

CASE STUDY

Recreational

Project Specs

Location: Los Angeles, California

Application: Zoo Tank Platform

Product: Dynaform® structural shapes, Corvex molded grating and stair treads, Dynarail® handrail and ladders.

Overview

Each year 1.4 million visitors pass through Los Angeles Zoo gates to visit the more than 1,200 animals that call the zoo home. The 113-acre zoo opened in Griffith Park in 1966 and was the fourth zoo to serve the city.

Problem

The sea lion pools at the Los Angeles Zoo were suffering from a bacteria problem. To solve the problem the zoo maintenance and construction crew added a fractionator protein skimmer to oxygenate and filter the pools. An elevated structure, specified with a 6,000 pound loading requirement, was needed to hold the heavy fractionator tank behind the scenes.

Solution

Fibergrate's products had been successfully installed throughout the Los Angeles Zoo in the past, so the construction team was aware of the benefits of using fiberglass reinforced plastics (FRP). Fibergrate was able design a platform structure to hold the fractionator tank which was discovered to actually weigh 11,200 pounds!

The Los Angeles Zoo's maintenance and construction crew were able to easily install the lightweight platform themselves, which saved valuable time and money since they needed no contractors or welders. The end user was also surprised to learn that the FRP platform was capable of supporting almost twice the weight originally specified. Finally, the maintenance crew was relieved to have another Fibergrate structure that would provide many years of rust-free service without additional painting or maintenance. FRP sealed the deal for this platform.

