

# STEEL FIBER REINFORCEMENT: UNIQUE APPROACH FOR SLABS

With several state-of-the-art manufacturing, assembly, and distribution facilities in the U.S., and internationally in France, Sweden, and Mexico, Rain Bird manufactures and provides irrigation products for farms, golf courses, sports arenas, commercial developments, and homes worldwide.

Contracted to manufacture the slabs used to expand the facility, Kirkpatrick Concrete used steel fiber in lieu of rebar or wire mat to reinforce the materials. "It was a unique approach, but also one that we're seeing more and more requests for," said Spencer Glassco, Sales Manager for Kirkpatrick's Northern Division.

"The steel fiber slabs help speed up construction and reduce labor costs out in the field," Glassco explained. "In the end, the general contractor likely saved money by making that choice." The project itself was fairly standard for Kirkpatrick, although introducing steel fiber into

the concrete mix and ensuring a good, consistent mix throughout did require some additional effort and attention.

"Our goal was to make sure that the mix was both workable and able to be finished once it got to the job site," said Glassco. "We achieved that goal and the job went smoothly."

## ABOUT RAIN BIRD

A privately held company founded in 1933, Rain Bird Corporation is the leading manufacturer and provider of irrigation products and services. Since its begin-

nings, Rain Bird has offered the industry's broadest range of irrigation products for farms, golf courses, sports arenas, commercial developments and homes in more than 130 countries around the world.

Rain Bird has been awarded more than 450 patents worldwide, including the first in 1935 for the original horizontal action impact drive sprinkler (U.S. Patent #1,997,901), which revolutionized the food production industry and ushered in a new era in irrigation, worldwide.



Rain Bird's Alabama Facility