



Case Study: STRONGDEK® STRONGDEK® Hits Peak Vibes

The Summit Bechtel Reserve is an 11,000-acre outdoor and training reserve in Fayette and Raleigh counties in West Virginia, operated by Scouting America. The property provides scouts and various groups hosted at the facilities with high-adventure activities, leadership training, programming, and is the permanent home to the National Scout Jamboree.

Within the Summit Bechtel Reserve sits a crossing and landmark feature, the CONSOL Energy Bridge, a pedestrian-only suspension bridge designed to resemble an eagle's wing tip. The bridge spans almost 800 feet and sits 100 feet above a ravine.

The bridge connects the Scott Summit Center with Camps A and B and includes observation platforms at its peaks. The bridge is designed to support thousands of pedestrians during special events such as the National Scout Jamboree.



During the bridge's original construction, Strongwell provided DURAGRID® fiberglass grating on flanking walkways bending above and below the main walkway, while locally-sourced lumber was used for the 15-foot-wide main walking surface with wooden support members that connected them to the bridge's steel superstructure. On a recent refurbishment cycle, it was determined all the wooden components needed to be replaced. With durability and longevity as key factors, Strongwell was asked to provide a composite-focused solution. For the walking surface, Strongwell recommended its award-winning STRONGDEK®, an ultra-high performance structural composite decking system designed for commercial, residential, and aquatic applications. To replace the rotting wooden structure, EXTREN® square tubes were chosen, attached to the steel of the bridge using FRP clip angles and 316 stainless steel fasteners.

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Strongwell's proposed solution promoted simplicity of installation and minimized future maintenance concerns. The contractor was pleased with the simplicity of installation, noting how consistent the product quality was and how simple it was to fabricate and install. The end user was pleased with the products' light weight, strength, and expected durability over time. Because of STRONGDEK's snap-on top cap, if any future aesthetic changes are desired, or damage occurs to any of the walking surface, the structural plank can remain in place while the top cap is removed and replaced with basic hand tools. This two-part deck board ensures minimal downtime and maximum safety, since no structural components will need to be removed.

Upon completion of the refurbishment project, Rob Seiter (Manager of Facilities) commented on how well the installation went and how nicely the nearly 13,000 square feet of STRONGDEK decking material complimented the aesthetic wing tip design of the bridge. ●



Strongwell New Hires & Promotions



Charlton Buckner
Sales Director, Specialty Products

Charlton is responsible for growing new product lines and supports the continued growth of Strongwell's specialty products. Charlton graduated from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville with a bachelor's degree in communications and brings several years of sales experience, primarily in the marine industry. His background in building strong customer relationships and driving sales of high-quality, technical products will serve him well in this new position.



Jonathan Thomason
Coordinator, Drafting - Bristol

Jonathan is now responsible for checking all structural assembly and shop drawings and helps oversee the work of other drafters, coordinates and schedules drafting projects, supports training for new team members, and contributes to overall drafting quality and workflow efficiency. Jonathan joined Strongwell in 2011 as a Structural Detailer. His most recent position was Detailer Lead. Jonathan holds an Associate of Applied Science degree in Drafting from Northeast State Technical Community College.



Jennifer Harris
Corporate Credit Analyst

Jennifer handles the Accounts Receivable collection process and maintains customer accounts corporately. Prior to her time at Strongwell, Jennifer worked in accounting at a large heavy-duty trailer manufacturer in southwest Virginia.



Dean Anderson
Staff Accountant - Chatfield

Dean graduated from Upper Iowa University with a bachelor's degree in accounting and brings experience in cost accounting, inventory management, and general ledger reconciliation. His strong attention to detail and commitment to accuracy has contributed to successfully supporting multiple companies with day-to-day accounting functions.



Scott Biggers
Desktop Support Engineer - Corporate

Prior to joining Strongwell, Scott spent several years as a Customer Support Engineer for one of the major computer manufacturers and has 20+ years of IT experience which he brings to this role.

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Case Study: Sheet Piling

FRP Amps Up Sheet Piling

The coastline of North Carolina was hit with a one-two punch combination of Hurricanes Matthew and Florence just two years apart. Hurricane Matthew caused substantial flooding in the Lumber River Basin, reaching peak river heights of 28 feet in some areas. Hurricane Florence dumped over 30 inches of rain and caused the Lumber River basin to reach a peak height of 29 feet. Record levels of rainfall with flooding damaged major arterial roadways and interstates.

In addition to making thoroughfares impassable, the superstorms disrupted power distribution throughout the region as substations were either washed out or submerged, leaving thousands of residents without power for extended periods – in some cases, more than a month.

A major utility provider in North Carolina investigated flood protection solutions for the foreseeable future and examined long term solutions to shield against flood waters and block seepage. Steel sheet piling was initially examined, but price volatility, corrosion, installation costs, and safety concerns were burdensome. The utility turned to CMI for a permanent solution to protect against flood waters during the rebuilding process. CMI was able to provide quick installation schedules with materials capable of withstanding harsh weather conditions and guidelines provided by USACE's



(United States Army Corps of Engineers) Design Guide for I-walls on Flood Walls.

UltraComposite™ 75 Sheet Piling, manufactured by Strongwell, was sourced for several separate substation sites along the coastline of North Carolina. With aggressive project schedules, UC-75 was deemed far superior to steel or concrete in life cycle analyses, non-conductivity, sustainability, and total cost of ownership. At each substation site, sheet piling provided wall lengths ranging from 600 to 1,900 linear feet. Wall heights varied from six to eight feet above grade with tight spacing requirements around each substation.

Today, the substations are outfitted to resist the onslaught of future superstorms along with the aftereffects of making landfall. The engineers of record on this project, contractors, and utility company were all pleased with the design, material specification, shipping logistics, and installation experience during the site installations and expect the area to be far better prepared for the next major storms and more resilient in their aftermath. ●

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STRONGWELL NEWS & APPLICATIONS

Case Study: STRONGDEK®
STRONGDEK® Wins Peak Vistas

The Summit Backlit Theater is an 11,000-sq-ft outdoor amphitheater located in the heart of the Peak Vistas resort in the Blue Ridge Mountains. The project was completed by Strongwell, which was selected for its expertise in a variety of outdoor seating, including the STRONGDEK® Series. The STRONGDEK® Series is a modular, high-strength, and durable outdoor seating solution that can be configured in a variety of ways to meet the needs of any outdoor seating application. The STRONGDEK® Series is made of high-strength, recycled plastic and is designed to last for many years. The STRONGDEK® Series is also available in a variety of colors and finishes to match the surrounding environment. The STRONGDEK® Series is a great choice for outdoor seating in any application, from residential to commercial. For more information, visit www.strongwell.com.

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STRONGDEK® Hits Peak Vibes



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SAFPLATE® Offers Sure Footing

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Case Study: SAFPLATE® SAFPLATE® Offers Sure Footing

In early 2025, a yacht club located along the North Shore of Massachusetts undertook a safety and durability upgrade on a main dock access ramp. The ramp is exposed year-round to saltwater, spray, rain, and seasonal temperature swings, creating a consistently wet and potentially hazardous walking surface for members and staff.

Based on positive previous experience with Strongwell FRP sourced from a regional distributor, the club reached out directly to Strongwell to source the needed 3/8" thick SAFPLATE® with epoxy coarse grit, finished in a light gray color.

The aggressive slip resistance of the panels is suitable for a consistently sloped, marine-exposed application, while the light gray color complements the surrounding dock infrastructure and maintains the aesthetic of the facility.

The SAFPLATE FRP panels were mechanically fastened to the existing ramp structure using 316 stainless steel hardware, providing corrosion resistance in the saltwater environment and ensuring long-term attachment integrity. Rubber traction cleats were installed perpendicular to the direction of travel across the ramp surface.

The completed installation delivered immediate improvements in safety, traction, and overall usability of the dock access ramp. Members

now experience a stable, slip-resistant walking surface in all weather conditions, while the club benefits from a durable FRP solution that resists corrosion, preserves the visual character of the facility, and is expected to offer many years of service with minimal maintenance. ●

