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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Senator Ben Cardin Announces the *Energy-Efficient Cool Roof Jobs Act*

Washington, D.C. – September 19, 2011 – Senator Ben Cardin (D-Md.) today unveiled the ***Energy-Efficient Cool Roof Jobs Act*** during a visit to Kalkreuth Roofing located in Frederick, Maryland. The bipartisan bill co-sponsored by Senator Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) aims to create 40,000 jobs in the still struggling construction sector and improve the energy performance of commercial buildings by removing obstacles in the tax code that impede economic growth.

The bill reduces the current 39-year depreciation period for commercial roofs to 20 years for roofs retrofitted with qualified energy-efficient cool roof systems. Qualified roofs include systems that feature insulation which meet or exceed ASHRAE 189.1-2009 standards and primary cool roof surfaces in climate zones 1 through 5.

In addition to creating thousands of jobs, the bill is expected to add **\$1 billion of taxable annual revenue** in the construction sector, annually reduce commercial building energy consumption by **11.4 trillion Btu** and carbon emissions by **800,000 metric tons**.

The bipartisan legislation is supported by a broad-based coalition of business and labor groups. The Center for Environmental Innovation in Roofing, National Roofing Contractors Association (NRCA) and Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association (PIMA) are among the industry sponsors.

Congressman Tom Reed (R-N.Y.) introduced the *Roofing Efficiency Jobs Act of 2011* (H.R. 2962), a House companion version of the legislation, on Thursday, September 15, 2011.

For more information on the *Energy Efficient Cool Roof Jobs Act*, contact Justin Koscher at 866.928.CEIR or 202.380.3371, or e-mail Justin at justink@roofingcenter.org.

The Center for Environmental Innovation in Roofing is a non-profit organization headquartered in Washington, D.C., whose mission is to promote the development and use of environmentally responsible, high performance roof systems and technologies. For more information on the Center, visit www.roofingcenter.org.

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