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## WISCONSIN BADGERS TO REAP DAYLIGHTING AND ENERGY SAVING BENEFITS FROM TENSOTHERM™



University of Wisconsin athletes will soon train under a Birdair high-performance [Tensotherm™ with Lumira™ aerogel roof](#) at the McClain Athletic Facility.

Birdair's project role consists of [engineering](#), fabricating and [installing](#) an updated tensile membrane roof for the [indoor athletic facility](#) at the university's Madison campus. This summer, the facility's original Birdair non-insulated translucent tensile roof will be replaced with a new 41,920-square-foot Tensotherm roofing system. Existing structural support steel will be cleaned for reuse.

The translucent system will diffuse natural sunlight into the facility and provide an insulation value of R9. The system's highly porous feather-light [Lumira™ aerogel insulation layer](#) traps air to prevent heat loss and solar heat gain. The [glare-free daylighting](#) provided by Tensotherm™ will provide a boost in productivity, learning, and healing for the student athletes. Tensotherm is a [cost-effective solution](#) that is proving to have positive impacts on operating costs and energy savings.

Other members of the project team include owner University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, architect VOA Associates, Chicago, IL, engineer Berners Schober Associates, Green Bay, WI and construction manager J.P. Cullen and Sons, Janesville, WI.

### New Name, Same Great Material



Tensotherm features Cabot Corporation's [Lumira aerogel](#), formerly Nanogel® aerogel, which provides it with its thermal insulation and daylighting qualities. The new name reflects the lightweight, yet strong nature of Lumira aerogel while providing the same [unique performance benefits](#) the building community has come to rely on.



Tensotherm™ is a patent pending product of Birdair, Inc. Cradle to Cradle Certified™ is a certification mark of MBDC Lumira™ aerogel is a trademark of Cabot Corporation

### LEARN MORE ABOUT TENSOTHERM AND EARN AIA CREDIT

Earn 1 LU/HSW/SD AIA CES credit by completing Birdair's new course entitled, "[Defying Gravity With Tensile Architecture](#)" online at [The Continuing Architect](#). The course explores the benefits of using a material like Tensotherm over traditional building materials, the steps – from design through construction – for creating tensile structures and more.



### A NEW LOOK AT TALISMAN CENTRE



We've added additional photos of the new Tensotherm building integrated daylighting roof at the Talisman Centre for Sport and Wellness in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Check out the [updated project gallery](#) to see how Birdair transformed the athletic facility.

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### About Birdair:

Birdair, Inc. is the leading specialty contractor of tensile structures throughout the world, providing design-

build solutions for architects and clients in all aspects of project design, engineering, installation and maintenance. The company offers a selection of architectural fabric membrane, including Tensotherm™ with Lumira™ aerogel, the world's only translucent insulated tensile membrane roofing material. 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, call 1-800-622-2246 or visit [www.birdair.com](http://www.birdair.com).