Life Sciences Building, Brigham Young University

ACH FOAM TECHNOLOGIES

Application

33,000 cubic feet of Foam-Control® EPS22 and EPS29 Geofoam was used in two different densities to protect a new building being built into a hillside from lateral pressures at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah.

Project Details

Brigham Young University's (BYU) new Life Sciences Building presents more than 200,000 square feet of research and teaching space that serves as a gateway to the BYU campus. The design called for the building to be integrated into an existing campus hillside. To eliminate the earth's pressures against the building, soil along the back of the building was replaced with ACH Foam Technologies' Foam-Control® Geofoam, a lightweight structural fill.

Two different densities of Geofoam were used, EPS22 and EPS29, to create a solid barrier between the building's foundation wall and the lateral pressures of the hillside. The Geofoam base began 30' below grade at a width of 8' from the foundation. It was then feathered out and upwards into the hill until the top layer's width extended a full 14' from the foundation wall.

The contractor had experience with ACH Foam Technologies' products on previous projects and worked closely with the sales representative to plan the Geofoam configuration. During construction, Geofoam deliveries were sequenced to ensure the blocks arrived in the exact order and quantity needed for easy, storage-free installation.

Geofoam

Life Sciences Building, Brigham Young University

- Provo, UT
- Winter 2013
- Foam-Control® EPS22 and EPS29 Geofoam
- 33,000 Cubic Feet

Contractor
Okland Construction

Architect
Nexus, Inc.

Engineer
Reaveley Engineers