Meyer Lok Block

The Meyer Lok Block is an innovative interlocking concrete masonry unit (cmu) unlike any other mortarless block on the market today. Its unique physically interlocking design which interlocks both horizontally and vertically sets this block apart from other mortarless systems.

The design was invented by Mike Meyer - a building contractor and currently a Concrete Lab Technician at the World Center for Concrete Technology at Alpena Community College in Northeast Michigan. The driving force for the design of this cmu was the lack of masons in the workplace and the fact that the average age of the mason in the workplace today is 54 years of age. With the diminishing number of skilled masons entering the workplace each year, Mike decided the mortarless system would be the way of the future. Mike's construction background coupled with concrete courses in the past inspired him to patent his mortarless block system design after he had completed the concrete program. He continues to strive to stay current in the concrete field and believes - that his product could revitalize the concrete block industry.

Although there is a slight increased cost to manufacture the Meyer block, this cost can be recouped from the sales price. The significant savings in using the Meyer block is provided in the greatly reduced labor and time of construction. For example, after installing the footings and mortaring the first row of block to the footings, we were able to construct the remaining eleven rows of a 16'x20' garage in two hours and forty two minutes with only four workers. Another project involved two workers constructing a 12'x12' storage building of eleven rows of blocks in one hour. Both projects were accomplished with unskilled laborers unfamiliar with the system.

Two individuals constructed basements for their homes using the Meyer block and reduced their cost by almost half. Mid Michigan Masonry constructed a commercial building in Gaylord, Michigan using the Meyer block system and were very pleased with the speed and ease of construction. They were also impressed with the fact that they could lay block in sub-zero weather without tenting and heaters.

The design of the block also allows for the installation of 3/8" re-bar through the block for added strength both vertically and horizontally. The block has three cores instead of two like a standard block. The third core adds not only strength to the block; it also enhances the locking system and gives the block a higher fire rating than conventional cmu's.

This block is an excellent product for the "do-it-yourselfer" with limited masonry skills who wants to construct a building, fence, wall, or column out of concrete block. It's also and excellent product for the contractor who want to save time and labor costs without sacrificing quality. With exposure to the product, masons will be able to see the benefit in reduced labor costs while increasing the number of projects that can be completed.

INTERLOCKING MORTARLESS BLOCK 2009 Nova Award Nomination 35