and Associates Inc., Chicago, Ill.

Sheet Metal Contractor: Bennett and Brosseau Roofing Inc., Romeoville, Ill.

A short stroll from Chicago's Magnificent Mile, The Fordham Tower stands 50-stories tall and provides the newest addition to the city's panoramic skyline.

Completed in November 2002, the structure houses retail space, a dozen luxury townhouses and 218 upscale condominiums. Designed with terraced plateaus and a sloped copper roof, the new high-rise adds a distinctive profile to the downtown horizon.

The crew of Bennett and Brosseau Roofing installed 18,000 square feet of RollCom SDP-250 structural standing seam roof panels in custom color 22 gage galvalume as well as sheet metal cladding on the dormers.

"It was a very unusual situation with the dormers," explained Don Boma, project manager. "Our crew actually roofed around the dormers before they were even built. We provided some structural framing to the dormers also."

"The height of the tower presented us with the most challenging aspect of the project," Mr. Boma commented. "It topped out at close to 570-square feet with a very steep

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The commitment of Bennett and Brosseau Roofing to a safe building site was critical to the success of this project. The project staff developed a customized safety program for this project, created a preconstruction checklist with the owner, attended weekly safety meetings and enforced a drug-free workplace policy.

incline in some areas. Of course, safety was our number one priority with all crew members wearing safety harnesses and putting perimeter netting in place. An experienced crew from Local 73 and Local 265 should receive the credit for working safely and professionally."

Working at such great heights provided the crew another interesting challenge, transporting materials to the work area. "The crane had been dismantled before our crew began working to control construction costs," Boma said. "There were several smaller cranes in place to transport materials, but it left our crew with limited space for material storage that was shared with the other trades."