

Now Growing at a College Near You

Site work began last summer for a new undergraduate student apartment complex at the University of Massachusetts Amherst Campus. Each of these four buildings, constructed of plank decks on block walls with brick exterior facing, is five stories high. The new apartments will each include four single bedrooms, two full bathrooms, a shared living room/kitchen area with pantry, be fully air-conditioned, cable and

Ethernet in all bedrooms, and floor to ceiling windows in the living room. These first class units will be in big demand for a really long time, which is one of the reasons for the all fire-safe construction. Hollow core plank provides immediate work decks for other trades, is fire rated, and it provides superior sound reduction between floors.



University of Massachusetts Amherst

Rendering by Architectural Resources Cambridge

J.P. Carrara & Sons, Middlebury, VT is currently supplying and installing 232,000 sf of 8" thick by 8' wide hollow core plank for these buildings, along with 978 lintel beams, 18 inverted tee beams, 40 L beams, 32 columns, and 154 stair and landing units. The columns and beams are used at the first levels to support bearing walls from above and thus allow open lobby spaces; the precast lintels were provided to speed the masonry work, both by eliminating shoring and reducing wintertime on-site concreting. The lintels included threaded

rebar couplers to allow simple continuity reinforcing into the masonry bond beams.

The project contractor is Dimeo Construction Company, Providence, RI; the architect is Architectural Resources Cambridge and the engineer is LeMessurier Consultants, both from Cambridge, MA. This highly desirable student complex, developed by the University of Massachusetts Amherst and the University of Massachusetts Building Authority, is scheduled to be ready for occupancy in September, 2006.

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Now Growing at a College Near You (continued)



Construction underway for new student apartment complexes
Photos by J. P. Carrara & Sons



Precast beams, columns and lintels enable first level open areas



Rendering To Reality With Velocity



Architect's rendering of The Velocity

The protruding bay windows are supported by specially shaped floor pieces which include the projection. The remaining deck units are 40' long, 12" thick, 8' wide hollow core plank. Total decking involved 190,000 sf of hollow core, along with 68 special bay window slabs. There are 428 exterior brick or block faced panels, 144 solid interior bearing wall panels, plus 136 stair and elevator wall panels. In order to park cars on the ground levels without interference from the bearing walls, 84 columns and 74 beams were supplied to open the interior while supporting the structure above.

The window opening heads, sills, and jambs are cast integrally with the panel, but the more unique, projecting roof cornice is custom made with Azek cellular pvc. This unusual photo (see page 3) shows the finished 2' high pieces, 6 to 8' long, standing in the shop prior to shipping to the project (visualization hint: picture each piece being rotated 90 degrees counter-clockwise for installation.)

With all members precast, construction time for completing the structural shells for this dual building, 128-unit condo development is minimized. Each building contains three stories of living units above enclosed parking on the first level. The living floors are visually identified by brick exteriors, while the parking level is differentiated by using a large stone pattern on the panels. The brick appears real because it is. These 6" thick panels are cast using the Scott system of specially made thin bricks in the down side of the form, held by elastomeric spacer molds. The bricks are made to insure their inside face locks itself into the concrete poured to make the panel. The special spacers keep each brick aligned while creating the mortar joint appearance. Thus, while the surface is real brick, the "mortar joint" is actually the same high strength concrete as the panel, and thus considerably more durable.



Turning the rendering into reality

(continued on page 3)



Installation of load bearing interior walls, elevator shaft walls, and hollow core plank proceeds quickly



All photos by Oldcastle Precast



Finished cornice sections awaiting shipment

Project credits are: Owner and general contractor – Remi Companies, Hoboken, NJ; Bodner Architect & Associates, Long Valley, NJ; Nacamuli Associates, Elizabeth, NJ, engineer; Oldcastle Precast, precast manufacturer and erector. □

Visit www.pcanyc.org for more information on:

- **precast concrete products** and their application
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If you would like to receive this newsletter via email instead of hard copy in the mail, send your request and email address to pcany@aol.com.

Call for Entries - Concrete Bridge Competition

The Portland Cement Association is seeking entries for its 2006 Concrete Bridge Awards Competition. All types of bridges are eligible, as long as the bridge work was/will be completed between June 2004 and March 2006. Entry forms available at www.cement.org/bridges. □

Welcome to C & S Engineers

We appreciate and recognize the first new member of 2006, C & S Engineers, Inc, Syracuse, NY, Thomas A. Siwula, Jr, PE, Managing Engineer. □

PCANY Annual Meeting

Members — Plan to attend on February 16 at the AGC Conference Room, 10 Airline Drive, Latham, NY, have lunch together at 12, and meet from 1 to 4:30 pm. We will review the associations financial status, the activities of the past year and the year ahead, discuss the retaining wall and ribband design issues still open with the DOT, plus hear some presentations from Associate Members. Please let Carl know if you wish to make a presentation or if you have other issues to discuss. □

Continuing Education for on-site Professionals

Earn 15 Credit Hours by attending two OTN training days, hosted by the DOH: Foundations of on-site Wastewater Treatment (Feb 1, 2006) and Soil Analysis for on-site Wastewater (Feb 2, 2006). Classes are at the NYS DOH, 1 Fulton St, Troy, NY; the cost is \$255. Local contact is Lynn Schriener at 518-408-5423. □

Reminder: Bridge Design Seminars, January 11 & 12.

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PCANY Begins Its 17th Year of Uninterrupted, Monthly Newsletters

This issue is PCANY's Volume 17, Number 1 — the only state association in this country to publish a monthly newsletter without interruption over this long a period! We appreciate the hard work and dedication of our previous editors, the willingness of you, the contributors, to share your stories, projects, and developments, and the keen interest displayed month after month by our constantly expanding readership (approximately 3000 via postal delivery and email).

This month's nominal topic is building systems and hollow core slabs. We follow a rotating schedule of topics established many years ago. [February will be featuring Storm/Wastewater Systems, and March will highlight Bridges.] Besides photos, facts, and stories, we welcome appropriate advertising page inserts from any of our members. **Let us hear from you.**

PCANY wishes you much happiness and continued success in the year ahead. □

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