



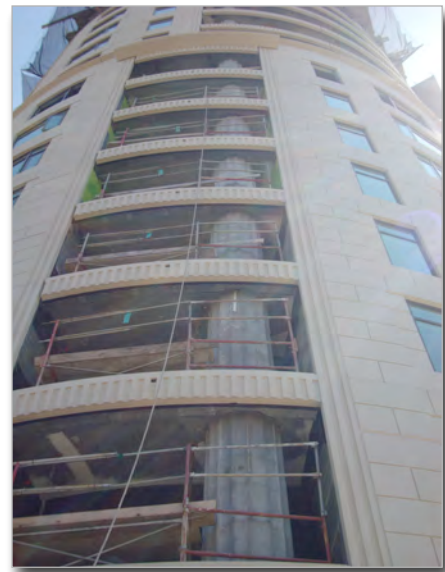
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FLUTED FRP COLUMN FORMS IN CONCERT  
WITH L.A.'S CENTURY CITY TONY DESIGN AESTHETIC:  
*MFG CP Customizes Unique RCF for Avenue of the Stars Architectural Gem***

**PROJECT PROSPECTUS /ARCHITECTURAL VISION:**

As a centerpiece at the heart of Los Angeles' Century City/Beverly Hills region, the 42-story, 147-unit luxury condominium tower known as 'The Century' is being designed to be an elliptical epicenter of upscale living on the Avenue of the Stars. Designed by world-renowned Robert A.M. Stern Architects LLP (New York, NY), every imaginable detail has been nuanced to achieve the epitome of elegance including approximately 256 fluted concrete finished columns created with customized FRP (fiber-reinforced polymer) fluted round column forms (FRCF) produced by Molded Fiber Glass Construction Products (MFG-CP: Independence, KS).

The 884,468 gross-square-foot Century Project began construction in June 2007 and is slated completion in December 2008. The tower is supported by an interior moment frame system with a 7,109 CY concrete mat foundation with an exterior skin combining sculptured pre-cast concrete and stone cladding. Upon its opening, residents will experience 13' fluted concrete finished columns accentuating the decorative élan of the floor-to-ceiling window balconies on the upper-level exterior of 26 of buildings' 42 floors (8 per floor). The final effect will create a visual evolution of West Coast upscale living with unparalleled panoramic views stretching from downtown, to across the Santa Monica Mountains and Pacific Ocean.



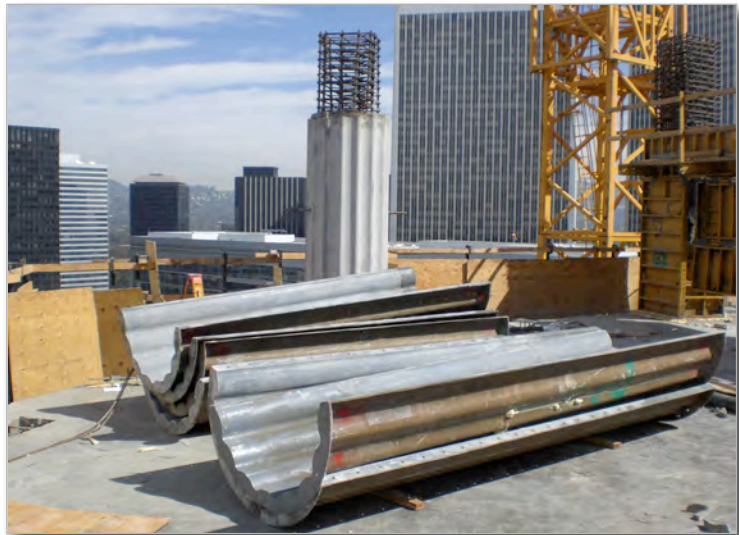


### **FRP FLUTE-FORMING CHALLENGE:**

Architectural Firm of Record HKS, Inc. (Dallas, TX) enlisted the project's concrete contractor Webcor Concrete (San Mateo, CA) to secure a source for the design's unique fluted column forms. After considering steel and plastic concepts, Webcor contracted MFG-CP, who specializes in a complete range of custom and standard fiberglass-reinforced thermo-set composite column forms, to custom-build fifteen (15) FRP/FRCFs; in addition to a multitude of standard FRP/RCFs throughout the tower.

The train-of-thought design process's goal was to create a unique fluted design to provide flexible stability for the 13' scale during concrete pour, and deliver a lavishly smooth finish. To optimize production, delivery, assembly and pour/peel time on-site, MFG-CP settled on a 4-piece FRCF design.

According to MFG-CP Engineering Manager Eric Brace, "We utilized the 4-piece design vs. the 2-piece so it could be stripped in pieces during production to ensure a smoother finish and capture the meticulous luxury of the Stern/HKS design specifications."



### **FRP FLUTE-FORMING PROCESS:**

Upon design approval, MFG-CP produced the FRCF's using a chopped strand matt, sandwich construction of 24 oz Woven Roving —made in quarter sections to alleviate difficulties in stripping away from the mold/peel and ensuing concrete pour/peel process. The production leveraged a spray up/open mold process (with mold-release pre-treatment) which involved simultaneous deposition of the chopped strand matt laid in place on the cavity mold with the catalyst resin poured-over for an even-flow material.



### **FRP FLUTE-FORM RESULTS / CONCLUSION:**

Although created in quarter sections, the FRCF's were delivered as 15, full-forms with four seams and 9/16" lip-holes to accommodate 1/2" Coil Bolts during assembly. The FRCF's composite properties also made them corrosion resistant and reusable for future projects.

Upon assembly of the FRCF, standard rebar and base specifications; approximately three (3) yards of self-consolidated concrete mix were required for each column pour in a standard monolithic pour sequence. According to Webcor's Senior Superintendent Ryan Isbell, "Construction to-date is meeting the aggressive 6-floor-cycle (one-floor every six days) as the fluted forms are an easy pour; taking approximately 2-4 minutes per column." Isbell also noted that, "The result is a unique exposed concrete flute-effect with a smooth architectural finish."

According to HSK Inc. (Dallas, TX) architect Patrick Treadway, "The tower's fluted concrete columns were more cost-efficient than the originally conceived pre-cast or stone options and provided a practical alternative for time, design and efficiency."

### **MFG-CP / CORPORATE PROFILE:**

MFG Construction Products Company, formed in 1962 and a charter member of the World of Concrete, manufactures a complete range of one-piece round column forms (RCFs), dome and pan forms for one-way and two-way joist slab floors, and customer forms for cast-in-place concrete construction applications. Made of fiberglass-reinforced thermo-set composites, MFG concrete forms can significantly reduce finishing costs and are fully re-usable.