In the fall of 2015, Dairy Farmers of America (DFA) formally announced plans to build a dairy ingredients plant in Garden City, Kansas. After a ceremonial groundbreaking with state officials and local dairy farmers on the 156-acre site, the project was officially underway.

To help meet the rising demand of US dairy products, the plant is expected to receive 4 million pounds of milk each day from regional dairy farms, and will produce whole, skim and dry milk powder, in addition to cream. The entire facility is expected to take about two years to complete, and is on schedule to finish in September of 2017.

“With this new plant, we are literally breaking new ground for our state and strengthening Kansas’ footprint on a global scale, which is truly exciting,” says Michael Lichte, vice president for Dairy Marketing and Business Planning at DFA.

Anticipated project for Garden City

For a small, rural farm community in southwest Kansas, this is a welcome development. The milk dehydration facility will add about 100 jobs. The residents are excited and GenFlex Roofing Systems is happy to be part of it. The construction itself has already brought new traffic into the city with almost 600 workers on the site. Steve Douglass and his team are proud to be part of this movement creating growth for the families of Garden City.

Thanks to Douglass Roofing, Midway Sales and GenFlex, the DFA’s milk dehydration facility will continue to help the town grow and provide important dairy resources for the country for years to come.

Project Overview:

The future Dairy Farmers of America facility in Garden City, Kansas is comprised of 11 separate sections. Throughout the facility, several sections are designed with many different roofing levels. Roofing Contractor Douglass Roofing used GenFlex polyiso and a GenFlex mechanically attached TPO roofing membrane for the majority of the 210,000 sq. ft. facility. Steve Douglass, president of Douglass Roofing, chose GenFlex for its reliable, easy-to-use products.

“We decided to use GenFlex because of our history with them. We’ve always had a great experience. They supply on time and we have a good relationship with their inspection department. You know what you’re going to get when you order GenFlex.”

— Steve Douglass
President, Douglass Roofing

GENFLEX™ TOPS NEW DAIRY INGREDIENTS PLANT IN GARDEN CITY, KANSAS
Combination of quality products and experience chosen to cover 210,000 sq. ft.
Finding a smart solution to an unexpected challenge

As the building continues, weather has not hindered the roofing schedule. However, on the first chilly day, Douglass Roofing was surprised to see new gas lines along one section of the roof that were intended to flow temporary heat inside the building. The gas lines were welded down to the roof, so Douglass Roofing had to adjust their plans and quickly accommodate. With more than 300 penetrations in this 250 sq. ft. area, Douglass Roofing knew they would need close to 200 pipe boots. However, because they needed to cut around the pipes, custom pipe boots would have to be designed specifically for this roof. Douglass Roofing worked with its distributor, Midway Sales, to place an order for custom pipe boots, which GenFlex immediately designed and fulfilled. To date, 170 custom GenFlex pipe boots have been used.

Together, working with Midway Sales and the team from Douglass Roofing, construction continues to go smoothly and the facility is still on schedule to be completed in just under a year.