

The Mason's Best Tool against Pre-Cast

OneStep Building System

Over the past 40 years the concrete pre-casting industry has developed innovative building systems that have successfully been marketed on the basis of performance, speed of construction, and economy. For mason contractors, the ongoing success of the pre-cast industry has caused a significant loss of market share, losses which now exceed \$3 billion annually. Indeed, because traditional masonry products cannot compete dollar-per-value with the pre-cast technologies, the masonry construction industry has been unsuccessful at reversing this trend...UNTIL NOW.



Thanks to the **OneStep Building System**, masonry contractors now have a product whereby they can compete with pre-cast products in head to head competition, as evidenced by two recent projects in Aberdeen, SD. Aberdeen mason contractor Stub Hietman of B&H Masonry was angry to learn that a new gymnasium at an elementary school in his community had been designed as a pre-cast concrete structure, because it would result in a loss of work for his company and his masons. However, Stub had used the OneStep Building System on prior projects, so he bid the gymnasium with the One Step as an alternate. To the delight of the school district, B&H masonry was able to build the gymnasium in a manner which was more attractive, higher in performance, faster to build and less costly than the pre-cast concrete design. B&H was able to land what would have been a lost contract while providing work for his masons to the tune of 11,500 OneStep units.



Shortly afterward, a new gymnasium for the local middle school also came out for bid. Once again B&H Masonry was able to use the OneStep Building System to replace the pre-cast concrete walls, resulting in another project for B&H with 10,000 OneStep units for his masons to install. As before, the school district was very pleased with the two-tone split-face exterior of the building, as well as the bright red split-face color bands on the interior of the gym which added color, texture and acoustical benefits to the interior of the gym. Because the OneStep walls are as strong as reinforced cast-in place concrete, the new gymnasium is now the "safe room" for the school in the event of a tornado warning. To top it all off, the lead time and installation time required for the OneStep walls totaled only nine weeks, from the purchase order date to the completion of the walls, compared to a 20 week time frame for the pre-cast design.



Benefit Analysis

OneStep Building System vs. Pre-cast Concrete Panels (insulated)

CRITERIA	ONESTEP	PRE-CAST
Fire rating	4-hour wall	2-hour wall
Thermal efficiency	R-24-30 equivalent	R-20 equivalent
Lead time	4-8 weeks	16-26 weeks
Construction time - 10,000 sf gym (including structural steel)	4-6 weeks	4-6 weeks
Other trades required	None	Structural steel & interior finishes
Exterior finish & color options	Extensive	Moderate
Interior finish & color options	Extensive	Very limited
Strength of reinforced cast-in-place concrete	Yes	No
Sustainable design/LEED credits	Exceptional	Moderate
Compatibility with build-in items	Normal	Poor
Utilization of local labor and materials	Very good	Poor



OneStep gymnasium, finished inside and out, completed in less than four weeks

