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*"Building"* Customer Satisfaction Through Generations of Teamwork

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## MOLIN LEEDS THE WAY

### HOW PRECAST CONCRETE GARNERS LEED POINTS



**BOB  
CLAUSON**

Everywhere you look today in the construction industry, you are bound to see something related to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). LEED is the building guidelines drafted by The United States Green Building Council (USGBC). Over the past decade, their purpose has been to change the way that buildings are constructed, and to educate designers, builders, and producers. Their goal is to transform the market to one where sustainable design is the expected standard for construction.

Within the past few years, Molin Concrete Products has been involved with many LEED registered projects. The fact that precast concrete is made from a recycled material also helps owners and designers achieve LEED points towards certifying their LEED Project.

LEED divides their rating system into six categories: Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Energy & Atmosphere, Materials & Resources, Indoor Environmental Quality, and Innovation and Design. Precast Concrete can aid you in achieving points towards LEED certification in multiple categories (subject to the LEED approval process).

#### Materials and Resources

Credit 4.1- The purpose of this credit is to increase the demand for building products that use recycled materials; therefore, reduce the impact of extracting and processing virgin materials.

Molin displaces cement in its concrete mixes with a flyash/slag mixture. Using flyash/slag helps to reduce the waste caused by the coal burning process in power plants.

Credit 5.1- This credit is to encourage designers and builders to use resources that have been regionally extracted and processed (within

150 miles from the site). Using local resources supports regional products and reduces the environmental impact of transportation of goods.

Most of the raw materials Molin uses come from regional sources. By utilizing local resources we are able to cut down on the impact of shipping of goods to our plant and support local industry.

Credit 5.2- This credit is an addition to 5.1, which ups the amount of regional materials used from 10% (5.1) to 20% (5.2).

Molin precast concrete provides an additional LEED credit when 20% of the project is made up from regional sources (discussed in 5.1). This can be accomplished when Total Precast Construction is utilized.

#### Innovation and Design

Credit 1.2- Innovation and Design points give project teams an opportunity to go above and beyond the standard guidelines to push the boundaries of sustainable design.

During the planning stages for a LEED registered project, it could be decided that the project team will attempt to receive LEED Innovation and Design points. These points could be possible using precast hollow core concrete mixes with high amounts of flyash/slag. This would be accomplished using a concrete mix that is designed with 40% cement displacement using flyash/slag.

#### Partial List of Molin LEED Registered Projects:

- Turtle Mountain High School - Belcourt, ND
- Polaris Product Development Center - Wyoming, MN
- First Unitarian Church - Duluth, MN

Please Contact Molin for further information on how we can assist you on your next LEED project.

## FIRE SAFETY

### FIRST COSTS AND SAFETY



**JOHN  
SACCOMAN**

The chance that a building will start on fire is a risk that an owner takes when developing a property. For many years, the risk of fire engulfing a building was dwarfed by the desire for an owner to construct a project at a lower cost. Too often, development owners have chosen to take a short-term view of the life-cycle costs of their property. When a time period of more than five years was examined, The Pennsylvania Fire Council found that building with precast concrete not only made a building safer, but saved the owner money in the long run.

One of the many features that precast concrete offers building owners is the ability to compartmentalize space with a non-combustible material. Compartmentalization using precast concrete helps to contain a fire by structurally keeping a building together with materials that simply will not burn. In a fire, wood used as a structural component, poses dangers for tenants as well as firefighters. Depending on where a fire starts, it can quickly burn away combustible structural members that support the rest of the building.

Walter Schneider, a Registered Engineer, a Pennsylvania assistant Fire Chief, and author of "Fire Safe Construction, Cost Comparison Study", suggests that a balanced design of active and passive measures is the key to creating sound structures that do not fall prey to fires. Active fire prevention systems such as sprinklers are good for slowing down fires but do not completely solve the problem of fire containment. Too often, sprinkler systems do not work flawlessly thus posing dangers to those still in the fire. Complementing an active system with a foundation of passive fire prevention can help. Passive systems generally include fire resistant materials and a compartmentalization system which will contain a fire while upholding the buildings' structural integrity.

Cost studies across the country, and specifically in the Midwest, have shown that precast concrete flooring with masonry walls will actually save the owner money on first time costs. Along with this benefit, the owner also receives non-combustible compartmentalization, energy efficiency, lower insurance costs, and life saving support in the event of a fire.

Read more about the fire study here:

<http://www.mnpscac.com/images/PDFs/summary.pdf>

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

### MN CORRECTIONAL FACILITY FARIBAULT, MN



ERIK  
MOLIN

RESIDENTIAL  
SALES AND  
MARKETING

Molin Concrete Products is in the process of installing hollow core planking at the Minnesota Correctional Facility in Faribault. This project involves a modernization of the facilities at Faribault by adding 4 additional cell blocks for the incarcerated. Molin provided hollow core planking that made up the interior structure of the building. The scope of the project consisted of two levels of hollow core and a unique sloped hollow core roof. Although not the norm, this was achieved through steel I-Beams with built-in angled ledges that allowed the hollow core to be secured. Specialized rigging connections allowed Molin to install the sloped planking. For the three buildings in progress, Wells Concrete provided architectural precast wall panels.

Precast Concrete has proven to have many advantages when it comes to Correctional Facility construction. Precast allows for a very speedy installation. As the two precasters worked on the project, many efficiencies were achieved because they could work concurrently. Compartmentalization also lends itself well to precast concrete construction. Especially in the business of incarceration, it is important to make sure that there is a clear break between rooms. Most of all, precast concrete offers a weather proof, safe, and durable material to create a building that will last a lifetime- or life sentence.

Architect: BWBR Architects  
Engineer: Ericksen Roed & Assoc.  
GC: Adolfsen & Peterson Inc.  
Owner: Minnesota DOC

Product:  
Hollow Core: 228,000 Sq. Ft



### ABC Awards

Molin Honored

Molin was proud to win 3 awards at the recent ABC (Association of Builders and Contractors) event in Minneapolis.

Awards were given for the following projects:

- *Accentra Credit Union*
- *Greenhouse Village*
- *SEH Building*



### Parade of Homes-Spring 2007:

#### Wrap Up

Molin Concrete was proud to once again be a part of the Twin Cities Parade of Homes. This year there were 10 homes in the tour that utilized our product to add extra space under the garage! John Vogstrom of Vogue ICF Homes said, "The sport court you helped create, was one of the hottest items at the Parade this year!" We are looking forward to many more years of involvement.



### TOURS/EVENTS

#### SCHEDULE YOURS NOW

#### Upcoming Events

- |            |                                   |
|------------|-----------------------------------|
| April 25th | Builders Product and Service Show |
| May 4th    | Dunwoody College                  |
| May 7th    | NAHB Plant Tour                   |

*Call Molin to schedule a lunch box presentation or plant tour today!*

## PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE MOLIN'S PROACTIVE MEASURES



**TOM HOOPES**  
**MAINTENANCE**  
**MANAGER**

What comes to mind when you think of a maintenance program? Do you think of a worker drenched in grease hurrying to fix the latest breakdown? At Molin, we are proud to say that we are taking an entirely different approach to the maintenance process. This approach is one where we systematically check equipment in order to prevent them from failing in the first place. By taking a proactive stance with our machinery we are experiencing fewer breakdowns. With our current foundation of systematic checks in place, we have been moving towards a goal of Predictive Maintenance. Predictive Maintenance is geared towards monitoring machinery that is currently in operation in order to assess when failure may occur and head it off. Not only does this benefit the machinery, but also the bottom line in that there is less lost time for the plant personnel as well as the maintenance staff. Technologies used in Predictive Maintenance can range from infrared cameras to measure temperature, sound level measurement, and oil analysis.

Keeping our plant running smoothly ensures timely delivery of products to job sites. Just another customer service provided by Molin Concrete!

### Fax Back Information Form

For more information,  
fax this form to (651) 786-0229

- Hollow Core Plank
- Foundation Wall Panels
- Structural Wall Panels
- Prestressed Beams/Columns
- Prestressed Stadia
- Residential

Please have a representative call me:


- I have immediate needs.
- Please call in \_\_\_\_\_ months.
- Interested in having a lunch box seminar.
- Interested in having a plant tour.

If you know of someone who should be added as a newsletter recipient, or taken off the list, please let us know.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

If you're looking for product information, want to schedule a plant tour or box lunch, need an address/company change, need to add or delete someone as a newsletter recipient, change your e-mail address, or wish to be notified of our newsletter via e-mail, please fill out the appropriate information on this page and fax it to us. Thanks

**Your wish is our command with our fax back form!**



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Since 1897

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