



News

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New Portable Green Roof System To Be Studied At Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

St. Louis, MO--June 2, 2006-- Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) recently began research on a new modular green roof system. The study on the roof greening system known as **Green Paks™** began on May 26 and will be evaluated over a 2 year period. The study is being overseen by Dr. Bill Retzlaff, Associate Professor of the Environmental Sciences Program at SIUE.

Green Paks are portable knitted polyethylene green roof modules, pre-filled with lightweight engineered soil. The flexible modules provide a fast and affordable method of installing a green roof. While popular in Europe, green roofs have recently grown in popularity in the United States. Green Roofs offer buildings and homes several benefits, including reducing energy costs, limiting storm water run off, and increasing the life of the roof by up to four times.

Dr. Retzlaff will be assisted by Environmental Science and Biology students over the course of the research program which will study the differences in planting mediums, densities and species, and their effect on Green Paks performance. In addition, the product will be tested for storm water holding capacity, the rate of water loss back into the atmosphere (evaporation), and the shade tolerance of the various plant species.

Green Paks are manufactured by Green Roof Blocks™, makers of portable green roof systems. "We have conducted extensive research and development in bringing Green Paks to market. We're thrilled have an unbiased third party like SIUE conduct an independent evaluation," says Kelly Lockett, president of Green Roof Blocks. "We're confident that their data will support our own conclusions that Green Paks provide all of the same environmental benefits with performance characteristics comparable to the more expensive green roof options on the market."

Green Roof Blocks™ is a subsidiary of St. Louis Metalworks, with offices located at 11701 New Halls Ferry Rd., Florissant, MO 63033. The company maintains a web site at, www.greenroofblocks.com and media site at, www.greenroofsmedia.com.

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