



HAKI® Enclosure Wins Out Over Arctic Weather at Mod Yard in Canada

An outdoor fabrication yard is great in theory: wide open spaces, good light, fresh air and unobstructed access for cranes and other heavy equipment. Trouble is, if your yard is in Alberta, Canada, it can get cold. Real cold.

So when the fabrication crew arrived at the modular fabrication yard one day last February, no one was surprised to see the mercury at 35 below. Of course the folks at the “mod yard” knew all about protecting against cold, snow and wind. They even have an in-house scaffolding crew to put up temporary enclosures.

But for this job, the fabrication of a huge piece of equipment for oil sands bitumen processing, they needed to enclose nearly half-a-million cubic feet, and they needed to build the enclosure quickly, in an extreme weather environment. So they tried something new: the HAKI enclosure system, offered by Safway Services.

“The HAKI system changes everything,” said Dave Tanguay, Safway’s account

manager in Alberta. “Not only do you go from a brutal outdoor work site to an enclosed space, but you do it without losing the key advantages of yard fabrication, including the ability to load in large materials, thanks to HAKI’s modular design.

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“Best of all,” he added, “with HAKI, the enclosure goes up lightning fast. It’s light, safe and easy to handle.”

In the past, if a mod yard like this wanted to enclose a work site, they had to spend a lot of time and money building an enclosure from traditional scaffolding and heavy trusses. But with HAKI, workers can handle strong modular spans by

hand, and build huge, unobstructed enclosed spaces safely and quickly.

In this case, they built a roof to go on top of traditional scaffolding. The structure was 70 feet wide and 130 feet long with no supporting columns obstructing the work area. A strong, flexible vinyl sheeting is stretched over the long HAKI spans to form a continuous seal enclosing the entire site.

Although the workers who erected the enclosure had never even seen the HAKI product before, they found it easy to work with under the guidance of a few Safway workers brought in to train them. In fact, it was so easy to learn and to work with, even in brutal weather, that they completed the entire structure in four days. To do something similar using traditional methods would have taken four weeks.

“The HAKI system was really good, probably one of the best decisions we’ve ever made,” said the mod yard’s scaffolding crew foreman. “It’s light, it’s strong, and it assembles quickly.”

Another key benefit was that HAKI’s modular set-up allows parts of an enclosure to be moved or removed temporarily, to load in or extract large parts by crane, for example. In comparison, it would have cost thousands more to build and then remove sections for brief periods during the project using a more traditional access solution.

In this instance, the equipment, which was being fabricated, was a large processing unit for use in the Fort McMurray oil sands area. The device was to be built and disassembled, then shipped and re-assembled on site. To increase productivity and work quality in the initial fabrication, especially in

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light of the extensive welding required, temperature control was a must.

But at the same time, large pieces of one-inch-thick steel, each weighing more than a ton, had to be brought in as the construction moved along. With HAKI, a section of the roof could be quickly removed during lunchtime, when workers were off the site, allowing steel to be hoisted in with a crane. The open section was then replaced by the time the crew returned. The crew foreman estimated this ability saved approximately 11,000 man hours over the life of the project. The

ability to remove and replace the roof section quickly enhanced worker safety as well, as it ensured no personnel would be in the area during the lift.

In all the HAKI structure was up for six months, after which it was quickly disassembled and removed from the mod yard without incident.

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Safway became the primary provider of the HAKISPAN and HAKITEC® 750 products in North America in mid-2013. Safway, known for its expertise in engineering, project planning and project management, is able to assist clients in the use the HAKI systems in a wide range of applications.

Through **SMART Safety** practices, **SMART Planning** methodologies, **SMART Process** discipline and **SMART Technology** advancements, our **SMART People** come up with ideas every day to deliver **THE SMART WAY™**. The result? Safe, productive work sites – and the lowest total installed cost.

With more than 90 locations in the U.S. and Canada and a growing system of distributors worldwide, Safway Group companies deliver efficient, high-performance multiservice solutions – The Smart Way™.



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