United States District Federal Courthouse

Application

580,000 cubic feet of Foam-Control® EPS15 and EPS29 Geofoam was used as foundation stabilization and landscape fill at the US District Federal Courthouse in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Project Details

This elegantly designed Federal Courthouse stands 10-stories tall and accommodates 10 courtrooms, 14 judges’ chambers, and houses the U.S. Marshal’s Office in 410,000 square feet of space. To help keep construction costs down engineers used an estimated 20,000 cubic yards of ACH Foam Technologies’ Foam-Control® Geofoam to solve a variety of constructability challenges.

An 8’ x 40’ Geofoam wall was constructed around the building’s foundation to disperse lateral pressures which allowed a thinner profile foundation to be built. Foam-Control® EPS15 Geofoam was also used as a fill material from the ground level to the second-floor main entrance, raising the ground plane around the entrance by 8’. Foam-Control® Geofoam was chosen over soil backfill because it will not erode or self-compact when wet which would increase weight bearing against the foundation.

EPS29 Geofoam was used beneath each of the reflecting pools to control possible settlement and in raised-bed planters around the site. EPS15 Geofoam was also used as a lightweight fill throughout the parking garage in every area where the amount of required fill would exceed 3’.