

**Construction Project Public Affairs Program**

As part of the process of fighting the oil fires in Kuwait, Bechtel's construction forces were faced with construction of 340 to 370 lagoons to temporarily store fire water. Due to the sandy soil conditions, each lagoon needed to be lined to hold the water until needed. To provide as much flexibility as possible, 40 mil thickness Monarflex brand liner material was ordered. It was supplied in 4 meter by 109 meter rolls, and it could be seam welded to form a liner of any required size. Because of the large size of a lagoon, the material for each liner had to be unrolled, cut to length, and welded in a dust free enclosure. The completed liner was then transported to the lagoon site and installed. This process was slow and the Bechtel management team sought to reduce the time required to construct the lagoons and to fabricate and install the liners. In July 1991, a Bechtel Procurement representative in the United States suggested the use of an alternative liner product named Raven. It could be shop fabricated to the required liner size and shipped complete to Kuwait. This lightweight Raven liner material was evaluated for strength and its ability to withstand the difficult conditions experienced at the oil fire sites and found to be satisfactory. It was used on over half of the lagoons and it reduced both labor and transportation costs.

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