Fort Leavenworth Prison Expands

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.

Oldcastle Precast Modular in Telford, Pa., is working with J. E. Dunn Construction of Kansas City, Mo., to provide 248 precast concrete cells to the Fort Leavenworth Regional Correctional Facility as part of the Base Realignment & Closure Program for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The project is being designed by HSMM/AECOM of Virginia.

The new $150 million, two-story correctional facility will contain 483 beds and include a warehouse, an engineering and maintenance building, and a covered vehicle-storage area. A new access road will lead to the prison's 40-acre site.

The prison will be divided into two sections. A medium-security general housing unit will contain 200 cells, while the maximum-security single housing units will contain 48 cells. Both units will include first floors with balconies, second floors without balconies, an uninsulated back wall, and accessible cells for the disabled. The single housing units will feature a special formliner finish.

Oldcastle Precast Modular will supply and install the furniture for the cells, including combination units. Production began in late October and was to finish in February. Erection will be completed in March.

Parking Structure Erected in Three Months

TAMPA, FLA.

A 410-car parking structure connected to the $65 million TriPointe Plaza mixed-use development was erected this summer in three months after being value engineered from a cast-in-place design to a total-precast concrete system. The precast concrete design provided a number of benefits, including speed of erection and better design flexibility.

The project, designed by Merriman Associates Architects in Dallas, Tex., was created for Construction Management Technology (CMT) in Addison, Tex., which also served as general contractor. After the design was converted to a total-precast concrete structure, the precaster completed drawings, approvals, production, and erection in 14 weeks from receiving the Notice to Proceed until the structure was finished.

"It typically takes that long just to get the project drawn and approved," notes Mark McKeny, sales manager for **Coreslab Structures (TAMPA) Inc.**, which supplied 634 precast concrete components for the project, including double-tees, exterior and interior columns, shear walls, spandrels, inverted-tee beams, stairs with landings, flat slabs, wall panels, and curbs.

CMT decided on the conversion for several reasons, says Richard Roder, president. "We needed to complete the garage in a very short time frame while taking account of the likelihood for adverse weather." The precast concrete design provided one source for both the interior and exterior structural components, and it also offered a reduced number of interior columns, which provided a greater clear span.

Tindall Names New Georgia GM

CONLEY, GA.

Phillip J. Iverson has been named general manager of the Georgia Division for **Tindall Corp.** Iverson previously served as director of business development for Spancrete of Illinois. Earlier, he served as technical director for PCI.

– *Phillip J. Iverson*

– *Charles Wynings*

– *Jeff Lepard*

In addition, Tindall has made two promotions at its Virginia Division in Petersburg, Va. Charles Wynings, formerly engineering manager, has been named general manager of the division. Jeff Lepard, formerly project engineer, has been named engineering manager.

'Big House' Adds Precast Arches

ANN ARBOR, MICH.

The University of Michigan's football stadium, known as the Big House owing to its 107,501-seat capacity, which makes it the second-largest football stadium in the country, is undergoing an expansion that will include 50 dramatic brick-clad precast concrete arches.

The project, which will add about 500 new seats, will widen seats and aisles and elevate concourses, adding restrooms and concessions. More seating for disabled fans also will be added, as will a new press box for media and game operations. In addition, two new buildings will be added on the north end and another building will be added to the south side to house restrooms and concessions.

The design, by HNTB Michigan Architecture Inc., is "elaborate, ornamental, intricate, and historic in nature and character," says Ed Fatur, project manager at **National Precast Inc.** in Roseville, Mich., which is producing the arches. The project uses 50 sizes, shapes, and colors of Belden brick, to be completed by two masons. One of the contractors, Leidal & Hart, asked National Precast to see if the brick-clad arches it was creating could be cast in precast concrete to eliminate the costly scaffolding and conventional type of masonry construction that would be required.

Four styles of precast concrete arches are being produced at a significant cost savings for the project. On the east side, twelve 16-ft-diameter arches, with an 8 in. by 4 ft cross section, will be set approximately 11 ft above the main concourse level, and twelve 18-ft-diameter arches will be set approximately 49 ft above the concourse level. The same pattern will be used on the west side, with one more of each type of arch. The bottom 4-ft-wide soffit of the arched concrete slabs is faced with brick soaps in a stack-bond fashion. The exterior edge that is exposed to view on the slab was faced with a single brick soldier course extending the full 180-degree length of the arch.

Producing the arches required a brick formliner with 1/2-in. ribs, creating the "mortar" joints. This allowed the mason to tuck-point the joints in the precaster's yard after the arch panels were cast, stripped, and prepared for transport. Formwork for the lower arches was built in the vertical position, while the upper arches were cast on their sides with the 2-ft-tall (three soldier course) exposed-to-view face cast down in the form.

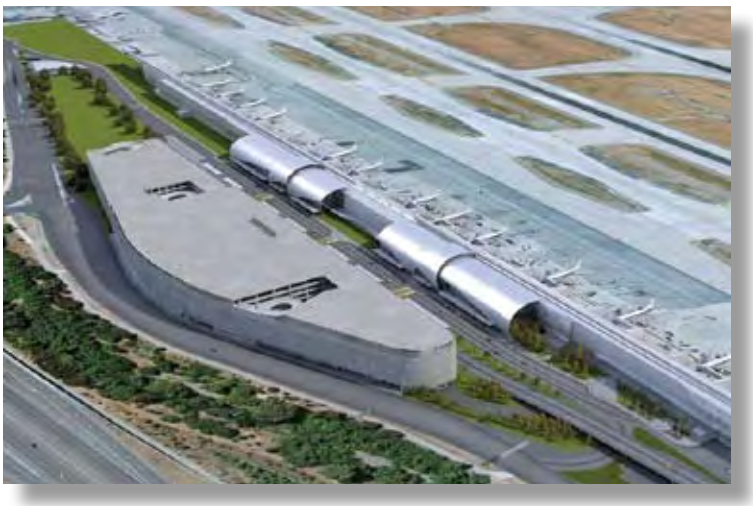
The arches were stored and shipped vertically and required special drop-deck trailers for shipment. Erection required a special cradle assembly to ensure that the arches were installed horizontally in the stadium's steel superstructure with little to no tolerance in the vertical and lateral directions. The arches could not be lowered into place because of overhead structural-steel obstruction. The cradles also were designed and built to accommodate two different radii, Fatur noted.

HNTB is serving as the structural engineer on the project, with Barton Mallow Co. serving as general contractor. The renovation work began after the 2007 football season and is expected to be completed in August 2010.

5000+ Car Parking Structure Under Way

SAN JOSE, CALIF.

The City of San Jose is constructing a 1.8 million ft² parking structure at the San Jose Airport to serve as a centralized hub for the major rental-car companies. The structure, using a total-precast concrete system, will provide parking spaces for more than 5000 cars.



The project, under the direction of the construction-management firm of Hensel Phelps Construction Co. in Irvine, Calif., began work in May 2008. **Clark Pacific** in Fontana, Calif., produced 3817 precast concrete components, comprising double-tees, rectangular beams, L-beams, inverted-tee beams, transfer girders, columns, and spandrels. Erection of the components began in October, and final topping out is scheduled for May 2009.

The structure features a precast concrete gravity design with a post-tensioned alternative seismic design option to ensure that it can meet the high seismic requirements of the area. The project was designed by Watry Design in Redwood City, Calif., with Tran Systems Corp. in Phoenix, Ariz., serving as structural engineer.


– *Jeffrey D. Smith*


– *Thomas M. McEvoy*


– *Craig Thompson*


– *Frank Ike*


– *Yoo-Jae Kim*

High Concrete Makes Personnel Moves

DENVER, PA.

Jeffrey D. Smith has been named president of **High Concrete Group LLC**. Having previously served as senior vice president of operations at High Industries Inc., Smith brings 24 years of industrial-management experience, including leadership roles with CertainTeed Corp., Elk Corp., and Colgate Palmolive.

Thomas M. McEvoy, previously president of **High Concrete Group**, has assumed the role of executive vice president. In his new role, McEvoy will focus on business development and diversified growth. He also is serving as the 2009 chairman of the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute.

The company also has named Craig Thompson to be vice president of operations. He previously served within High Industries Inc. as director of manufacturing for the company's High Steel Structures Inc. He offers nearly 25 years of experience in management and planning at Case New Holland and Armstrong World Industries.

Frank Ike has joined the company as director of continuous improvement, a new position. He will lead and execute multifunctional continuous-improvement initiatives focused on strategic planning and policy deployment. He has 14 years' experience in a variety of manufacturing companies.

In addition, the company announced that Yoo-Jae Kim has earned his credentials as a LEED Accredited Professional (AP). He joins a growing multidisciplinary team of LEED APs at High Concrete Group.

Hanson Adds Olson

MAPLE GROVE, MINN.


– *Steve Olson*

Steve Olson joined **Hanson Structural Precast Midwest Inc.** as sales representative. Olson will work with a client base of designers and contractors in the Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn., metro area, northern Minnesota, and eastern North and South Dakota, offering product knowledge and customer service.

PCI Foundation Adds Pledges

CHICAGO, ILL.

The **PCI Foundation** has received pledges of more than $3 million toward its $5 million goal, following several fund-raising events at its annual convention, held in October in Orlando, Fla.

The foundation currently supports Architectural Design Studios at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago and at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, and funding for a third studio was approved for the 2009–2010 school year.

PCI has extended the Founding Donor program to the end of 2009. To become involved or donate to the PCI Foundation, contact Michael Potts at mpotts@pci.org.


– *Brian Miller*

Miller to Head PCI Business Development

CHICAGO, ILL.

Brian Miller has been named managing director of business development at **PCI**. The position is newly created and brings together duties and responsibilities from several departments. Miller joined PCI in January 2007 as director of engineering and technology.

In his new position, Miller will be handling all marketing and communications programs for both internal and external activities, as well as membership functions, events, and communications with regional affiliates. He also will continue to coordinate PCI's business and operational planning activities and serve on PCI's technical team.

The shift in responsibilities comes as Chuck Merydith, PCI's former managing director of marketing and communications, leaves PCI to return to his marketing and public-relations consulting work.

Blakeslee Hosts Army Cadets

BRANFORD, CT.

Blakeslee Prestress Inc. recently hosted a visit from the senior class of the Civil & Mechanical Engineering Department of the United States Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. The precaster has been hosting groups of students for the past several years. Forty-two cadets and two instructors attended the event, which included a demonstration of three-dimensional modeling and a plant tour.

Correction

A news item in the Fall issue of *Ascent* incorrectly noted the location of the headquarters for Gate Construction Material Group, which has been reorganized under Dean Gwin, president and chief operating officer. The company is headquartered in Jacksonville, Fla.