TIME—A CRITICAL FACTOR

"Changing dynamics within the construction industry vis-à-vis decreased availability of experienced field personnel, increased commitment to safety, and an ongoing demand for faster cycle times have influenced the evolution of modern formwork systems," according to Stephen Tisdall, president, Aluma Systems Concrete Construction. "Here at Aluma, we have developed solutions for forming suspended slabs with large-area, crane-handled units (tables). Two such systems are the Aluma Truss and the Aluma Hi-Flyer, which allow the contractor to build large contact-area units of up to 3,000 sq ft. Compared with conventional knock-down systems, their use dramatically reduces labor demand and increases safety, as access platforms, handrails, etc. are built in. Cycle times are also reduced because of savings associated with moving large, complete, self-supporting units in a fraction of the time it takes to move more conventional strip and re-erect systems."

3,000 ft² (300 m²) Aluma Hi-Flyer panel put in position.

COLUMN FORMS

Using FRP Column Forms for Stanford Stadium's Fast-Paced Renovation

A $90 million renovation project, representing the single most significant capital project in the history of Stanford University Athletics, was to prepare the 80+ year-old stadium for the future.

With a nine-month completion schedule, General Contractor Vance Brown Builders (Palo Alto, CA) enlisted Peck and Hiller Co. (East Palo Alto, CA) as the structural concrete formwork subcontractor to construct approximately 400 round columns that would adorn the entire perimeter of the stadium and support the steel field bleachers.

In seeking the optimal RCF solution, Peck and Hiller's construction supply company (Level Construction Supply, San Francisco, CA) analyzed traditional disposable paper RCFs which can be cost-efficient. However, given Northern California's inclement weather, the possibility of the forms (tubes) getting wet became a factor because if the tubes were to get wet they could lose their structural properties, jeopardizing the form. Additionally, if