



The Design-Build Process

The project began in January of 2000 with a civil design produced by Lin Engineering, and sitework began approximately 100 days later. Concurrent with the sitework, an 11,000 sf headquarters office was constructed in approximately 90 days.



During the early programmatic phase of the design, Estimator John Cody, principal Wallace Dillard, and Architect Dennis Rainoshek of WMD conducted visits to similar plants throughout the U.S and Denmark. Reviews were coordinated with the various equipment and mechanization suppliers. Preliminary building plans were produced in four months.



As BGA Engineers finalized the structural design, VOK+A coordinated the MEP drawings with input from the equipment and mechanization suppliers. Coordination of the physical, logistical, and engineering needs was achieved through frequent round-table meeting between the owner, John Cody and WMD Design. Full working drawings were produced in six months, and a contract for construction was issued in October of 2000.



Based in Europe, main suppliers of the equipment and mechanization were not available except by telephone and email, and coordination of the multitude of details regarding clearances, technical requirements, and even compatibility of standards was a challenge. As multiple suppliers were utilized, coordination between discrete mechanized systems required a further level of review to avoid potentially costly conflicts between mechanized equipment, various conveyor systems, and human and vehicular traffic. A final review was performed with the input of the Project manager and Field Superintendent to cross-check drawings and verify constructibility.

It is a testament to the team approach used in the design of this project that no conflicts of any magnitude were encountered during the construction process itself.