

Advancing Airport Renovation Efficiency

A Cost-Value Analysis Makes the Case for STARC's RealWall at PHX

Navigating the bustling corridors of Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport (PHX), it's hard to miss the seamless integration of STARC Systems' **RealWall™ system**, a testament to the vision of Lynsey Jones, Project Senior Manager with **McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.** With nine years of experience at the airport, Jones has seen it all. But when it came to temporary construction walls, she knew there was opportunity for something that would limit operational impacts.

The Challenge: Outgrowing Framed Drywall

Initially, the airport was a stronghold of framed drywall, a traditional but cumbersome solution. Jones and her team at McCarthy knew there had to be a way to make temporary partitions more streamlined as they were working on a large enabling project for a new concourse. After a comprehensive evaluation, they found their answer in STARC's RealWall, a highly durable modular wall system engineered to reduce noise, stop fire, and pass regulatory muster.

The airport was open to an alternative solution but requested a thorough analysis to ensure that any alternatives could meet or exceed the strict standards required at the airport, as well as ensuring the solution would be right sized for the already approved budget. While standard drywall for the many temporary locations was already approved, a compelling cost-value analysis presented by McCarthy tipped the scales in favor of utilizing the RealWall system.

The Solution: With Big-Picture Benefits

The scope of the Terminal 4 Eighth Concourse (T4S1) project was nothing short of monumental, encompassing a new concourse, two bridges, and even intricate areas like security checkpoints. The RealWall system proved to be a game-changer, allowing for rapid phasing and on-the-fly adjustments. The system's reusability and efficiency soon proved its long-term value. So much so, that the airport now owns the RealWall system and is utilizing it for ongoing airport enhancement scopes of work.



Operational Benefits and Installation Ease

One of the standout features of the RealWall system was its ability to maintain the airport's uninterrupted operations. Installation was a breeze, and graphics could be applied the same night, enhancing the overall passenger experience.

Security wasn't compromised either; special lock sets were added to doors, and the system's inherent flexibility allowed for real-time adjustments to meet stringent safety requirements.

Looking Ahead: RealWall's Expanding Role

McCarthy's future projects at PHX, including a newly awarded concourse project at Terminal 3, will continue to incorporate the RealWall system. This decision underscores its reliability and effectiveness in complex aviation environments. Furthermore, STARC's commitment to integrating customer feedback into product enhancements ensures ongoing improvement and relevance in the aviation market.

Conclusion: A Strategy for the Future

As Jones aptly summarized, "The RealWall system isn't just a temporary solution; it's a long-term strategy." The success at PHX is evident, marking a strategy that not only addresses immediate needs but also sets a new standard for future projects.

Whether your next project is a high-traffic airport or another demanding environment, STARC Systems is here to ensure your operations continue smoothly and efficiently. [Contact us today](#) to learn how our temporary reusable construction walls can address your containment needs.

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Lynsey Jones

Project Senior Manager
McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.

