Located in Nassau, Bahamas, the Harry C. Moore Library and Information Centre is considered to be a beacon that symbolizes Bahamian scholastics and national development. This Library, built with Quad-Lock Insulated Concrete Forms, is also designed, specified and built to double as a disaster relief shelter, rated to withstand a Category 5 hurricane, giving the students and surrounding community a safe haven in case of an emergency.

Why Quad-Lock was Chosen

The university board & build team were convinced that Quad-Lock’s superior ICF system was the only choice for the following reasons:

- Cost savings, both in initial construction and long term building maintenance
- Versatility to conform to very complicated architectural features and design
- Ability to achieve the extremely high engineering standards
- Complicated radius walls
- Integrated columns
- The ability to withstand a Category 5 hurricane

Interesting Facts

Location: Nassau, Bahamas
Completion Date: March 2011
Building Size (Total): 60,000sqft
Quad-Lock Walls: 24,000sqft
% of Exterior Walls: 100%
ICF Installation Time: 9 months (staggered)
Total Construction Time: 2½ years
Wall Bracing: Reechcraft
Exterior: EIFS
The Design Vision

This massive undertaking was the dream of Harry C. Moore, who devoted his life to the advancement of education. The complex architecture and design centers around a circular core that has two curved wings that are also curved at the ends. This meant that the team was working with several different radii with very complicated intersections. In addition, the exterior walls had to be 24” higher than the inside walls and there were 32 integrated columns running from top to bottom of the 50-60’ high walls. With barely a single straight wall in the building design, Quad-Lock’s ICF system was perfect for this project.

Challenges Addressed with Quad-Lock

- Complicated radius walls and integrated 50-60’ columns could be easily constructed on-site
- Quad-Lock’s panel design allowed workers to efficiently handle the complicated rebar specifications required for this Library PLUS Category 5 Hurricane designed building
- The extremely complex floor system (traditional reinforced concrete deck with a massive ‘belt’ beam) meant that the exterior walls had to be 24” higher than the inside walls - easily dealt with by Quad-Lock’s panel design (no need for cutting or stripping webs to attain the varied wall heights for inside and outside)

Project Partners

Owner: College of the Bahamas
General Contractor: CGT Construction
Architect: Axum Architecture
Engineer: Lambert Knowles - ETS Engineering
ICF Installer: Seafoam Engineering Ltd.
Quad-Lock Dealer: Quad-Lock Bahamas Ltd.

“At the beginning of this undertaking, I was convinced that it wouldn’t work, but in the end, I admit that we never would have been able to do this project without Quad-Lock.”
Larry Treco, President CGT Construction