

October 2020

## Van Hoose Construction Completes Stafford Air & Space Museum



Nucor Building Systems' Authorized Builder, Van Hoose Construction of Oklahoma City, recently completed (March 2020) the Stafford Air & Space Museum, located in Weatherford, OK. The project was a 20,334 square-foot addition to the existing museum. The museum now encompasses over an acre of exhibits under one roof. Named after test pilot, astronaut and commander of the Apollo 10 space mission, Lt. General Thomas P. Stafford, the museum is considered one of the finest and most comprehensive air and space museums in the central U.S.

Initial conceptual design began in 2017 with General Stafford, President of VHC Jeff Van Hoose, VHC Design Team member Russell Johnston, and Museum Director Max Ary. Civil, architectural and structural design and drawings, including exhibit and space planning, occurred during most of 2018.

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*Shown right, at the first meeting with General Stafford (center) is NBS DSM Brandon Holt (left), Stafford, and former NBS Inside Sales Engineer Kelechi "Kel" Emelogu.*

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A collaborative effort was also made within NBS, as DSM Brandon Holt, Inside Sales Engineer Kelechi “Kel” Emelogu, Inside Sales Rep Joe LaFan, and Project Coordinator Brian Wood all had vital roles in making this project a success.

The architect on the project was Trinity Group Architects also of Oklahoma City. Van Hoose Construction began work in February of 2019.

“Prior to construction, the facility looked like an ordinary metal building,” explained NBS District Sales Manager Brandon Holt. “Jeff and his team at VHC designed it and made it into what we see today. There were lots of moving parts to get it right and integrate it into the existing facility.”

The new facility consists of seven single slope pre-engineered metal buildings all connected for a total 20,334 sf of added space. This expansion included renovations to three existing buildings. The configuration includes differing elevations, skewed walls, and parapet walls, with most building interiors lined with Nucor Classic Wall liner panel.

One building was designed to load a 4,000-pound airplane suspended from the ceiling, with another designed to accommodate a suspended 6,500-pound spaceship. Nucor also provided decking for the single-ply TPO roof, as well as the support for the removable wall units. Glass walls add natural light and enhance the modern design of the structure.

- ❖ *To view the full project profile click here:*  
<https://www.nucorbuildingsystems.com/project-gallery/stafford-air-space-museum-building-expansion/>

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*Shown right, during a tour of the site during Nucor steel erection, is General Stafford and VHC Senior Project Manager Peter Plank.*

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