

news release

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TEM COR CONVERTS FAMED SPRUCE GOOSE DOME
TO CARNIVAL CRUISE TERMINAL

GARDENA, CA July 25, 2003 – Temcor recently completed the conversion of one of its most famous projects in Long Beach, California. The massive 415' diameter, 130' high Aluminum Dome, built by Temcor in 1982 to house Howard Hughes' "Spruce Goose," recently started a new life as a cruise ship terminal. The dome is still the world's largest.

After The Spruce Goose was moved out of the dome and relocated to an aviation museum in Oregon in 1992, the dome continued to be used as a sound stage by the major film studios. The huge amount of unobstructed floor space (the clear-span dome requires no supporting columns) made it the world's largest sound stage at 135,000 square feet. The new cruise terminal occupies only 40% of the dome's floor space.

The conversion of the dome consisted of adding nine skylights, opening four emergency exits and closing another. Temcor also added a large truck door, a triangular opening for the passenger gangway and added a freight door for transferring luggage between the ship and the terminal.

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The inherent strength of the triangular geodesic structure enables Temcor to temporarily remove a large number of panels and structural frame without additional shoring. In fact, in 1992 when the Spruce Goose was removed, Temcor was called into service to temporarily remove 77 of the dome's aluminum panels and frame. No other structural support was required, and once the plane was moved out Temcor simply replaced the panels and frame, and everything fit as before.

The dome, at the time considered the world's largest clear span aluminum structure, is a fine example of the flexibility of a Temcor Aluminum dome. With only minor alterations, the application of the dome can be altered to accommodate other uses. The lightweight aluminum panels are easily removed and replaced, and Temcor's patented closure system ensures a watertight seal even after alterations have been made.

Temcor has been building aluminum domes and other structures for nearly 40 years and has more than 6,000 installations throughout the world in industries as varied as water and wastewater treatment, petroleum and scientific research. Temcor domes and roof systems for architectural applications are in place as sports arenas, cruise terminals, planetariums, churches, and more.

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