

Rollup Doors Ideal For Building Conversions

Buildings all over farm country are being turned into shops, machine sheds, garages or general storage. PS DOORS of Grand Forks, N. Dak., makes doors that fit virtually any size opening.

Bob Hodny at PS DOORS says the company can handle pretty much any application a building owner can come up with. Hodny says they've provided doors for barn renovations, added new doors to machine sheds, and fit 50-year-old quonset-style buildings.

The most popular door the company provides for farm use is a roll up model that can be custom-sized to the opening. "We can provide anything from a small 6-ft. rollup door for a storage shed to a large 30-ft. rollup for a machine shed or renovated barn," Hodny says.

Rollup doors are supported by vertical steel posts on each side and a steel tube that holds the rolled up door across the top. This mechanism can be mounted to the interior or exterior of the building's opening. The rollup

door is made of 24 ga. steel and the guides are made of roll-formed galvanized steel. A torsion spring system provides the counter balance so the door can be easily lifted by a roll chain, a crank or a wall-mounted motor. Hodny says a rollup door can also be set up to work with a vehicle-activated digital opener.

"Adding a large door to a barn so it can be used for a machine shed is a lot less expensive than building a new machine shed," Hodny says. Prices for rollup doors range from about \$8,000 for an 18-ft. wide by 20-ft. tall door to \$17,000 or more for doors that could be up to 30 ft. wide and 20 ft. tall.

"The frame that supports the door adds strength to the opening of a building," Hodny says. When installed on the end of a barn the frame will extend beyond the roof line, but it's weatherproof with a shroud over the top and on the ends. If the door is mounted inside a building, the ceiling and walls can be finished up to and around the door frame.

"These doors operate just like a window roller shade and they're fairly easy to install,"



Roll-up steel doors are ideal for barns and Quonsets. Framing that supports the door mounts inside or outside door opening. Sizes up to 30 ft. wide are available.

Hodny says. "They roll up and out of the way and work especially well on buildings where sliding or sectional doors aren't practical." Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Corey

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Just Add Water: "Concrete Cloth" Now On The Market

Concrete Cloth™ is a flexible, cement-impregnated fabric that hardens when it's hydrated with water to form a thin, durable, waterproof and fire resistant concrete layer. Milliken & Company of Spartanburg, S.C. started marketing the product in 2011. In the United Kingdom, where it was invented, the product is called Concrete Canvas™.

Milliken's Concrete Cloth representative Rich Pilston says, "This product has applications in agriculture, construction, mining, horticulture and the pipeline industry." It has been used extensively to line irrigation ditches in South Africa. "For many applications, Concrete Cloth provides the protective qualities of concrete at a fraction of the cost," Pilston says.

Concrete Cloth is a 3-dimensional fiber matrix embedded with a specially formulated concrete mix. It has a waterproof pvc backing. After it's laid in place, it can be hydrated either by spraying or by being fully immersed in water. There is no product to mix or measure and the product can't be over hydrated. After it's moistened, Concrete Cloth remains workable for 2 hrs. It hardens to 80 percent of its final strength in 24 hrs., and is 100 percent cured within a week.

The product is manufactured in 5, 8 or 13 mm thicknesses. Material is packaged in rolls that are about 4 ft. wide. Rolls of

the 5 mm thick material weigh about 165 lbs. and cover 100 sq. ft. Large commercial rolls are also available. Prices range from \$5 to \$10 per sq. ft.

Pilston says, "Concrete Cloth is a strong, versatile and environmentally friendly product. It uses up to 95 percent less in materials than conventional concrete for many applications, and has low impact on the environment due to limited alkaline and a low wash rate."

In agricultural applications Concrete Cloth can be unrolled to form a ditch or a tank lining. A small overlap creates a tough seam. After it's hydrated and cured, the material forms a protective layer that's waterproof and chemical proof. It's ideal for stabilizing slopes, protecting stream banks, creating custom decorative panels, inhibiting weeds around culverts, and creating a flood fence.

Concrete Cloth is flexible and easy to install. It can be hung vertically, laid in trenches or cut and formed into shapes to create a durable layer of concrete, all without the need for molds or mixing. It can be installed in the rain or in wet conditions. The product meets ASTM and other building standards and resists chemicals, weather and UV rays.

Concrete Canvas Ltd. in the UK



produces pre-packaged shelters that use the product. They can be set up and hydrated in a few hours. A large fan inflates the shelter like a sleeping bag and then the exterior is sprayed with water to activate the concrete.



Concrete cloth can be used to create a lined irrigation canal (left). Pre-packaged shelters that use the product are available in the U.K. To construct, canvas is inflated with a large fan and then sprayed with water.

Within 24 hours the shelter is ready to use. Access holes can be cut for doors or windows. The interior and exterior are completely waterproof and fire resistant. The exterior resists abrasion and punctures and withstands freeze-thaw cycles. The shelters are available directly from the manufacturer.

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3-Pt. Mounted Screw-Type Splitter

"I haven't found a block of wood yet that it won't split," says Garry Steeper, Ailsa Craig, Ont., about the 3-pt. mounted, hydraulic-operated screw-type log splitter that he built using parts from an old barn gutter cleaner.

The gutter cleaner had an electric motor that belt-drove a shaft that powered the gutter-cleaning chain. Steeper replaced the electric motor with a hydraulic motor. It runs slower than the electric motor, so he mounted a coupler on the splitter to chain-drive a jackshaft, which in turn chain-drives a bigger sprocket that drives the vertically-mounted splitting screw.

It works much like a posthole digger, with the screw pointing downward.

"It eliminates the need to do any lifting and

saves a lot of labor," says Steeper. "We have an outdoor wood furnace equipped with a 3-ft. long firebox, so to fill it up I like to cut wood into blocks that are 30 in. long or more. With my 3-pt. mounted splitter I don't have to move the wood to the splitter.

"If a wood chunk starts to spin I just pick it up and back it against something solid. The screw turns quite slowly so it's not as dangerous as some I've seen that are pto-driven or bolted to the drive axle of a vehicle."

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"It eliminates the need to do any lifting," says Garry Steeper, who built this 3-pt. mounted, hydraulic-operated screw-type log splitter using parts from an old barn gutter cleaner.