



Members of the city’s roofing community – climbers who scale urban buildings, often without formal permission – have distanced themselves from the move.

Andrei Grebenikov, an administrator in the local OTRV roofing group, said that the club had not taken part in the stunt, but were willing to clean the star themselves.

Professional companies have estimated that restoration work will cost 100,000 rubles (\$1,530), RIA Voronzh reported.

It’s not the first time that the building has been targeted by pranksters. Authorities were forced to bring in a crane to remove a “Jolly Rodger” left flying from the spire in October last year.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2016/11/11/russian-vandals-turn-soviet-star-into-spongebobs-patrick-a56095>