



Birdair Backgrounder

Birdair Inc. is the world's leading specialty contractor for custom tensile membrane structures.

With more than 50 years of experience, Birdair has worked with owners, architects, engineers and contractors to design and build custom tensile structures used to create innovative roofing systems, canopies and skylights. In addition to pre-construction services such as design assistance, budgeting, construction methodologies and project scheduling, Birdair provides design-build solutions in all aspects of project design, engineering, installation and maintenance.

Walter Bird, a pioneer in light-weight membrane roofing systems, founded Birdair in 1956 as a manufacturer of radomes for the military and air-supported structures. In 1973, Birdair constructed the first permanent tensile membrane structure, The LaVerne College Student Activities Center at the University of LaVerne College in LaVerne, California and then to go on to build the world's largest structural fabric membrane roofing projects, the Haj Terminal at Jeddah Airport in Saudi Arabia.

Birdair's projects illustrate the versatility of tensile architecture applications and Birdair's work ranges from secure transportation terminals to sports venues and convention centers; from festive entertainment, performing arts facilities and museums to offices, hotels, resorts and visitor centers; from eye-catching retail complexes to walkways and porte-cocheres.

Birdair offers a selection of architectural fabric membranes, including PTFE fiberglass, PVC, ETFE film, an alternative to glass and Tensotherm™ with Lumira™ aerogel, the world's only translucent insulated tensile membrane roofing material.

The unique strength and flexibility of tensile membranes inspire a multitude of design forms and create distinct iconic structures that visually define a facility, a city or even an entire region. The translucency of fabric membrane allows daylight to flow into the space reducing the amount of artificial light needed. Birdair tensioned membrane structures retain their durability and brilliance over time, with a high level of resistance to staining, soiling and moisture while offering life-cycle costs that offer greater value than conventional roofing systems.

Birdair is committed to the ongoing development of tensile architecture, working diligently to further promote the most modern technologies available and to continually innovate signature, high-quality designs.

Birdair, based in Buffalo, NY, is a member of the Taiyo Kogyo Group, with operations serving North and South America and other international locations. For more information about Birdair, like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Birdair, call 1-800-622-2246, or visit us at www.birdair.com.

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