

Multiuse Hangar, General Aviation, Page Field Airport, Fort Myers, Fla.

Flying High

By Marcy Marro



Custom steel doors are the right fit for aviation facilities



Well Bilt Industries, a woman-owned small business located in Williston, Fla., has been manufacturing a variety of custom steel doors for more than 25 years, with experience in aviation, marina, industrial and military industries. Well Bilt offers a variety of products, including bi-fold, bottom rolling, swing-out, one-piece hydraulic doors and blast doors. Additionally, Well Bilt's Hercul-Eze operators are available in five models and are can be used with their rolling-door systems or separately for retrofit projects.

Carol Bilt, president of Well Bilt Industries talked to Metal Construction News about two recently completed aviation projects.

Multiuse Hangar, General Aviation, Page Field Airport, Fort Myers, Fla.

At Page Field General Aviation Airport in Fort Myers, Well Bilt supplied its custom steel rolling door system for a new 25,000-square-foot multiuse hangar located on the northwest side of the field that will house and protect aircraft from the elements.

The project had its own set of specifications. "Well Bilt Industries worked with the contractor, Taylor-Pansing, to mesh the project specifications with Well Bilt's specifications to design the rolling door system for approval by the project engineers," Bilt explains. North Fort Myers-based Taylor-Pansing Inc. was the hangar installer.

The project consisted of one 160- by 26-foot steel rolling door system that met 130 mph wind loads. The system is made up of 10 16 1/4- by 26-foot leaves, made up of 24-gauge corrugated steel PBR panels, set up in a bi-parting system. Additionally, the doors feature 10-inch structural tube and channel, telescoping top guide system, a 40-pound ASCE bottom rail and vertically adjustable bottom rollers.

"A modified version of the Well Bilt Industries' Hercul-Eze ID-300M operator was incorporated into the drive leaves in each half of the door system," Bilt says. "This drive system was directly coupled to one of the steel bottom rollers and utilized Variable Frequency Drives to move each half of the door system independently at 45 fpm." The system also included audible warning devices and a safety disconnect.

Owen-Ames-Kimball Co., Fort Myers, was the general contractor; Baja Electric Service Inc., North Fort Myers, Fla., was the electrical contractor; Gulf States Manufacturers, Starkville, Miss., supplied the metal building; and Kelly Construction USA Inc., Boca Raton, Fla., was the door installer. Lee County Port Authority is the facility owner.

Advanced Aircraft Service Center Inc., Tamiami Kendall Airport, Miami

For the new 16,600-square-foot Advanced Aircraft Service Center Inc. at the Tamiami Kendall Airport,

Well Bilt designed and manufactured a custom steel bi-fold door system for each of the hangar's four bays. Bilt explains that the company became involved in the project after being highly recommended by one of their long-time repeat customers, Falcon Trust Aviation, that has seven of their bi-fold door systems.

According to Bilt, Jim Starkweather, owner of Advanced Aircraft, knew that he wanted a Well Bilt bi-fold door for his new facility and counted on the company's experience that the doors would be designed to the specifications and the ability to meet Miami wind load specifications of 146 mph and be approved by the Miami-Dade Building Department.

For this project, Well Bilt supplied four 48 1/2- by 19 foot bi-fold door systems. The doors were delivered in one-piece, pre-wired, and ready to install. The door system includes a 2 horsepower motor drive train with a 180:1 gear ratio, 6x2 structural rectangular tube frames, in addition to 11- and 7-gauge walls. Also included in each bi-fold door system is a Dominion 3070 16-gauge high wind rated personnel door with safety interlock.

Florida Pre-Fab, Tampa, Fla. was the building manufacturer, All Star Remodeling Construction and All Star Electric, Miami, were the other contractors.

For more information on Well Bilt Industries, visit www.wellbiltdoors.com 