

# SIKA AT WORK

DELIVERING A WATERTIGHT FUTURE FOR  
A HISTORIC LANDMARK

ROOFING: SIKA® PRO-TECTA WP AND SIKASHIELD®

BUILDING TRUST



# YORK RAILWAY MUSEUM



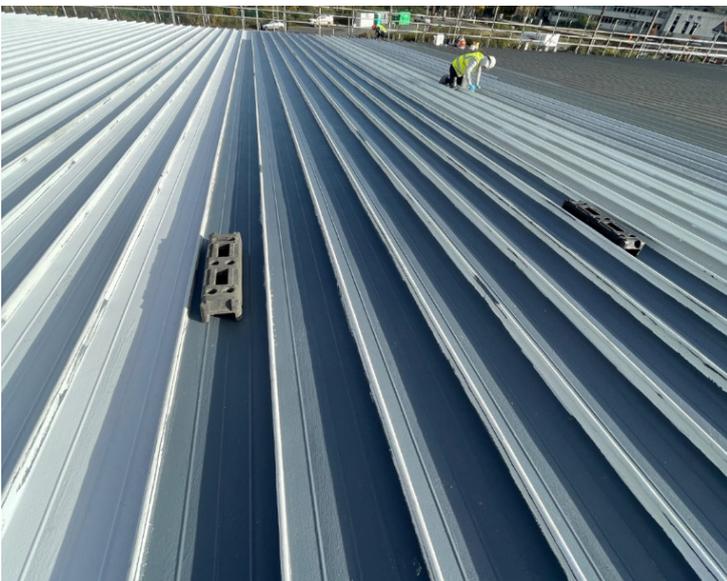
**LOCATED IN THE HEART OF YORK, THE NATIONAL RAILWAY MUSEUM IS HOME TO ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST IMPORTANT COLLECTIONS OF RAIL HERITAGE. WHEN ONE OF ITS KEY MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE BUILDINGS, USED TO RESTORE AND PROTECT INVALUABLE TRAIN COMPONENTS, BEGAN TO SUFFER FROM PERSISTENT LEAKS, URGENT ROOFING REFURBISHMENT WAS REQUIRED.**

Malden Roofing was appointed to carry out the works, with a Sika® Pro-Tecta WP 20-Year System and a SikaShield® reinforced bituminous roof system, both specified as the high-performance waterproofing solution. The 4200m<sup>2</sup> roof had to be refurbished in the middle of winter, within a logistically challenging site adjacent to the live East Coast Main Line. Despite these obstacles, the team delivered a high-quality finish on time and with minimal disruption. Adding to the complexity, the building itself is over 100 years old, and therefore required careful handling and exceptional workmanship to preserve its structural integrity.

The project presented numerous technical and environmental difficulties. Not only was the site operational throughout the winter months, it also stood four storeys high and directly next to one of the UK's busiest rail routes. Network Rail safety criteria imposed tight restrictions on scaffolding erection, and with minimal site access and no available parking, deliveries had to be carefully coordinated.

Adding to the complexity, the roof featured 14 fragile polycarbonate glazed units which required specialist treatment. All of this had to be managed without disrupting museum operations or compromising the safety of staff and visitors.

Sika® Pro-Tecta WP was selected for the metal roof areas, for its ability to deliver a seamless, robust waterproofing finish. The faster-curing properties of the two-component, hybrid technology top-coat, made it ideal for the winter work schedule, allowing for quicker application with reduced environmental risk.



To handle the roof's glazing elements, rope access installers were deployed to apply protective coatings and bespoke detailing.

In addition, a smaller roof area adjacent to the expansive metal roof was reinstated with a SikaShield® reinforced bituminous exposed roof system. SikaShield® reinforced bituminous membrane system was chosen for this project to meet the requirement for a solution that could combine durability and versatility to deal with a range of design challenges and complex details. The SikaShield® solution provides additional and unique benefits compared to traditional reinforced bitumen membranes.

This SikaShield® solution contains a special hybrid cap sheet that brings together the features of SBS and APAO modified bitumen. The end result is a product that delivers higher elasticity on the underside, alongside a surface that is extremely hard-wearing, highly resistant to UV exposure, thermal shock and freeze thaw cycling and very difficult to mark or damage during the installation process.

Malden Roofing executed the installation of these systems with precision, overcoming site access challenges by using smaller vans and timing deliveries with exacting accuracy. Despite limited working space and cold temperatures, the team's expert handling of the Sika® Pro-Tecta WP system and the SikaShield® reinforced bitumen roofing system ensured a smooth and uninterrupted workflow.

In addition, Sika's technical experts supported the project by designing bespoke capping details for the roof's perimeter, enhancing both aesthetics and performance.

While function was critical, so too was form. The final finish was not only watertight but also respectful of the museum's historic architecture. Sika customised the colour of the Sika® Pro-Tecta WP System to match the client's specifications, allowing the new roof to blend seamlessly with the existing structure. The result is a rejuvenated appearance that complements the building's heritage while offering modern protection.

The successful delivery of the York Railway Museum refurbishment highlights the versatility of Sika's roof waterproofing systems in heritage-sensitive and logistically complex environments. The project delivered long-lasting waterproofing performance with minimal disruption and maximum visual appeal, safeguarding one of Britain's most iconic cultural assets for decades to come.

## PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

Client: National Railway Museum  
Roofing Contractor: Malden Roofing  
Product Used: Sika® Pro-Tecta WP 20-Year System,  
SikaShield® Reinforced Bituminous Roof System  
Project Size: 4200m<sup>2</sup>  
Completion Date: April 2024



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