As digital media becomes more common, **Structural Engineer** wants to keep you abreast of all of the good things happening online. Following are previews of several green product case study articles that are available exclusively on GoStructural.com:

**How to contribute to LEED**

A structural engineer's guide

An astute structural engineer is a valuable design team member to help implement sustainable design principles. In this article, BHB Consulting Engineers, PC, discusses several of the ways that structural engineers can contribute to earning LEED points. ▼

**Rotunda roof feature easily designed with SIPs**

ACH Foam Technologies earns top marks for Colorado school

Structural insulated panels (SIPs) were specified to frame unique architectural features on roof sections of a Weld County Middle School, located in Severance, Colo. SIPs were chosen for their design flexibility and material cost savings. ▼

**Support Brigade Barracks at Fort Campbell, Ky., meets DOD requirements**

The Steel Network, Inc., provides

---

**What's coming up in Structural Engineer?**

**November**

Cover Story:
Seton Medical Center Women's Health
Contributed by Datum Engineers, Inc.

Special Program:
2009 Steel Joist Design Awards

Exclusive Feature:
2009 Top Performers

Specifiers' Guide:
Software

**December**

Technical Focus:
IPD Success Stories
Contributed by Autodesk

Specifiers' Guide:
Foundation Systems
Rotunda roof feature easily designed with SIPs: ACH Foam Technologies earns top marks for Colorado school

October 2009 » Features » WEB EXCLUSIVE

Structural insulated panels (SIPs) were specified to frame unique architectural features on roof sections of a Weld County Middle School, located in Severance, Colo. SIPs were chosen for their design flexibility and material cost savings.

Severance Middle School utilizes energy efficient SIPs for their design flexibility.

ACH Foam Technologies' R-Control Structural Insulated Panels (SIPs) were specified to frame unique architectural features on roof sections of a Weld County Middle School. SIPs were chosen for their design flexibility and material cost savings. The school, located in Severance, Colo., was designed by RB + B Architects, Inc., and structural engineering firm JVA Inc. of Boulder, Colo.

“We chose SIPs for the rotunda roof and two-story gable roofs at Severance Middle School because of some special design challenges,” explained architect Rebecca Spears of RB + B Architects. “First, there were large vaulted areas and we wanted to cut down on the number of bar joist supports where there is exposed structure. The SIPs provided the long spans we needed. Secondly, SIPs offered ample nailing surface for the installation of the beetle-kill pine decking used for the ceiling in each of these areas.”

Using SIPs reduced the number of bar joists, saving money on materials.

This was the first R-Control SIPs project for general contractor, Roche Construction. According to Greg Gabler of Precision Panel Colorado, Roche was impressed with how quickly and how tightly the SIPs laid in place. “The school district was very excited about the energy efficiency that the panels would provide. The 8-1/4 inch and 12-1/4 inch panels were quickly and easily secured in place, providing a continuous wood surface without thermal breaks.”

Crew members at Precision Panel Colorado installed over 1,500 square feet of R-Control roof panels in approximately 45 minutes. “The R-Control SIPs provided our customer with a great product that met their required R-Value and at the same time allowed us to accomplish an extremely efficient installation,” said Gabler. A total of 11,236 square feet of structural insulated panels were used in the project.

R-Control Structural Insulated panels have been used for over 30 years in residential and commercial projects for their high R-Value, superior strength and quick and easy installation. For more information about structural insulated panels visit www.achfoam.com/structuralinsulatedpanels.aspx. ACH Foam Technologies has been an industry leader in environmentally friendly EPS manufacturing for over four decades, providing products for construction, geotechnical, packaging, and industrial applications. With locations throughout the United States, ACH is positioned to offer convenient, valuable, and complete solutions for its customers.

Clint Wood is a SIPs specialist with ACH Foam Technologies. He can be reached at 801-809-3301.