Precast Concrete Provides Acoustical Advantages

When it comes to construction of a new building, one design aspect to consider is sound transmission. Acoustics play a vital role in the design of a building, and in the designer's selection of materials to build with.

When in the design phase, architects and engineers can determine the acoustical needs of the space and then design the building to satisfy those needs. Within each building, there will be several types of spaces, each requiring its own level of acoustical performance. The building partition (floors, walls, and ceilings) of each space offers a measurable level of privacy from outside noise and the noise from physical impacts. While some surfaces must reflect sound so loudness will be adequate in all areas where listeners are located, other surfaces absorb sound to avoid echoes and sound distortion. Sound is isolated from areas it is not wanted with the appropriate building materials.

Hollowcore plank is often a selected material for the floor and ceiling/roof as it has excellent sound transmission characteristics. Footsteps, dropped objects, slammed doors, and plumbing all generate impact noise. Precast concrete offers natural sound attenuation to dampen noise for a quiet environment. This means, if you are an apartment dweller with units above you, below you, and on either side of you, and your building is construction with precast, you won't hear your neighbors' television, vacuuming, footsteps, shower turning on, or weight-lifting routine.

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The Importance of a Safety Plan

By Mike Wolff
Vice President of Safety and Quality

Among all the promises we make to our Customers, safety is above all else. It is so important to us that, at the end of their shifts, all of our team members go home to their families in the same condition as they arrived, and we want that for your team members as well.

Safety plans are a part of Mid-States everyday work, both at our plant operations and in the field at our installation jobsites. The single most effective tool we can use to prevent accidents at the workplace or jobsite is pre-project/pre-task planning. Mid-States has extensive safety manuals for both plant and field applications that hold most of our safety plans and procedures. While plant operations have standardized policies and procedures for set up, pouring, and stripping, there is still a definite need to have safety plans and pre-planning anytime special projects are created. Implementing a special project hazard awareness assessment can identify safety hazards in specific projects before the project is started. This "look ahead" is crucial to preventing injuries.

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Precast Chalk Talk: Episode 44

In this episode of Precast Chalk Talk, President Hagen Harker talks with team members in the yard about our train the trainer program, to keep our team operating safely and efficiently.

Watch now >>

Questions? Comments? Ideas for a future episode? Email us >>

Find every episode of Precast Chalk Talk here >>

About Mid-States Concrete Industries

Since 1946, we have produced structural and architectural precast concrete systems that provide our partners with high quality building materials with sustaining performance.

The biggest part of our story is you - our clients. For more than 75 years, you have trusted us to help with your projects. Each project offers its own unique goals and opportunities. We partner with you to find the right solutions for your project.

Learn more >>

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