QUIKRETE Reshapes a National Historic Landmark

The QUIKRETE® Companies recently supplied shotcrete in 3000 lb (1361 kg) bulk bags for a restoration project on Alcatraz Island, also known as The Rock. Boulderscape, a premier design architect that specializes in shotcrete application, used QUIKRETE Shotcrete MS – Fiber Reinforced and QUIKRETE Shotcrete MS to successfully repair and stabilize a failing slope on the 22-acre island. In addition to facing dangerous application conditions, a condensed 6-week shotcrete schedule was required to avoid disruptions to regular tour operations while considering the habitat and migration patterns of local sea birds.

“Navigating a variety of unique factors made this a very fulfilling project for everyone,” said Steve Jimenez, Senior Vice President of Commercial Sales for Boulderscape. “We couldn’t start until the indigenous birds migrated from the island in November, and we had to complete our portion of the work before the birds returned in February, which meant everything had to be expedited starting with the delivery of material. Beyond the challenging schedule, the application process was full of danger. The nozzlemen had to be hoisted more than 60 ft (18 m) in lifts to spray apply the shotcrete before sculptors repelled down the cliff to shape the material. The end result was a structurally sound slope that matched the surrounding environment.”

In one weekend, 131 bulk bags of QUIKRETE Shotcrete MS–Fiber Reinforced and 126 bulk bags of QUIKRETE Shotcrete MS were delivered to Alcatraz Island for the project. QUIKRETE delivered 16 truckloads of material to Pier 50 in San Francisco before being shipped on two barges to Pier 33 on Alcatraz Island where it was offloaded at night by crane one-by-one before finally being transported to the job site on trailers pulled by four-wheel all-terrain vehicles.

QUIKRETE Shotcrete MS–Fiber Reinforced is a single-component micro silica-enhanced repair and restoration material that achieves more than 9000 psi (62 MPa) at 28 days and features very low rebound and permeability characteristics. The QUIKRETE Companies offers a full line of shotcrete products that can be applied through a wet or dry process to deliver high strength, high adhesion, low rebound, and low sag in rehabilitating bridges, tunnels, parking garages, ramps, piers, dams, and other concrete structures. QUIKRETE shotcrete has been used on many unique and high-profile renovation and restoration projects including the Pleasure Pier in Texas, the Stanford Linear Accelerator in California, the Spokane River in Washington, and the Dennis Edward Tunnel in Oregon.

For more information on QUIKRETE and its products, visit www.quikrete.com, Like it on Facebook, and follow it on Twitter @QUIKRETE.