

## CASE STUDY

## Hilltop Companies uses innovative concrete technologies to help facilitate growth at the University of Cincinnati

The new Carl H. Lindner College of Business building serves as a unique foundation to support growth

**CHALLENGE:** Due to the growth of the Carl H. Lindner College of Business over the years, the student body had outgrown the existing campus location. The new building can accommodate current enrollment levels, and is substantial enough to attract and service future students.

**SOLUTION:** With concrete being a central design element, Lithko Contracting chose Hilltop based on their unparalleled quality control and customer service. "Before the project started, we looked at challenges that might arise and were able to work with Hilltop to come up with a plan. Hilltop is willing to have an open dialogue with contractors to best solve problems and discuss what is needed with the project, as well as be on site to answer any questions that arise during construction," said Anthony Williams of Lithko Contracting.

Hilltop provided over 10,000 cubic yards of concrete for the project. The project used three different mixes, including lightweight concrete for the slabs on deck, self-consolidating concrete, and used macro fibers in the mix for the slabs on grade.

**APPROACH:** Dedicated to research and development, Hilltop Companies used an innovative Ready Mixed Concrete technology product as part of the build: Smart Rock™. Smart Rock™ is a sensor that is placed in the form to indicate when the concrete reaches higher temperatures, signaling that the concrete has reached strength. This allows construction to move more quickly. Instead of the typical approach that takes three to five days to move the concrete forms, Smart Rock™ sensors showed that forms could be moved after two days, saving both time and money. Hilltop also provided a mix that was able to set up faster, which allowed formwork to hold quicker and sped up the project. Hilltop Companies is the only Ready Mixed Concrete company in the region that uses Smart Rock™ technology.



### Situation at a Glance

- The Carl H. Lindner College of Business needed a modern, innovative space to accommodate and engage current students and encourage future growth.
- Hilltop Companies provided over 10,000 cubic yards of concrete and was chosen due to their quality customer service, close proximity to the site, and innovative products and approach.
- Hilltop Companies is the only Ready Mixed Concrete provider in the region to use Smart Concrete™ technology
- The new building is scheduled to open for the 2019/2020 school year and expected to make the business school more competitive in attracting new students.

Want to learn more about Hilltop capabilities? Contact us today!

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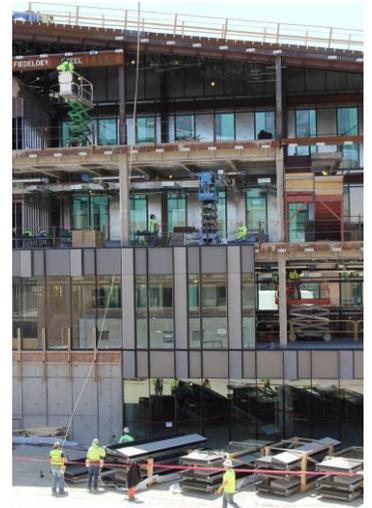
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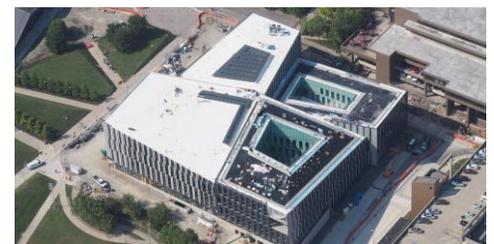
“The design of the building is very unique. It's an all glass, black-looking building.” said Bud Ruffing of Hilltop Companies. The modern look is comprised entirely of steel and concrete, with the exposed, polished concrete creating a bright and welcoming space for students and staff. To achieve this look, the team used exposed aggregate mixes and two different color mixes: graphite and light grey.

### RESULTS:

Featuring a lounge area, more classrooms, and a sophisticated auditorium, the new building provides students with a comfortable and innovative space to learn, study, and collaborate. Architectural concrete, bleacher stairs, and multiple courtyards welcome students to a new era for the Carl H. Lindner College of Business. The Plaza Hardscape project was also submitted for the prestigious 2019 Ohio Concrete Project Awards.



Carl H. Lindner College of Business building during construction



Overhead view of new Carl H. Lindner College of Business



Completed Carl H. Lindner College of Business building