

AMERICA'S PEDESTRIANS

PROTECTING TIMES SQUARE, NEW YORK

No other defined public space receives more pedestrian foot traffic than New York City's Times Square. More than 40 million people per year pass through the area – tourists, business people, residents, and vendors alike. Almost one million people celebrate New Year's Eve in Times Square, an event that is broadcast live around the world. Safety for such concentrated crowds of people is a full-time job for hundreds of police, fire, and security officials. Protecting tourists from crime, traffic accidents, and each other is not easy; taking into account the additional threat of an intentional vehicle attack (such as in Nice, France and Ohio State University) prompted the City of New York and many responsible officials to undertake a very large upgrade to the safety and security of

this world famous pedestrian area. Calpipe Security Bollards was tasked to create a removable bollard solution that would protect the public in Times Square from potential vehicle attacks. The bollards were to be installed between 42nd and 47th Streets, and at the cross-streets of 7th Avenue and Broadway. This assignment came with a Dream Team of collaborators - the design team at Snohetta Architecture, the security project management team at The LiRo Group, and a world class contractor in Tully Construction. This Dream Team went to work to satisfy the requirements of a very diverse and demanding constituency. The City of New York, the Mayor's Office, the Times Square Alliance, the Department of Homeland Security, representatives of the NYPD, FDNY and many other agencies.

This was a very challenging project for any manufacturer. We had to design, prototype, and fabricate something that had never been built or tested before. It had to include custom features, it had to satisfy multiple agencies and specifiers, and it had to be operable from the very first day and every day thereafter for at least ten years. It was required for these bollards to be manufactured in the United States, and withstand the mischief and wear and tear that comes with 40 million visitors per year, uncounted taxicabs, and the worst that New York City could throw at them." – Carlos Gonzalez, Division Manager

"The safety and security of the public comes at a price. In the case of Times Square, money spent on good product design and stainless steel high security bollards will protect millions of visitors for years to come." – Dan Markus, President, Calpipe Industries Inc.

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Once the final design and specifications were agreed upon for the removable bollards, and once full scale articles were built and tested onsite, a final go ahead was given with the objective to have all bollards fabricated, shipped and installed within 90 days.

Once fabrication began, representatives from Snohetta, LiRo Group, the Mayor's office, and the Times Square Alliance came to inspect the fabrication and assembly for the actual production phase. Over 200 stainless steel bollards and almost 240 custom stainless steel embedment sleeves had to be cut, welded, assembled, and polished in time for the arrival of the inspection team.



The finished product is a field-tested removable bollard made entirely from Type 316 stainless steel. The bollards feature custom lifting rings to help with insertion and removal, custom engineered embedment sleeves and covers designed to withstand the demanding conditions encountered in a dense tourist area with vehicle traffic and harsh summer and winter conditions.

One of the most challenging tasks given to the design and engineering team at Calpipe Security Bollards, was the requirement to design, prototype, and incorporate into the bollards, a high security locking system which would be compatible with the locks and keys of several New York agencies but still unique to Times Square. Only specific agencies and third parties will be able to unlock and remove these bollards, and possession of that key will not allow unauthorized use at other city facilities.

The world-class project was completed within the 90 day requirement. All of the bollards are currently installed and functioning, and the crowds of tourists are safer today than they were a year ago. As a result of the installation, pedestrians will be safe for many years to come, as the strength and corrosion resistance of these bollards gives them an expected life in the field of more than ten years.

Calpipe Security Bollards is grateful to have been selected to be part of this world-class project. We would like to thank the design team at Snohetta, the project managers at LiRo, the Office of the Mayor of New York, the Times Square Alliance, and Tully Construction. A Dream Team indeed.



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