



CASE STUDY

Agri-Nutrients, Inc.

Fertilizer Storage Building

OWNER

Agri-Nutrients, Inc.

LOCATION

Port of Catoosa, Oklahoma

MARKET SECTOR

Bulk Storage

SIZE

150' x 170'

ORIGINAL STRUCTURE

Cover-All Series 4

SPECIAL FEATURE

ExxoTec™ Pro fabric cover



Finished recover by Legacy (above).

Agri-Nutrients creates custom fertilizer blends for large and small customers. Their seven-year-old fabric building at the Port of Catoosa in Oklahoma houses 11 bins plus staging areas for tote storage, blenders and bagging areas. In September of 2017, a fire broke out inside the building. While no one was hurt, the fire burned through the roof of the fabric structure.

An important benefit of structural fabric is how it reacts to fire. It does not feed fire – it melts away from the flames, allowing the smoke and heat to vent through the hole in the fabric. This helped minimize the fire at Agri-Nutrients, keeping it contained to the area immediately around the malfunctioning equipment that started the blaze. A few pieces of equipment were destroyed, but no stored fertilizer was impacted – allowing the company to get back to work within a few days of the fire.

Having the roof replaced at Agri-Nutrients was an immediate concern after the fire occurred. “Mostly we were worried about weather and moisture, said Ronny Ferrell, Operations Manager at Agri-Nutrients. “Rain does impact the materials, and it does impact production.”



LEGACY RECOVER

Original structure after Legacy completed the recover.

Ferrell called Legacy Building Solutions to replace the cover. “We have used Legacy in the past for small repairs, and I didn’t even call anyone else,” said Ferrell. Although the original building is not a Legacy building, the Legacy crews had previously repaired the building after some tornado damage and replaced cables after they corroded due to exposure to caustic fertilizer.

During the initial contact, Legacy suggested an ExxoTec™ PVC cover. ExxoTec™ is heavier, stronger and designed to outlast the polyethylene cover. “I really wasn’t familiar with the product, but the longer warranty and longer service life were deciding factors for us,” said Ferrell.

“They worked around our schedule to help us avoid a shutdown while the building was being repaired.”

The Legacy representative explained the differences among the types of fabric, including the advantages of ExxoTec™ over the polyethylene fabric used for the old cover. In a corrosive environment like fertilizer storage, ExxoTec™ Pro 19 oz. PVC has a longer life cycle that will outlast polyethylene fabric.

Legacy manufactured the replacement fabric based on existing drawings and field-verified measurements, and then our install teams traveled to Oklahoma to install the new roof and endwall fabric. Once the repair crews arrived on site, they worked around the schedule for Agri-Nutrients to get the company back to production without further interrupting business. “It was very interesting to watch them work,” said Ferrell. “They worked around our schedule to help us avoid a shutdown while the building was being repaired.”

With the new cover in place, Agri-Nutrients is back to operating at full capacity. The new roof will give them many years of continued operation and a pleasant working environment that will outlast the original cover.