

The Race for Time: Zurn Labor-Saving Products Help New York Healthcare Facility to Build Quickly and Affordably



A Quick Turnaround

The Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) in Buffalo, New York has begun construction on a brand new, long-term care facility. The need to replace the 80-year-old Erie County Nursing Home, formerly of Alden, New York escalated as the home was quickly running out of space to provide effective long-term patient care. The original two-year construction plan was revised with an accelerated project completion of 15 months. ECMC needed a plumbing contractor who could provide a labor savings solution to meet their aggressive deadline.

ECMC's construction plan included four brand-new towers and an estimated plumbing cost of \$6.3 million. They hired MLP Plumbing & Mechanical Inc., an owner-operated plumbing and mechanical contractor in Cheektowaga, New York. For expert help in equipping the new facility with reliable labor-saving products, MLP turned to water solutions experts, Zurn Industries.

The Decision to Save

Construction began in September 2011 with a firm schedule in order to provide ECMC the state-of-the-art facility required to provide efficient care to their patients and better accommodate their needs. An ambitious deadline left little room for planning errors, so the project relied heavily on the effectiveness of innovative Zurn labor-saving products.

By eliminating contractor work and customizing engineered products to fit job site dimensions, Zurn total building solutions were ideal for cutting costs and saving time. The products chosen were easy to install with end-user benefits such as low life-cycle costs and less site work – resulting in less overall labor spending.

“I chose Zurn products because I was looking to save time on a very necessarily, fast-paced job. Many construction projects now are ‘hurry-up,’ and clients want them to be completed in record time while still significantly cutting labor costs. Today, with tighter schedules and less room to spend on construction projects, Zurn solutions are a great option for contractors.”

**– Chad Krajewski,
Plumbing Foreman,
MLP Plumbing.**

Project MVPs – Most Valuable Products



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For successful, sustainable plumbing solutions, MLP Plumbing relied heavily on five specific Zurn products to help save labor and cut costs.

The Lavatory EZ Carriers (Z1231-EZ) were key labor-saving products installed at ECMC. These concealed arm lavatory carriers are assembled and pre-packaged at the factory. Once on site, the scale on the adjusting bars lets you quickly set centerline dimensions. This allows for less work at the site, and a reduction in overall installation time. Krajewski added that these carriers were significant time savers that fit well into his construction plans.

The Neo-Loc Test Cap (-TC) gaskets for drain outlets allowed the field staff to set the drains then prepare and pressure test the line without additional test balls. The gaskets also acted as a seal for drain outlets, protecting the system from infiltration of loose debris or waste yet were easily removed when testing was done.

The -BZ Leveling Adjustment option enabled the contractor to adjust leveling and height of drains and cleanouts after the pour was complete. By using drains and cleanouts with the -BZ option, the contractor was not required to break up an entire floor to fix a drain problem – a solution that MLP Plumbing mentioned could save them anywhere from ten minutes to an hour per drain or cleanout.

EZ Carriers (Z1231-EZ)



Neo-Loc Test Cap Gaskets (-TC)



-BZ Leveling Adjustment Option



Project MVPs – Most Valuable Products



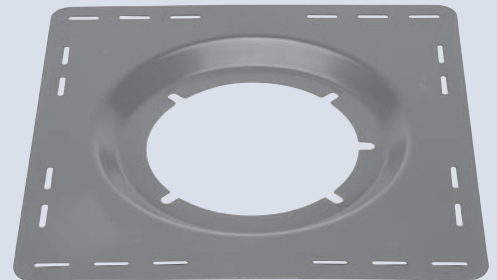
The Z1035-Q Stabilizer provided a dual solution. The stabilizer held the floor drains in place while concrete was poured and the preassembled rods allowed the height of the drain to match perfectly to the floor thickness. Eliminating the need to “box out” and protect the drain from being moved or knocked over saved potential expenses in time and labor. According to Krajewski, the pre-assembled stabilizers were one of the most effective labor saving products used at ECMC due to ease of installation, drain stability, and saved labor time.

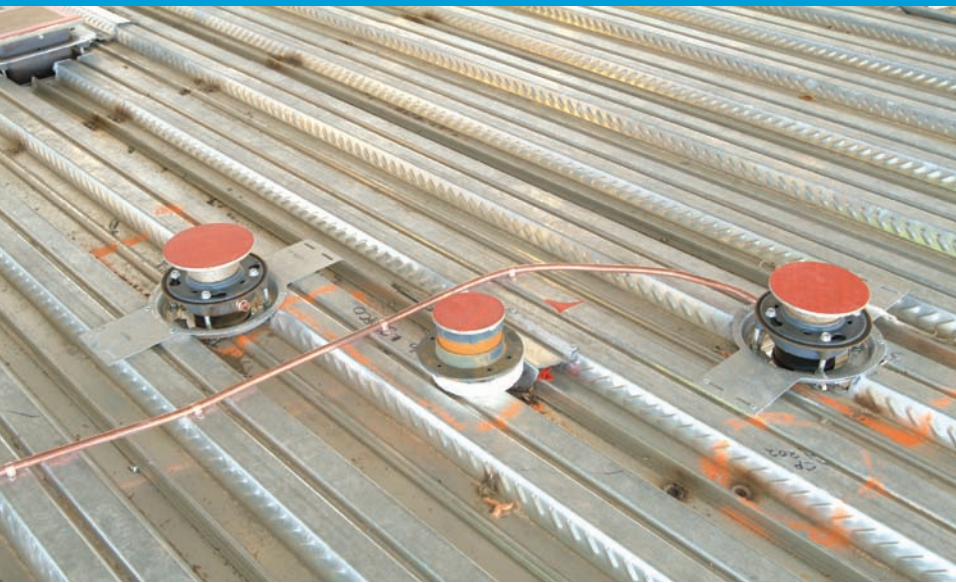
The -DP Deck Plate option enabled a roof drain to be secured to a corrugated roof deck with an easy to install plate. This simple but effective option allowed each roof drain to be installed by one worker unlike traditional methods that require two workers. In addition, using the deck plate reduced the need for a scissor lift machine, saving the contractors rental cost. MLP Plumbing estimated that the deck plates not only saved them approximately 15 to 20 minutes per drain but effectively doubled the workforce by allowing one worker to do the job of two.

Z1035-Q Stabilizer



Deck Plate Option (-DP)





Coming Out on Top

The ECMC tower project is scheduled to be completed on December 6, 2012 – coming in well under their original planned completion date of two years. The labor-saving products selected by MLP Plumbing were a perfect fit for the accelerated deadline. Designed specifically to save time and money, Zurn carriers, gaskets, stabilizers and plates had a profound effect on the project's revised and tight deadline.

“My workers in the field prefer to use Zurn products,” says Chad Krajewski. “They’re well made, reliable, sturdy, and are easy to assemble. It’s also comforting to know that Zurn provides a variety of customizations which will help a product or installation meet specific site requirements.”

In the construction phase alone, Zurn products offered an innovative solution to a complex job with unique budgetary and scheduling restrictions. By carefully researching and selecting labor-saving products, MLP Plumbing was able to produce tangible and recordable results.



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