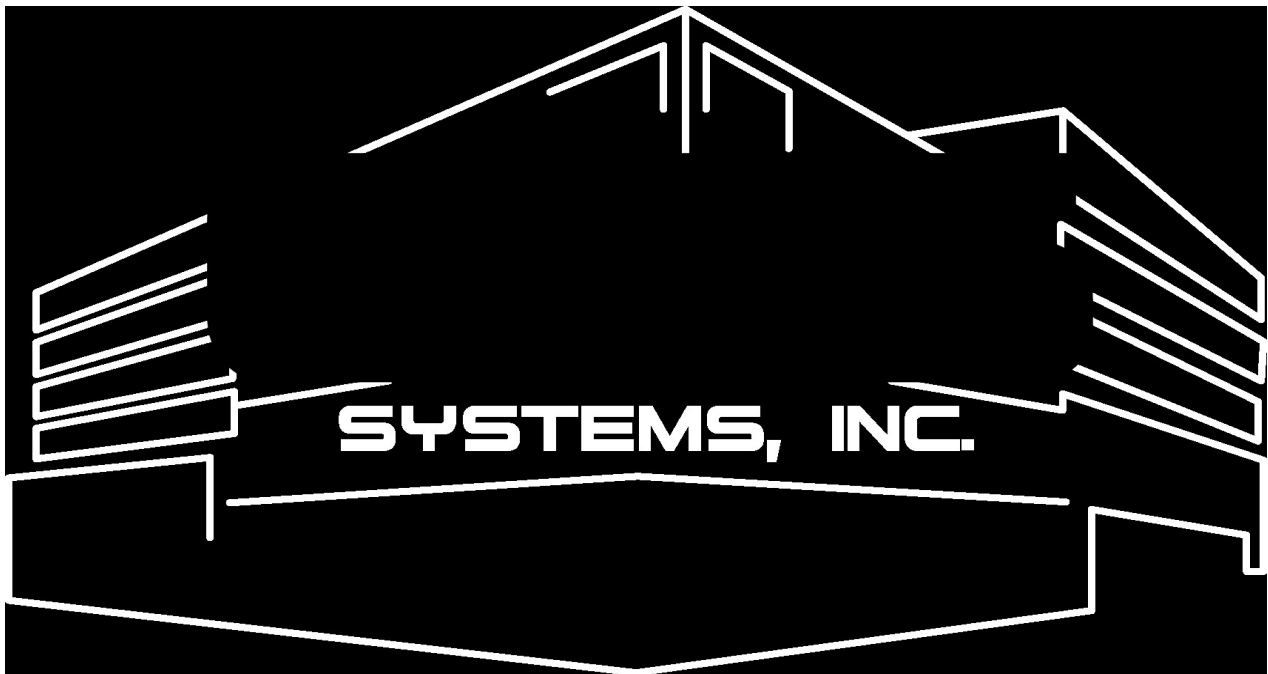




CDS Systems, Inc. Releases Guide to Commercial Drainage Systems for Flat and Low-Slope Buildings

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CDS Systems, Inc., a commercial roofing contractor in Charlotte, NC, has published a technical resource titled *Guide to Commercial Roof Drainage Systems*, created to help industrial property owners, facility managers, and building engineers address moisture hazards that threaten low-slope and flat commercial roofs. The release of the guide comes as the autumn rainfall season approaches, a period when inadequate drainage design and deferred maintenance often produce the most severe consequences.

The resource examines how poor drainage leads to standing ponding water, structural dead-load strain, accelerated membrane breakdown, and interior inventory leaks. On flat and low-slope roofs, water that fails to clear within 24 to 48 hours after rainfall places added weight on the building structure and shortens the service life of roofing materials. The guide explains the concept of positive drainage, which uses a slight slope to direct water toward designated outlets.

The document details the essential components of an effective drainage system, including internal drains, scuppers, and collector boxes, along with gutters and downspouts. It distinguishes between gravity systems, which rely on natural water flow, and siphonic systems, which use pressure differentials to clear water more

quickly across large roof surfaces. The guide also reviews common materials used in drainage assemblies, such as cast iron, PVC, propylene, and ABS, noting the durability and climate considerations associated with each.

A central theme of the publication is proactive maintenance. The guide outlines the value of seasonal inspections, debris removal ahead of heavy autumn rainfall, and early mitigation measures that prolong roof service life and reduce the risk of catastrophic structural damage. It also addresses methods for identifying signs of overflow and preventing clogs before they escalate into larger problems.

"Many of the roof failures seen on commercial and industrial buildings begin with drainage problems that were preventable," said Chris Roberts, President CDS Systems, Inc. "Water that sits on a flat roof for days adds weight the structure was never meant to carry, and it breaks down the membrane far earlier than expected. This guide was written to give facility managers a clear understanding of how their drainage systems work and what to watch for before a small issue becomes a structural emergency."

The guide places particular emphasis on timing, encouraging building operators to clear internal drains and scuppers of accumulated debris before the heaviest rains arrive. Clogged outlets and overwhelmed collector boxes are among the most frequent causes of ponding and interior leaks on commercial properties.

"Seasonal inspections cost a fraction of what a major repair or roof replacement costs," Chris added. "The goal of this resource is to help property owners make informed decisions and protect both their buildings and the inventory inside them."

The publication concludes with a frequently asked questions section addressing common concerns about drainage design, maintenance intervals, and material selection for commercial roofs.

CDS Systems, Inc. is a commercial and industrial roofing company based in Charlotte, North Carolina. The company provides commercial roofing, roof repair, roof replacement, roofing inspections, flat roofing, industrial roofing, solar panel installation, TPO commercial roofing, and roof coatings for businesses throughout the region.

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CDS Roofing

CDS Roofing is a family-owned and operated company with the expertise and experience to serve any sector. No matter the roofing material or its sizing requirements, our team has the know-how to meet your needs.

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