Hollow Core Speeds Madison Beach Hotel Construction in Bad Weather

There's a small hotel... but getting bigger... nestled along a curve of the Connecticut coastline where Long Island Sound is its widest and the view seems to stretch to infinity. Still, it’s Connecticut's only hotel, restaurant, banquet & conference facility located directly on the beach, dating back to 1800. Needing more space for its many and varied functions, a large addition is currently underway.

Oldcastle Precast Building Systems, South Bethlehem, NY supplied and installed over 35,000 sf of 10" Elematic plank, plus precast balconies, for the project. As very obvious in the photos, the weather was not good, with rain making for challenging working conditions. But by the nature of precast plank providing immediate work decks, this helped to avoid job schedule slippage.
Precast Stadium Risers for RPI’s New East Campus Athletic Village (ECAV)

William E. Dailey Precast recently supplied 134 stadium risers for the new Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute 3500 seat Football Stadium. The ECAV at Rensselaer is a newly developed area of the campus that provides indoor and outdoor facilities for athletic teams, coaches, staff and the local community. The new complex is divided into strategically placed buildings enclosing the football field, reducing game-day sounds and light glare to neighborhood areas, while allowing people to filter through the site.

The stadium is a 6 floor, hybrid structure that is 73’ from the 1st floor to the upper press box floor. The overall length of the stadium is 319’. The typical stadium riser is 30’ long, cast as a double stadia cross section to reduce precast erection time. All panels were cast using a 6500 psi SCC mix which improved the mix workability and greatly improved the overall finish. A light broom finish was applied to the treads of the risers, and the architectural panels were sandblasted to give a uniform color and textured finish. The ECAV facility is expected to achieve LEED silver status. For the ECAV, Dailey supplied 134 stadium risers, 66 architectural panels, 20 stair risers, and 38 flat slabs. Precast erecting was completed in 22.5 days, with 2.5 days shut down due to rain.

Precast Concrete Hollow Core Plank Used on New Mixed Use Development

Despite a 30-foot high rock outcropping covering half the site, the Roscoe C. Brown Apartment project in Bronx, NY, is currently under construction. Meltzer-Mandl Architects designed the 279 units by carving out a section of rock for a lobby and allowing the remaining building to “float” above it on a series of shear walls. A glass lobby will look out on a geological rock garden. The mixed use development will meet criteria for sustainability and Energy Star Certification. Scheduled for completion in the summer of 2010, the 11-story project will revitalize an entire block in the Bathgate section of the South Bronx. In addition to the rental homes there will be retail space, administration offices and on-site parking. Oldcastle Precast Building Systems manufactured and erected 3,550 pieces of 8-inch thick hollow core plank in lengths up to 29-feet for the floor and roof components of this 254,000 sf structure.

Project credits — Meltzer Mandle Architects, New York, NY; Severud Associates, New York, NY, engineer; Mega Contracting, Astoria, NY, contractor; Phipps Houses Group / RCB Apartments, New York, NY, owner; Oldcastle Precast Building Systems, Edgewood, MD, precast supplier and erector. Thanks to Monica Schultes, Oldcastle Building Systems, for supplying this article (photos and facts).

Price Chopper, Known For Value, Values Precast Insulated Concrete Wall Panels

Price Chopper Store taking shape in Shrewsbury, MA (continued on page 4)
Hollow Core Speeds Madison Beach Hotel Construction

There was no core topping required over the plank. A thin self leveling material, such as Level Set 3000 or Gypcrete, was applied to make it ready for finished surface materials. The solid concrete balcony units were attached with a system developed by Oldcastle, in which plates with reinforcing bars attached were cast into the balcony pieces, and grouted into the planks, enabling the welded strap connection between them to be accomplished quickly (even in the bad weather), and minimizing crane setting time. This interesting project incorporated five structural materials — masonry in the stair towers, steel columns and beams, cold formed stud walls and light gage steel framing for the roof trusses, wood for the balcony railings and parts of the building façade to match the historical architecture in the area, and precast/prestressed concrete hollow core planks.

Project credits: Glen Coben Architecture & Design, New York, NY; Christie Engineering, Chester, NJ; GBC Corporation, Patterson, NY (GC); Oldcastle Building Systems, Selkirk, NY (plank supplier and erector). Thanks to David Wan, P.E., LEED AP, Oldcastle Chief Engineer for these photos and facts.

Price Chopper, Known for Value

For their new 63,550 sf story Price Chopper Store in Shrewsbury, MA, owner The Golub Corporation knew that precast insulated panels offered many advantages: savings on energy costs, simplified and shortened construction time, attractive finishes requiring little maintenance, and security. Installation of the 158 precast components took only 10 days, with the exception of two panels to be erected at a later date to allow for temporary construction access.

A modular panel design in conjunction with standard roof joint locations was used to minimize precast erection time. The typical panel was 10’ wide by 27’-10” tall, with the tallest being 34’-1/2”. The panel cross section was 4” – 2” – 4”, plus 1/2” +/- of architectural features. In addition to the 136 wall panels, the project included 6 precast spanners, 10 concrete columns, and 6 flat slabs. The standard concrete mix design was 6,500 psi, using SCC to improve workability and enhance surface finishes. Panel exteriors varied, some with a split block appearance, some with a “popcorn” finish, and other areas plain. The exterior will be further enhanced with a masonry paint.

Project credit — The Golub Corporation, Schenectady, NY, owner; wspartners, Dublin, OH, architects; Construction Management & Builders, Lynnfield, MA, construction manager; Wm. E. Dailey Precast, LLC, Shaftsbury, VT, precaster. Our thanks to Robin Outwater and Adam Howe of Wm. E. Dailey Precast for the photos and facts for this article.