

CASE HISTORY

Emergency Stabilization of Alcatraz



DATE

Spring 2008

CUSTOMER/ SPECIFYING ENGINEER/ CONTRACTOR

National Park Service

LOCATION

San Francisco Bay, CA

PRODUCTS

MCI® 2020

CorrVerter®

PROBLEM

Alcatraz Island is the site of the well known Alcatraz Federal Penitentiary. This island is located in the center of San Francisco Bay and being surrounded by salt water and fog year round causes numerous corrosion issues for the current stewards of Alcatraz, the National Park Service (NPS). Alcatraz Island receives over a million tourist visitors a year and their safety is paramount to the NPS staff. When the NPS noticed the potential hazard of loose concrete on walls of the main prison building high above the open visitor areas, they contacted their Cortec® distributor for solutions. The hazardous falling concrete had to be removed and the corrosion slowed with a limited budget. Further complicating the work schedule is the fact that Alcatraz is also a sanctuary for seabirds such as cormorants and pigeon guillemots, and for waterbirds such as snowy egrets and black-crowned night herons. Nesting birds are censused on a yearly basis, and management actions are adjusted to avoid disturbance during this sensitive time. Therefore work is prohibited from February through September.

APPLICATION

To slow corrosion the NPS staff removed the loose spalled concrete and applied CorrVerter® to the exposed steel then the entire area was treated with MCI® 2020 to address corrosion that was undoubtedly beneath the surface.

CONCLUSION

Cortec® products were very easy to apply, cost effective and, allowed the treatment of larger areas thus providing a cost savings to the NPS for future repair projects.

