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# ECA

MAGAZINE

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# Trench Plate Rental's Shoring Solutions at 70 Year Old Plant

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**E**CA member Trench Plate Rental (TPR) delivered trench boxes, beams and 8' X 20' steel plates on a recent job to Cal Steel's Fontana galvanizing plant. The work was part of the project to secure an excavation 30' deep in the middle of a 70 year old building.

Cal Steel, being the West Coast's only remaining steel supplier, manufacturing five product lines, required Kayser Construction to provide the excavation for crews who would then construct a roller assembly line designed to pull cold-rolled steel into a perpetual web. The project commenced inside of Cal Steel's old plant, a 50' tall and 1,000' long enclosure dating back to the 1940s when the structure was still operated by Kaiser Steel Mill.

It was upon delving below the floor of the 70 year old facility when Kayser Construction head, Johnny Kayser, began to encounter abandoned reinforcing walls. Mr. Fred Carter, a 45-year Cal Steel employee joined Johnny as a surveyor in order to provide Kayser Construction with the location's historical background as well as an idea of what may be uncovered over the span of the project.

According to Mr. Carter, Johnny was beginning to expose what had at one time been the underground power rooms for the galvanizing operation dating back to 1940.

The excavation began by cutting a 40' square hole through an 8" pad. Then, a pit 30' deep and sloped at the top was dug. Two stackable, highly versatile Quik-Shor® 10' X 20' X 6' trench boxes on 16' spreaders,



*TPR delivered trench boxes, beams and 8' X 20' steel plates to the job for the 20' deep excavation.*

modified with 16' beams located between the walls to allow the placement of plates on the ends of the boxes, and to deal with the surcharge loads and depth of excavation.



*Abandoned reinforcing walls at Cal Steel's Fontana plant for what had once been the underground power rooms for Kaiser Steel's 1940s-era galvanizing operation.*

The ends of the boxes were closed off with 8' X 20' Steel plates to ensure that extraneous soil would not flood inside, thus eliminating excavation safety issues to protect workers while they built the required structures at the bottom of the pit.

Johnny Kayser enjoys a reputation for solving complex problems with a keen sense of urgency. It comes as no surprise that his Fontana-based company of the same name, Kayser Construction, won the right to work on Cal Steel's unique project.

In observance of Cal's Steel's stringent deadline and when presented with the challenges and dangers associated with the excavation, Johnny had no qualms about calling fellow problem solvers at TPR. He knew TPR would rise to the challenge and provide his crews with the highest quality underground shoring and excavation safety equipment in order to navigate the tough situation safely and efficiently. TPR had assisted Johnny previously when he was faced with unconventional terrain on a jobsite.

TPR developed a comprehensive and economic solution when considering all viable options available to meet Johnny's excavation shoring needs. Knowing that the excavation was over 20' in depth, TPR also equipped Johnny with a shoring plan provided by a registered professional engineer.

Johnny founded Kayser Construction, the small, agile operation in the year 2000. Currently leading a team of three, he subcontracts to concrete and electrical firms completing their specialty excavation projects. Combining efforts, Kayser Construction and TPR efficiently met all deadlines and concluded the project in just one month. Δ