

Sims Sunset Park Material Recovery Facility



LOCATION

Brooklyn, NY

SIZE

125,000 sf

FRAMING SYSTEM

Rigid Frame

WALL SYSTEM

By Others

ROOF SYSTEM

Nucor CFR™ Roof System

Sims Metal Management (SMM) is the world's largest recycling company, and one of the Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations in the World. In cooperation with Mayor Bloomberg's administration, SMM developed the new Sims Metal Management Municipal Recycling facility, responsible for processing Department of Sanitation waste from New York's five boroughs.

The 125,000 sq. ft. project includes four structures: a Tipping Building, where recyclables arrive by barge, thus reducing truck traffic through the city; a Processing Building; a Bale Storage Building; and a Visitor Center and Administration Building.

Selldorf Architects won the Public Design Commission Award for Excellence in Design for their work on the new Sims facility. They were challenged to use design that would distinguish the facility from typical big box construction. The creative use of NBS products helped Selldorf's design team meet this objective. The Tipping building's main frame structure, made of galvanized steel to withstand the elements, is completely exposed, creating a striking visual effect not normally seen on the exterior of most industrial facilities. Many of the NBS products used in the facility's construction were special ordered or modified from stock pre-engineered structural



components to fit the design needs. The Processing and Bale Storage buildings are clad in corrugated metal, which also partially covers the Tipping building. The Administration and Visitor Center buildings were designed to allow for distinct office space and observation areas, where visitors may watch the recycling facility in action.

An NBS partnership offered SMM several benefits, including a reduced construction schedule, and a strong, flexible clear span building design with no interior support columns. The latter was particularly important not just for aesthetic reasons, but because the machines and processes used throughout the recycling facility require ample clearance. The clear span design was also important over the waterfront, where barges load and unload material.

The NBS National Accounts team was focused on providing Sims Metal Management with a strategic plan for their new facility's construction, based on its unique design requirements and budget concerns. Their responsiveness and flexibility, as well as their "Made In The USA" qualification, proved to be a great asset to the client as the project evolved from one phase to the next.

"It was a very positive experience collaborating with the NBS team, they worked with us to create a pre-engineered metal building system that would maximize the benefits of their products and our architectural strengths, to achieve our design goals within the capabilities of the NBS system."

- Marc Pittsley, Selldorf Architects

