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Smith-Midland wins ACI chapter award for precast concrete condo

Officials at Smith-Midland Corp. were the recipients of the Judges' Award in the American Concrete Institute National Capital Chapter's 2006 Concrete Construction Awards Program for a SLENDERWALL project at the 10-story, 292-unit Jefferson at Logan Circle in Washington D.C.

Architect Maurice Walters and owner Aaron Liebert, JPI, created a strong, functional and cost-effective mid-rise luxury condominium complex in downtown Washington made entirely of precast concrete using the SLENDERWALL Architectural Precast Concrete Panel System. The use of SLENDERWALL reduced the cost and duration of the construction project while allowing the new structure to blend in with existing residential buildings nearby.

SLENDERWALL was largely chosen for the project because of the ability to combine the aesthetic qualities of a Class-A brick finish with the advantages of a panel system.

Due to SLENDERWALL's "lift-and-release" panel landing system, installation time and costs are reduced compared to traditional construction. For this particular project, the construction schedule was accelerated by 45 days. SLENDERWALL also reduces heating and cooling costs for the completed structure because of the system's low thermal transfer rate.

The precast concrete architectural panels feature 2 inches of precast concrete secured to a heavy gauge galvanized steel frame by epoxy-coated stainless steel Nelson anchors. The integrated steel wall studs allow for maximum usable space within the building. SLENDERWALL is the only panel system that offers the latest DURAFLEX TM 360o technology. This technology allows isolation of the building frame from the exterior precast concrete skin and the structural stresses associated with wind loading, structural steel movement, expansion and contraction, and seismic shock. DURAFLEX TM 360o is the only 2-inch wall connection that meets AAMA 501.4-2000, the Interstory Differential Movement vertical and horizontal displacement test.

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