

BLACKCOMB SOLAR, MAIN STREET PROJECT WHITINSVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

2013 PROJECT PROFILE

CHALLENGES Budget Restrictions, Aesthetics



Peter Proffetty Founder & President, Proffetty Electrical Inc.

Stephen Proffetty Vice President, Proffetty Electrical Inc.

As North America endeavors to re-imagine how it fuels its economy with an energy supply equation that is cheaper, cleaner, renewable and more secure, solar energy has a bright future.

But change doesn't come easily. Very often, people and businesses alike have a hard time accepting even something that makes perfect sense simply because it's not what they're familiar with.

When electrical contractor Steve Proffetty took up the task of wiring an 8,000-panel photovoltaic array for Blackcomb Solar's Main Street project in Whitinsville, Massachusetts, he got a firsthand look at how some technical aspects of solar installations need to be brought into the light.

"On the wiring side of a solar array there is always a conversation about what looks good," says Proffetty. "For this reason, a lot of developers want conduit. Keeping costs down can be a challenge, too; but we've found a way around both of these issues."

For about three years now, Proffetty Electrical Inc. of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, has been choosing General Cable's STABILOY[®] Brand MC Cable – with a factory produced assembly of aluminum alloy conductors SOLUTION STABILOY® Brand Jacketed MC Cable

protected with an aluminum armor and PVC jacket – for its rooftop solar projects. Steve's father, Peter Proffetty, founder and president of the company, says versatility is the word that best describes STABILOY Brand MC Cable.

"Because it's waterproof, UV-resistant and concrete friendly, we can use it on a roof, run it to the ground, bury it, encase it in concrete... whatever we need to do. It's one product that does a lot of things – including keeping your costs down."

The last point is an important one: challenged with keeping electrical affairs under budget, Proffetty Electrical took an

ALVANDI SAYS THAT STABILOY[®] BRAND MC CABLE "...ENHANCES PERFORMANCE RELIABILITY OVER THE LONG TERM."

innovative approach using an innovative product. Michael Staiti, owner of Blackcomb Solar, was thrilled with the results.

"Keeping the electrical within budget on a 300,000 square foot array was going to be a challenge, but Proffetty and General Cable got it done, and in the end, I feel like we actually have a better installation with STABILOY Brand MC Cable that's also better looking."

By eliminating the need for conduit and cable pulling, the STABILOY Brand MC Cable resulted in huge savings of time and labor.







"Proffetty Electrical convinced us to use the General Cable product and the results were great," says Staiti. "There were even extra quality assurances as well. No pulling means no chafing, fewer terminations, and no water getting into junction boxes. They also came up with an innovative wire management system that ended up looking even cleaner than conduit would have."

Words like "over-deliver" and "under-budget" were music to the ears of Foad Alvandi, design engineer for Tecta Solar, the general contractor on the project. He immediately saw the wisdom in going with STABILOY Brand Jacketed MC Cable.

MORE AND MORE ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS ARE SEEING THE LIGHT ON THE INCREDIBLE VALUE STABILOY[®] BRAND MC CABLE OFFERS FOR SOLAR PROJECTS.



"This was a big project: 1.9 megawatts of power – that's 48 million kilowatt hours of clean energy over the next 20 years. The cost savings from choosing the General Cable product was a good thing. But more importantly, I think, is that this product enhances performance reliability over the long-term."

Don Wasser, Key Account Manager at Granite Electric Supply, supplied the cable for the project, and thinks there's a perfect fit between STABILOY Brand MC Cable and solar projects like the Whitinsville warehouse rooftop array.

"Proffetty Electrical is really on to something here. There seems to be a perfect fit between this product and what is required for solar array installations. I think more and more electrical engineers are seeing the light on the substantial value STABILOY Brand MC Cable offers for solar projects like this."

Seeing the light indeed. More recently, Proffetty has convinced another project team to go with STABILOY Brand MC Cable - this time, on a ground-mount solar array.

"It's incredible," says Steve Proffetty. "Just by burying the cable right in the ground, it's going to save about a week in labor."

If you're an electrical engineer looking to minimize costs, enhance performance, and keep things looking neat and tidy, STABILOY Brand MC Cable will have you whistling an appropriately refreshing tune – "Here Comes the Sun."

💎 General Cable

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