New Main Hospital and Power Plant
Roswell Park Cancer Institute
Buffalo, New York
$149,000,000

This project's urban location involved a maze of logistical constraints. In fabricating and erecting 5,550 tons of structural steel for the 15-story main hospital and 4-story power plant, we had to contend with a lack of on-site materials storage, a tight staging area, and the need to keep traffic flowing without detours. At the same time, the existing hospital and two research facilities were to remain fully operational during construction. We improvised a staging area by securing an off-site storage yard within five miles of the site and shuttling trailers in continuously to serve the erection crew. Completed floors were turned over to the following trades as we proceeded with erection of the upper floors and roof, and the use of two cranes sped our progress. Despite numerous obstacles, we completed the project one month ahead of schedule, in November 1995.

United States Plaza at the Rainbow Bridge
Niagara Falls, New York
$28,000,000

Architectural aesthetics depended on mathematical accuracy in the construction of the new Customs and Immigration Inspection Station and the adjacent administration building at the Rainbow Bridge. Set on the Niagara escarpment, the administration building's dramatic curve extends around a 400-foot radius emanating from the center of the Niagara Gorge. That curve, coupled with the building's elevated position, presented significant challenges as we fabricated and erected the 700 tons of structural steel for the project. Our success in meeting those challenges is evidenced by the building's selection for the 2000 Build New York Award, presented by the General Building Contractors of New York State. The 16-month project was completed on schedule, in January 1998.
Completed in September 2001, the Premier Garage Center serves not only as a parking facility but also as the foundation for a 32-story office building. To support the enormous weight of the planned superstructure, the project called for the use of 128 of the heaviest columns rolled anywhere in the world. The W14 x 665 columns, weighing over 30 tons each, were rolled in Belgium, shipped to the United States via an oceangoing vessel, and trucked into our fabrication facility one column at a time.

The project presented us with several challenges. Our fabricators had to develop procedures to heat, weld, and cool the massive flanges while welding on the necessary connections. The project managers needed to organize and coordinate a continuous flow of deliveries to the two on-site tower cranes used by the erection crew. Fabrication was sequenced so that each column and beam could be delivered and erected right off our trucks and set in its final location. Finally, given the project's downtown location and the building's footprint of one city block, it was not feasible to off-load any materials on the job site without hindering the foundation contractor's progress. The 2,500 tons of structural steel required for this project tested the organization's fabrication and management skills. Drawing on the skill, experience, and ingenuity of our craftsmen, we completed the project on schedule.