

Lewis & Clark Discover Flex-Form

By: Kevin Thuringer, Formwork Specialist for Bierschbach Equipment & Supply

General Contractor: Foley Company Sub-Contractor: Strongform Inc.

On August 25th, 1804 Lewis and Clark crossed the Missouri River from their camp and walked nine miles to Spirit Mound. Spirit Mound is located only a few miles north of a water treatment plant that is named after the Explorers and when completed it will serve twenty communities in three states using water from the nearby Missouri River.

In May of 2009, over 200 years after Lewis and Clark traveled the area, general contractor Foley Company (Kansas City, MO) received the contract for the main water treatment plant building. This included four large solid contact basins which were ideal for a radius wall gangform system.

Foley Company along with concrete sub-contractor Strongform Inc. (Deer Creek, MN) contacted local Symons dealer Bierschbach Equipment & Supply and began discussing options on how to construct the contact basins and it was clear that the best option would be to use Symons Flex-Form system. Bierschbach worked closely with Symons in Minneapolis, MN to design the gangs to the parameters laid out by Foley and Strongform. The Flex-Form panels arrived on site with pre-rolled rail attached and set to the proper radius. Strongform started bolting the panels together as detailed by the supplied plans and began setting forms. After the Flex-Form was stripped, the contractor was left with a smooth 22' tall radius wall without chording and the she-bolt tie system used inner units with waterstop to meet the specifications. The project is set for a completion date of March 2012.



Top Left: Multiple gangs set to complete the solid contact basin
Top Right: Construction of the four solid contact basins
Left: Flex-Form gang set and ready for concrete pour.

