

Case Study: **EXTREN®**, **DURAGRATE®** Molded Grating Adds to Sustainable Building

In 2014 a new green rooftop was introduced on top of the Gordon Persons Building in the capital city of Montgomery, Alabama. This rooftop is part of a new urban trend called “green roofing,” which cities are pursuing to revitalize urban areas while reducing the carbon footprint of buildings. The low rise building is occupied by one of the largest pension companies in the world, Retirement Service of Alabama.

The sophisticated rooftop was designed by PWBA Architects and installation was done by J.J. Morley Enterprises, Inc. This project is one of the largest green roof installations in the southeast. The green roof design encourages sustainable building by absorbing storm water runoff, adding extra insulation to buildings for the summer and winter months, improving air quality, and reducing the urban heat island effect. Although green roofs are more expensive than traditional roofs initially, they also are expected to last fifty years – twice as long as traditional roofs.

To ensure maximum durability and versatility, the support structures for this roof were comprised of EXTREN® ¾" angle and 5", 6", 8", 12" I-Beams, accompanied by biomass platforms made of 1" x 1" x 4" DURAGRATE® molded



grating. DURAGRATE® was chosen because it would meet the specifications to support green roof trays, plants and media in planters while ensuring proper drainage.

Although steel was originally specified for the job, contractor J.J. Morley Enterprises, Inc. decided material that is noncorrosive, lightweight, and easy to handle would be a better choice. Additionally, steel would have posed a tremendous logistical challenge to transport, modify, and move through the urban terrain of Montgomery. Strongwell FRP turned out to be the ideal solution and will act as a model for future roofs of this kind. ●

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Case Study: SAFPLANK®

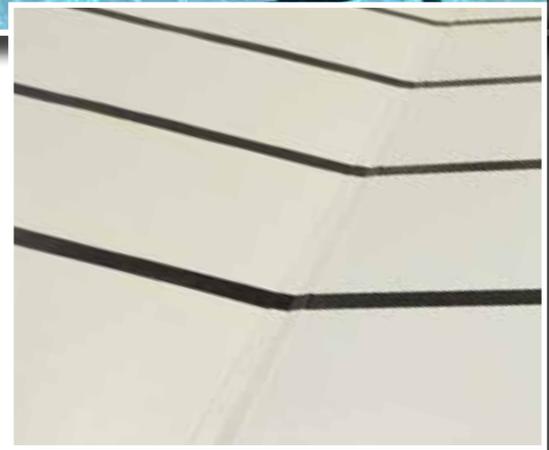
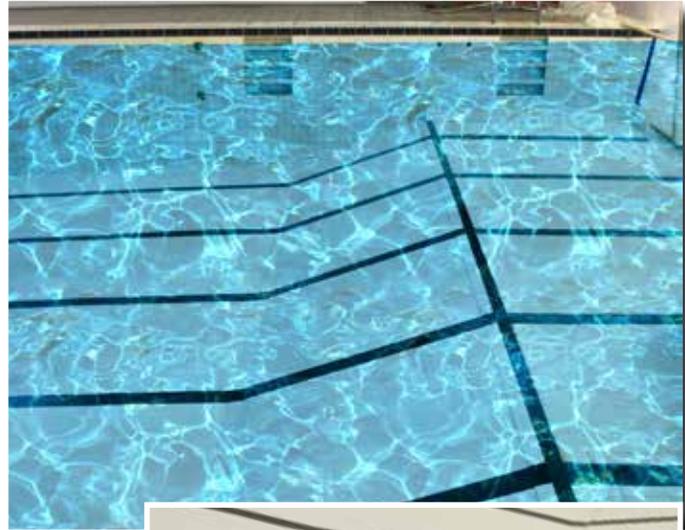
SAFPLANK® Cuts Costs and Time in Pool Operations

The Natatorium Complex on the campus of Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) is located in Indianapolis, Indiana. Completed in 1982, it was recently awarded the opportunity to host its sixth U.S. Olympic diving trials in 2016. In preparation for this event, the IUPUI sports complex is currently undergoing a multi-million dollar renovation.

An instructional pool located north of the main competition pool needed a new material which would provide a smooth transition between its shallow and deep ends. The multi-purpose six-lane, 500,000 gallon indoor pool offers a year-round water temperature of approximately 88 degrees farenheit.

For its refurbishment, the natatorium needed a material with high strength and corrosion resistant properties to serve as an underwater walking surface. The material of choice was Strongwell's 24" wide SAFPLANK® interlocking planks with a fine grit nonskid surface. The highly chlorinated

environment was not a suitable fit for stainless steel, as it corrodes in these challenging environments. Instead SAFPLANK® was chosen and angle mitered at both ends to create a continuous smooth walking surface from the 4½ foot to 9 foot sections. With the low maintenance and durability characteristics of fiber reinforced polymers (FRP), the IUPUI Sports Complex can continue to operate year-round, providing diverse aquatic programs, including: remedial swimming classes, scuba diving, fitness, rehabilitation, and endurance programs to the Indianapolis community with little to no downtime. ●



Case Study: DURAGRID®

Fiberglass Gives Shoe Tannery a New Lace on Life

A U.S. leather tannery which provides leathers to a major American heavy work boot manufacturer needed a long term grating replacement for their facility in Minnesota. As this facility approaches its sesquicentennial anniversary, it has an extensive portfolio of quality versatile leathers. The success of the tannery has been attributed to the utilization of a lengthy chrome tanning process. The process involves tremendous temperature adjustments, chemical processes, constant exposure to moisture, and extensive testing, all of which makes their products stand out amongst its competitors.

To say the least, this environment is extremely challenging for traditional structural materials. The benefits of FRP made it the clear choice for their 6-8' of elevated catwalk decking around their tannery coloring drums. This tannery

supplies enough leather in a week to produce around 25,000 pairs weekly or 1.2 million pairs of handcrafted shoes annually. Strongwell was able to provide and deliver sized-to-order yellow 1½" DURAGRID® I-4000 panels for their maintenance staff to easily install in their existing structure. By doing so, this tannery experienced minimal downtime while achieving huge improvements in aesthetics, durability and corrosion prevention.

Asked as to why they chose to buy Strongwell's product, management replied, "After examining multiple samples, making the decision to purchase a far superior product in design and craftsmanship from a local, 'Made in USA' product was an easy decision." ●



Case Study: COMPOSOLITE®, DURADEK®, EXTREN®

FRP Offers All-in-One solution for WWTF Operations

The City of Oconomowoc, Wisconsin recently completed a \$7.2 million expansion project for its 37 year old wastewater treatment facility. Improvements included adding a secondary clarifier, retrofitting a chlorine disinfection system with an ultraviolet disinfection system and adding more bio-solids storage. These improvements extended the lifespan of the facility, while doubling the previous water treatment capacity to 5.5 million gallons per day (12 million gallons peak flow) for some of the major components of the plant. As a requirement of this upgrade and expansion, all new materials had to ensure multiple years of functionality without any of the maintenance hassles of traditional products.

Due to previous successful installations, Donohue and Associates specified Strongwell products for three key portions of this project: basin covers, walkways and stairways. COMPOSOLITE® was used to make the covers for the large UV basin (20' x 50'), with some panels spanning

24" x 60" – something comparable aluminum covers couldn't handle. In this instance, FRP provided more value, corrosion resistance and structural support. Each of the panels also contained a lift handle for easy removal and replacement of the covers.

DURADEK® was used for low maintenance walking surfaces for both indoor and outdoor surfaces. Fabricated EXTREN® stairways and 2" x ¼" handrails were utilized for easy access to the mezzanine areas.

STAAB Construction was extremely pleased with the ease and speed of the installation process. Tom Steinbach, Operations Manager for Oconomowoc WWTF stated, "We've utilized Strongwell products in several previous capital projects and have been very pleased with its performance. The long term durability, safety aspects, workmanship, and aesthetic value of this product line is what keeps us coming back to the Strongwell brand." ●



Literature Updates: Updated Strongwell Literature

LITERATURE	UPDATE
 Strongwell Product Availability List	Updated Information
 Architectural Concealment System Flyer	New Literature
 Offshore Guardrail/ Handrail Flyer	Updated Information
 Oil & Gas Industry Brochure	New Literature

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New Faces at Strongwell



Michelle Arnold
Prod. Control Expediter - Bristol

Michelle Arnold has been promoted to Production Control Expediter, reporting to the Materials Manager. Michelle will help release shop orders, pull sheets, drawings and other required information to the manufacturing groups, as well as entering production information and tracking shop order efficiencies.

Michelle has been with Strongwell since 2002 as an Administrative Assistant for the company's state of the art research and testing lab.



Samuel Shallock
Fabrication Sales Estimator - Bristol

Samuel Shallock has joined Strongwell as an Estimator in the Fabrication Sales Department, reporting to the Bristol Industrial Products Manager. Samuel had previously been working with Strongwell in this role under contract for five months.

Shallock earned a Bachelor's Degree in Construction Management from East Tennessee State University and worked for a general contractor before coming to Strongwell.

SPRING 2014

PROFILE

Strongwell News & Applications



David Cook
Project Manager - Bristol

David Cook has been promoted to Project Manager, reporting to the Customer Logistics Manager. David will be responsible for allocations for structural fabrication jobs, assisting with finished goods inventory and reorder points for finished goods, as well as Cooling Tower order entry and materials allocation.

David has been with Strongwell since 1994. He holds an Associate's Degree in Computer Science.



David Gentry
Materials Mgmt. Inventory - Bristol

David Gentry has been named Materials Management Inventory Coordinator. In this role, David will work with Central Supply in reviewing reorder points for MRO items and acting as buyer for these materials. He will also assist in receiving, storage, maintenance and flow of raw materials.

David has been with Strongwell since 1987, working in numerous positions - most recently a split role between Purchasing and Production Control.



Judy Rutherford
Master Scheduler - Bristol/Highlands

Judy Rutherford has been promoted to Master Scheduler for Virginia Operations. This role will have Judy handling production scheduling for the Bristol and Highlands pultrusion teams, as well as molded grating and fabrication.

Judy began her career with Strongwell in 1999 as a pultrusion operator and most recently served at the Highlands facility handling production planning, inventory and materials management at that facility.



Nathan Bean
Operations Coordinator - Highlands

Nathan Bean has accepted the position of Operations Coordinator for Highlands, reporting to the Manager of Production there. Nathan will assist with numerous functions, including production control, shipping/receiving, materials handling and other miscellaneous duties.

Nathan has been employed with Strongwell since 1997 where he began as a pultrusion operator. Most recently, Nathan has served as a pultrusion supervisor since 2006.



Rudy Hess
Pultrusion Supervisor - Highlands

Rudy Hess has recently been promoted to Supervisor, Pultrusion 2nd shift for the Highlands Facility, reporting to the Manager, Production.

Rudy began his career with Strongwell in 2007 as a Highlands Pultrusion operator where he quickly progressed from machine operator to production lead. Prior to Strongwell, Rudy led teams in the pre-fabricated metal building and concrete industries.



Ashley Robinson
Sales Data Administrator - Bristol

Ashley Robinson has accepted the position of Sales Data Administrator, reporting to the Customer Logistics Manager. Ashley will work with the Corporate Sales Department with daily order entry and assistance with the Sales Department, as needed.

Ashley started with Strongwell in 2006 in the Cooling Tower Department. She was most recently in Production Control, where she worked on scheduling, shop orders and production data entry/reporting.



Amanda Henegar
Accts. Payable Administrator - Bristol

Amanda Henegar has joined Strongwell as the Accounts Payable Administrator, reporting to the Bristol/Highlands Division Controller and handling day-to-day accounts payable and other accounting department duties.

Amanda holds an Associate's Degree in Accounting from Virginia Highlands Community College and holds several years of experience in the accounting and business fields.



Lorrie Ratliff
Operations Admin. Assistant - Bristol

Lorrie Ratliff has accepted the position of Operations Administrative Assistant in Bristol, supporting the day-to-day activities of the Virginia Manufacturing Operations Department.

Lorrie attended Southwest Virginia Community College and previously worked as a Deputy Clerk in the Virginia and Tennessee court systems. Immediately prior to this permanent position, Lorrie served as an Administrative Assistant under contract with Strongwell.