Residence Inn by Marriott Boston Chosen as Feature Hotel Project …

The Residence Inn by Marriott Fenway – Boston hotel was selected by the American Institute of Steel Construction as the focus of its SteelDay event series held Sept. 28, 2012 at the Hotel Commonwealth in Boston. The project was recognized for its use of the Girder-Slab System and **prestressed hollow-core slabs** that allows for low floor-to-floor height requirements for multi-story residential buildings. This allowed the architects to add an additional floor to the Boston high-rise.

![Installation of Level 4 planks](image1.png)

![Bearing Detail of Plank at the D-Beam](image2.png)

![Rendering by Group One Partners, Inc.](image3.png)

![Precast plank with notched ends sitting on Girder-Slab beam](image4.png)
Two Unusual Special Buildings

The Eden School District and their architect, Trautman Assoc., Buffalo, NY, were looking for something more attractive than the traditional metal or fiberglass “hot box” that is used to house water piping assemblies above ground. Working with Lakelands Concrete Products, Lima, NY, they developed two precast buildings with insulated sandwich panels. The exterior walls were cast on a form with a brick form liner, and then stained on site to match the brick on the adjacent school buildings. The contractor was able to install his piping and test the system prior to Lakelands erecting the buildings on his cast in place slabs.

Varsity Women’s Soft Ball Dugouts

Lemoyne College benefitted from the use of precast concrete in several ways: high quality, low maintenance construction, minimum on-site construction time and noise and disturbance of the school atmosphere, and attractive cost. Similar to the above structures, the precast dugouts were cast on a brick form liner for the exterior surface. The exterior faces were hand stained at the job-site to match existing brick structures near the ball field; the smooth areas received a medium acid wash finish.

The home dugout included an integral equipment/storage area at one end. Both dugouts were erected on cast in place base slabs by a Lakelands erection crew in one day. Thanks to Carl Ashley, Lakelands Concrete Products, for these two articles.

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Antonino Donato, AIA, LEED AP, project manager from Group One Partners, Inc, Boston, the architects for the project, says there were several reasons for choosing precast hollowcore for this project. First, the underside of the plank became the finished ceiling, lower floor-to-floor height (used with D-beam in lieu of traditional steel) allowed for an additional floor to be added, precast concrete’s inherent fire rating, good sound transmission class (STC) rating (a quieter hotel room), and a faster project completion (other trades can access floor faster).
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Additionally, he states that when it comes to cost and time savings, that the savings is not in the actual design but the overall project completion time and project cost if designed properly.

J.P. Carrara & Sons, Inc. manufactured the 920 pieces of 8”x96” precast hollow-core planks. The larger width plank reduces the number of planks needed for the project and thus creating fewer seams that need grouting. The plank finish called “carpet ready” is a smooth surface ready for a direct flooring application. Ground breaking for the 120,000 s.f. 8-story hotel was in spring 2012, and estimated completion date is May 2013.

University of Rhode Island (URI) completes new 429-bed Residence Hall

In their continuing effort to supply more energy efficient on campus housing, the URI recently completed this 5 level masonry and steel building. Precast consisted of 103,000 sf of 8” Elematic hollow-core plank (1,211 pcs) for the floors and roof, and 6,800 sf of 8” precast solid slabs (74 pcs) at skewed corners. Hillside Hall will occupy less land than structures it replaces, and will contribute to URI’s sustainability efforts. The University will seek LEED Silver certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. As with most dormitories built or planned, prestressed concrete hollow-core plank delivers many instant advantages, including fast, simple installation, finished ceiling and floor surfaces, excellent sound transmission and fire ratings.

A Nearly Invisible Precast Product

To efficiently construct a secondary containment trench for the Olin Chemical Rail Loading Facility in St. Gabriel, LA, Gainey’s Precast cast a big slab – 120,000 pounds big! The unit was cast upside down, in a custom built form by the Spillman Company, and had to be flipped for shipping and installation. Thanks to Ronald E. Thornon, PE, Delta Engineers, Architects & Land Surveyors, who handled the shop drawings, handling analysis, and design of the overturning operation.
Luxury Condominiums Rise in Saratoga Springs

Oldcastle Building Systems recently supplied and erected the precast floor, roof, and balcony units for the luxury condominiums at Railroad Place in Saratoga Springs, NY. The project used 189,000 sf (2,539 pcs) of 8” Elematic plank, 9,000 sf (120 pcs) of 10” Elematic plank, and 19,000 sf (127 pcs) of 6” precast balcanies. The balcony units were cast with a sloped top and charcoal color admixture in the mix. Thanks to David Wan, P.E., LEED AP for these two projects.

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