



Recipient, E-Award for Excellence in Exports, US Department of Commerce

# POWER CURBER PROFILES

**Our Commitment Shows** 

# Sports Complex Slipforming



ight miles downriver from Niagara Falls, Grand Island Senior High School suffered from forced athletic forfeits. Surrounded by the Niagara River on the United States/ Canadian border, parts of Grand Island, New York, have a high water table and poor drainage. Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Brian Graham, describes how it affects their athletics, "The grounds have serious drainage issues. In 2019 our baseball and softball teams lost five of our home games due to unplayable fields. Spring practices occur in the gymnasiums as our teams can't practice on our fields due to standing water. We consistently need to rent baseball fields off-island to play home games when our fields are unplayable."

To solve the problem, Dr. Graham revealed their plans to "build an all-purpose synthetic turf softball, baseball, soccer, football, and lacrosse athletic complex including a concession stand, restrooms, sidewalks, and lights." The multipurpose athletic area consists of a permeable stone drain

basin topped by artificial turf and 2 in (5 cm) of infill. Around the 1,830 ft (558 m) perimeter of the field, a dual-function concrete barrier serves as an anchor for the turf

surface and as the foundation for fence posts. The 18 in by 30 in (46 cm x 76 cm) profile is below grade, so the top is flush with the turf surface. The barrier also includes a continuous rebar cage, sleeves for fence posts every 10 ft (3 m), and a notch to anchor the turf.

General contractor Northeast Paving selected Millennium Construction to perform most of the concrete work for the \$7 million complex, including the field's perimeter barrier, 44,000 ft² (4,088 m²) of flatwork, and 1,400 ft (427 m) of 6 in (15 cm) curb. Millennium had hand formed a comparable turf anchor two years prior, taking them a month and a half. Having owned a Power Curber 5700-Super-B for several years and, having just bought a new

# "WITH THAT NEW POWER CURBER 5700-D, THERE WAS NO LACK OF POWER. IT WAS AS SMOOTH AS COULD BE"

- Joe Mardocco, Superintendent

Power Curber 5700-D, Superintendent Joe Mardocco wondered if they might be able to slipform the foundation to save time. Mardocco describes the struggle for approval, "no one had ever seen this application slipformed, so they didn't want it. I spent weeks on the phone with engineers and the school district and many meetings to get this approved." He finally received permission but under tight scrutiny. "The first day we slipformed was a trial day, and if they didn't like it, they weren't going to let us continue," Mardocco explained. "I tell you what; I was extremely nervous going into it," he admitted.

Equipped with a custom mold from Power Curbers set up to pour below grade on their new 5700-D, Millennium began the test. Mardocco emphasized, "with that new Power

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Concrete supplied by New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc.

## Continued from Cover

Curber 5700-D, there was no lack of power. It was as smooth as could be . . . within the first truck and a half, I got a phone call from the purchasing manager that was looking at pictures. He said it was the most beautiful curbing he'd ever seen and to continue slipforming." A few areas, like the safety net foundation behind home plate, had to be handformed, but Millennium completed nearly the entire field perimeter in three days. Joe was impressed with the performance of the 5700-D, the support from Power Curbers, and the month of work saved on this job, emphasizing, "I believe Power Curbers goes above and beyond what most suppliers do. You can be the smallest guy or the biggest, and you get

treated fairly across the board."

Millennium Construction is a familyowned, tight-knit business of over forty employees started by siblings Tom Cefalu and Melissa Panzarella and their spouses, Gail Cefalu and CJ Panzarella. They have many years

of construction



Slipforming this job saved Millennium Construction about a month vs hand forming

experience between them and a strong friendship tracing back to their teenage years. Based in Niagara Falls, NY, they perform all construction ranging from epoxy flooring to full-depth road reconstruction throughout New York and Northern Pennsylvania.

## **PAVING THE WORLD'S LONGEST TUNNEL ABOVE 10,000 FEET (3,048 M)**

pened for traffic in October 2020, the 5.6-mile (9 km) Atal Tunnel in India became the world's longest tunnel at an elevation higher than 10,000 feet (3,048 m). Connecting Manali and Keylong cities in the Himalayan mountain range, this tunnel cut travel time from six to seven hours down to two. Previously, the only route was through the Rohtang pass, which has an excessive number of switchbacks, is prone to erosion, landslides, and snowcovered for most of the year. Taking ten years and \$430 million to build, the new tunnel accommodates vehicular travel yearround. Named after former Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, this was a highly-publicized project symbolizing national pride.

General contractor Afcons-Strabag AG decided against using a boring machine; instead, blasting and drilling a horseshoeshaped tunnel. The design incorporates a 26 ft (8 m) wide two-lane road, a 3 ft (1 m) pedestrian sidewalk on each side of the road, an emergency egress pedestrian tunnel, state-of-the-art ventilation system, and regularly spaced telephones, CCTV cameras, and fire hydrants. Exclusively paved with a Power Paver SF-2700, the concrete road installation began in February 2019.

Afcons-Strabag AG partnered with PH Infratech, who supplied the SF-2700 and paving crew. Mr. Irinder Singh Ahluwalia, Partner, PH Infratech, explains the paving equipment selection, "The SF-2700 machine was very easy to move inside the tunnel operating in the tightly confined space. They also selected it because of the low profile of the machine. The tamper system and edge overbuild helped the edges to be very precise despite variations in slump. The belt finisher also aided the finishing crew. Finishing inside the deep tunnel was a tough job, and the machine minimized the handwork."

Based in Gurgaon, Haryana, PH Infratech has grown to fourteen employees since their 2018 founding. In addition to the SF-2700, its fleet includes a Power Paver SF-1700. Power Curber Companies' Indian dealer, Allen Buildwell Pvt. Ltd., supports their Power Pavers equipment. Pleased with the local service, Mr. Ahluwalia says, "We have recommended Allen Buildwell to contractors throughout India." Reflecting on the oneof-a-kind paving project, he concludes, "the machine was wonderful on the project; simple but strong to work in such tough conditions."



PH Infratech preparing their Power Paver SF-2700 for pouring



The Power Paver SF-2700 was perfect for paving the Atal Tunnel due to minimal side clearance requirements



Completed tunnel prior to opening

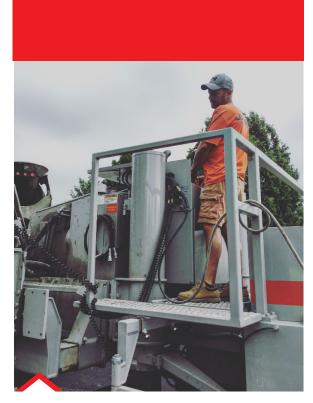


# **SELF-TAUGHT SLIPFORMER**

ive years ago, Danielle Williams didn't know the difference between precast curb and slipformed curb. Williams was focusing on her three boys and her interior design firm. Meanwhile, her high school sweetheart, Richard Williams, led his own asphalt maintenance company, Williams Brothers Paving, which he founded in 2000. Things were going well for their family as Richard's business picked up steam and earned corporate accounts throughout New England.

In 2006, Richard began having unexpected health issues, prompting doctor visits to try and determine the cause. Then, at 37, Richard was diagnosed with stage 4 metastatic colon cancer. Danielle aggressively researched his cancer and hunted for a clinical trial or doctor that could offer them any glimmer of hope. There were no miracles to be found, and after eight months of treatment, Richard passed away in June 2017.

Known for connecting with clients personally and for his dedication to providing exceptional service, Richard continued to guide his company and manage work flow until just days before his passing. Earlier that spring, Danielle and Richard took a trip together, visiting job sites and meeting several of Richard's key contacts. Although she didn't have any interest in a construction career, Danielle later recognized that Richard was subtlety introducing her to the industry. In their final months together, they discussed the future of Williams Brothers Paving. Danielle encouraged Richard not to worry about it that she would figure it out. But she admits, "I never expected that I'd keep running the business. I kind of thought in my head I wouldn't be able to or wouldn't want to."



Partner Jason Nadeau operating their Power Curber 5700-Super-B

After Richard's passing, Danielle had a change of heart. Through leading the company, she recognized how connected she could remain to her husband, that she could continue his legacy. Determined to learn the many facets of this industry, and with the help of their paving manager/partner, Tom Stanley, Williams made it through that first season. In their second season, Williams won bids for several parking lot jobs that included curbing. She struggled to find a local curbing company, so they installed precast curb for a corporate client at many locations before Williams decided there had to be a better way. She researched and learned about the process of slipforming. She soon reached out to Power Curbers to learn more about their equipment. Williams described how Power Curbers was instrumental in educating her on slipforming and putting her in touch with other curbing contractors for additional support. "Power Curbers kept connecting me to people who would willingly offer and provide me with the best advice." Williams committed in 2018 and purchased a rebuilt 5700-Super-B and a 150 Extruder to diversify her company into slipforming. She soon brought on Jason Nadeau as a managing partner to operate the machine and guide the slipform crew.

Again, Williams faced challenges. With very little existing slipforming in southern Maine, there were no experienced laborers to hire. Tie-in work, hand forming, and finishing had to be taught fresh to new employees. Concrete was another obstacle. Developing a mix design that worked for Williams Brothers was complicated by a green crew that couldn't pour at full speed, causing trucks to set up on them. Between concrete, a short working season, and an ever-changing schedule, time was the enemy. Williams finally gained momentum after finessing her mix design and getting through the initial learning curve with their slipform equipment. Commenting on their struggle, she explains, "Power Curbers has been so wonderful to help us work through technical difficulties. I've met and talked to so many kind individuals who truly were so supportive and helpful in sharing knowledge. Everyone was truly invested in our success"

Based in Saco, Maine, the fourteen employees of what is now, Williams Brothers Construction, Inc. perform asphalt and concrete slipform work throughout New England. Now through her third slipforming season, Williams is excited. "We've finally opened some doors this year with lead contractors - huge general



Associates of Williams Brothers Construction, Inc. install curb

contracting companies in our state that have been so impressed and happy with our work." Reflecting on her decision to get into slipforming, she declared, "I'm so glad I went with Power Curbers. I love the small business feeling that I have working with them. I've never once felt like I couldn't reach who I needed to. It feels so intimate. From ordering my molds to everything in between, everyone had always made me feel like I was a part of that business, which in some of my hardest times when I wanted to give up, it was that call that made me think. OK, we are going to keep going. We can do this."



Danielle Williams and her family



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the four-lane highway identified as having the highest crash rates in the corridor. The new design has better visibility, improv **Project:** Straightening a sharp "S" curve on

has better visibility, improved traffic flow, and includes a multi-use recreational trail.

Project: Recreational Trail connecting high pedestrian

traffic facilities for the City of West Burlington.

Location: Gear Avenue Trail, West Burlington, IA

Power Paver SF-1700

Contractor: Jones Contracting Corp.

3,100' (945 m) long aesthetically appealing with long

winding curves.

Specifications: ADA compliant 10' (3 m) wide and

Excellence in Concrete Awards from the Iowa Ready

Awarded: Selected for the 27th Annual, 2020

Chapter of the American Concrete Institute (ACI) in

the Recreational Trails category.

Mixed Concrete Association (IRMCA) and Iowa

**Specifications:** 49' (15 m) wide highway with integral curb, 9" (23 cm) thick with dowel bar baskets on transverse joints and tie-bars inserted on the longitudinal joints. Poured in two passes. **Awarded:** Selected for the 27th Annual, 2020 Excellence in Concrete Awards from the IRMCA and ACI in the Streets & Intersections category.

# Power Paver SF-2700

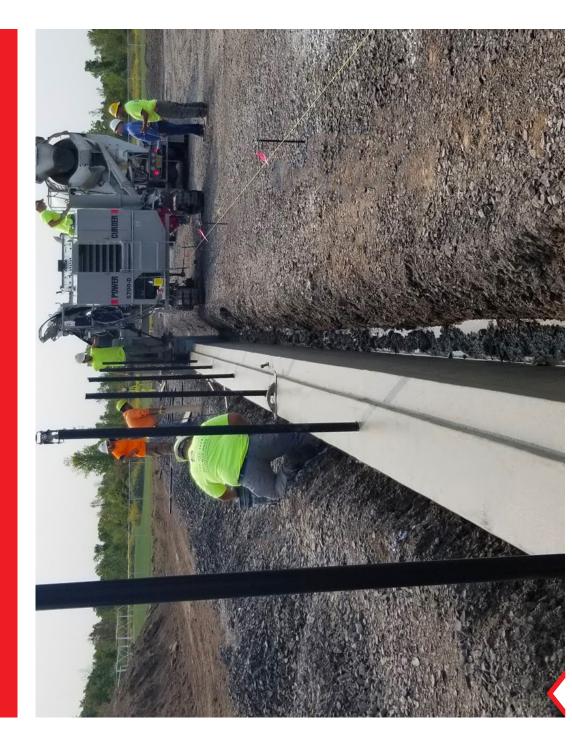
Location: 35th/36th St. Ave, Fort Madison, IA

Contractor: Jones Contracting Corp.

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# SPORTS COMPLEX SLIPFORMING



Dual-purpose fence foundation/turf anchor slipformed below grade