

## CASE STUDY



### PROJECT DETAILS

**Project Name:**

DeForest Area  
High School

**Location:**

DeForest, WI

**Project Architect:**

Eppstein Uhen

**General Contractor:**

Findorff

**Product Manufacturer:**

County Materials  
Corporation

**Date:**

2020

**Key Products:**

Oversized 32" Concrete  
Masonry Unit

## County Materials' Oversized 32" Concrete Masonry Unit Provides Evolutionary Concrete Masonry Solution

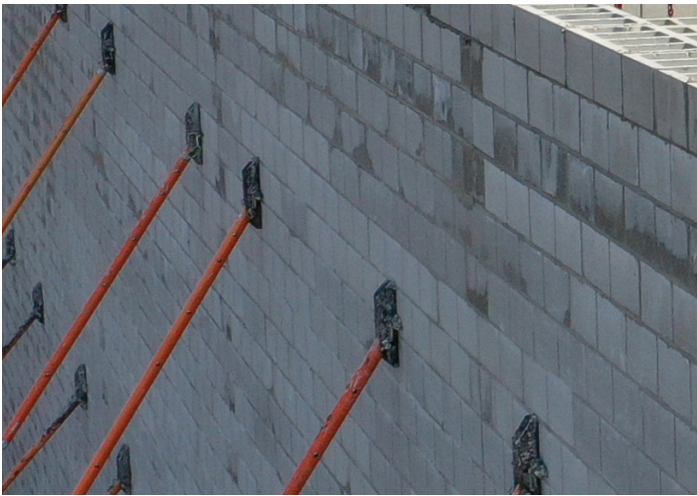
**Solutions:** Oversized CMUs achieve significant time and cost savings, innovative concrete construction meets demands and accelerates construction schedule

As the student population at DeForest Area High School continued to grow, school district leaders saw the need for expansion to accommodate both current and future student populations. The school planned to build a new three-station gym and a pool with locker room facilities, spectator seating, and public access. With the completion of the additions, the former gym and pool area, along with several other areas of the building, would be renovated into two expansive commons areas for students to eat, study, and gather. In addition to providing students with more space, the 102,000 SF renovation and expansion project will allow students a university center-like experience with greater freedom and recreational space.

To keep the expansive project on schedule, project leaders sought an innovative product that would maximize productivity and reduce labor costs. A solution was found in the use of County Materials' Oversized 32" Concrete Masonry Units. The oversized units measure 12" x 8" x 32" and were favored for their ability to cover double the square footage in the same amount of time as traditional units with the use of hoist system technology. Because the units form fewer joints, additional costs savings were achieved by using less mortar and joint tooling than traditional unit installation.

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Construction crews worked with Construction Robotics, a company that specializes in innovative construction technology used to make installations easier and more efficient. Together, they analyzed the job site and determined how to best secure hoisting technology to scaffoldings while keeping safety top of mind. With the hoist systems in place, masons simply maneuvered the oversized units for each course. Because the equipment did the heavy lifting, smaller construction crews were relied on to lay 35,000 SF of concrete masonry.



Oversized 32" Concrete Masonry Units proved to be a viable construction solution for their local availability and enhanced installation efficiencies. County Materials supported the project's timeline by manufacturing an innovative concrete solution and optimizing its delivery to meet the project's demands and schedule.



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