FLYING FORM TABLES

AS A CONSTRUCTION SYSTEM

Flying Forms are widely used for supporting cast in place concrete slabs on buildings having multiple slab areas, wide bays and multi-level structures.

Flying Forms are constructed of bearing member trusses and a deck on top. Bearing member trusses are the main component of a flying form and that is why it is important to select the best truss design for successful construction.

The common name for such forms is Fly Form Tables. These forms are reusable and their name is derived from their method of use: after pouring of concrete and after the concrete has hardened, the Fly Form Tables are lowered from the concrete floor, from where it was poured on, rolled outward from the building and then lifted by crane as if they are flying and relocating to the next slab area.

CONVENTIONAL FLYING FORM TABLES

Since the introduction of the flying form table concept to the hi-rise formwork industry in the early 1960’s, little has been done to update the initial truss design.

Trusses are constructed to accommodate a “worst-case” scenario, being designed to handle the maximum potential load without regard to each individual building’s requirements. This creates a situation whereby the contractor/developer paid for a forming system capable of handling a 45cm thick concrete slab for example, when slab thicknesses are most often considerably less than that.

The undeniable consequences of the “worst-case” design concept is the resulting excess weight of the fully assembled flying form tables. This unnecessary extra equipment weight restricts the allowable size of the fly form table, increasing the number of tables or need for higher crane capacity and thereby increasing formwork cost.

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CONVENTIONAL TRUSS

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NEW A-FRAME FLYING FORM TABLE

This remarkable new system addresses all of the conspicuous shortcomings of the earlier truss designs, being much lighter, faster to assemble, more easily transported and allowing more flexible table shapes and “table-leg” locations.

The inverted “A” member, A-Frame, connected to the top and bottom chord, is the key to overall effectiveness of this new product. Designed to disconnect simply from the top and bottom truss chords to facilitate ease of assembly, the A-Frame is able to slide along the top and bottom truss chords to allow flexibility in the individual location of each A-Frame depending on the thickness of the concrete slab design.

Also, integral to the location of each A-Frame is the Table Leg support, which is frictionally fastened to the bottom chord and not at pre-set location, allowing for example, a leg on one truss of the table to be offset from the corresponding leg on the opposing truss, which compensates for a variable slab edge or other site conditions.

As the illustration below indicates, the unique configuration of the assembled truss allows for much improved access, making the movement of man and material easier and more cost effective.

The system is fabricated from lightweight components which are easily handled and the trusses can be assembled to the design length on site without the use of an overhead crane.
A-FRAME FLY FORM TABLE SYSTEM

ECONOMICAL AND TIME SAVING SYSTEM
The A-Frame Fly Form System meets the demands of today’s challenging environments that require a flexible and time saving construction system. The A-Frame Fly Form System is fully adaptable to the design and shoring height of a concrete slab.

Configuration of A-Frame trusses and shape of A-Frame Fly Form Tables are built for each individual project, to maximize formwork demands resulting in considerable savings in time and labor to formwork contractors.

Due to the spacing between the A-Frames, access underneath and between the tables is significantly improved. This allows for more cost effective movement of man and material, as well as more thorough inspection of elevations and general conditions of the forms.

TYPICAL TABLE RELOCATON FLYING CYCLE
1. Fly Form Table supports cast in place concrete slab
2. When concrete reaches required strength, Fly Form Table is lowered and rolled outward from building
3. Fly Form Table is then lifted by crane and flown up from underneath of concrete slab
4. Fly Form Table is placed on top of previously poured slab.

With table sizes to date of 350 M2 (3,760 sq. ft.), this new A-Frame Flying Form System has been pivotal to the success of several Las Vegas mega hotels, completed on 4 day and even 3 day cycles, due to the reduced number of tables to fly and the attending saving in labor. Naturally this results in a faster, less costly concrete construction process and an improved profit picture.
A-FRAME TRUSS COMPONENTS

1. Top Truss Chord, H-750 aluminum beam
2. A-Frame, Truss web member
3. Bottom Truss Chord, H-750 aluminum beam
4. Telescopic Prop with Table Leg

A-FRAME FLY FORM TABLE COMPONENTS

1. Pair of parallel A-Frame Trusses
2. Telescopic Props
3. Hinged Table Leg
4. Cross Braces to keep distance between A-Frame Trusses
5. Forming Deck Surface over Trusses.
A-FRAME TRUSS ADAPTABILITY TO SHORING HEIGHTS

WITH TELESCOPIC PROP AND HINGED TABLE LEG

On buildings where the ceiling height exceeds 2.7M (9'-0") Telescopic Props are required to elevate A-Frame Trusses to the necessary height of up to 4.05M (13'-3”).

Installation and dismantling is very simple and efficient as Telescopic Props are mounted on the side of A-Frames.

Telescopic Props with Table Legs A or Table Legs B are the best solution, especially if the floor to ceiling height varies during construction.

SHORING HEIGHT
FROM 2.7m TO 4.05m
**WITH HINGED TABLE LEGS ONLY**

On buildings where the ceiling height is less than 2.75M (9'-0") use of Table Legs only, attached to the bottom truss chord, is the most efficient fly form table system, as it saves labour, time for relocation and set-up of tables for subsequent concrete pours.

Two types of Table Legs are available: Table Leg A and Table Leg B and both use the same friction hinge device for attachment to the bottom truss chord. They can be attached at any location along the bottom truss chord. Table Legs can be simply and efficiently interchanged during construction to accommodate different floor to floor heights.

**SHORING HEIGHT FROM 2.4m TO 3.00m**

Position of Table Leg beneath the bottom truss chord is adjustable to accommodate any variation in the configuration of the slab edge.

3. Table Leg in position for support of fly form table.

4. Hinged Table Leg in position for relocation of fly form table.
**A-FRAME FLY FORMS ADVATAGES**

**OPTIMUM TRUSS CONFIGURATION**

The unique feature of the A-Frame Truss System is its capability to utilize the optimum weight of trusses in relation to project specific concrete structure mass. This feature is accomplished by having the option of positioning truss web members, A-Frames, at any location between top and bottom truss chords.

Based on the maximum capacity of each Telescopic Prop and Table Leg of 8.3 ton (18,300 Lb) attached to A-Frames and with the option to vary the spacing between A-Frames, it is possible to achieve optimum ratio between truss weight and truss capacity for a project.

**MULTIPLE TRUSS CONFIGURATION**

With multiple A-Frame truss configurations, using two, three or four rows of trusses, A-Frame Fly Form Tables can be used for slab shoring heights up to 8.00 M (26'-3")

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For heavy concrete structures, in order to have maximum utilization of truss capacity, spacing between A-Frames decreases while the weight of trusses increases.

For light concrete structures, in order to have maximum utilization of truss capacity, spacing between A-Frames increases, while the weight of the trusses decreases and therefore forming equipment becomes more economical.
TRUSS SUPPORT FOR WORKING PLATFORM

With positioning of A-Frames next to each other, and placing A-Frame Trusses on two supports only at each end, A-Frame Trusses can be used as “bridge” members for support of man working platforms. Span and number of trusses spaced apart depends on loading requirements of a project. Maximum span of 30.5M (100'-0") with trusses spaced at 0.9M (3'-0") provide 245KG/M2 (50Lb/sf) of loading capability.

SECONDARY TRUSS CHORD

In order to use A-Frame Fly Forms for slab shoring heights of 4.65M (15'-3"), the Secondary Truss Chord is introduced.

The Extension Column 60cm (24") high is bolted on top of the truss and horizontally braced in order to support a secondary truss chord.

PARAPET WALL

With the use of A-Frame 120 for truss assembly, a minimum clearance height of 1.80M (6'-0") is required for relocation of the table. This compact A-Frame Truss allows pouring of parapet or upstanding walls at the same time as a suspended slab. High rollers are used for sliding the forms out from the underside of the slab.
REFERENCE PROJECTS

HOTEL MANDALAY BAY
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

SHAW TOWER
VANCOUVER, B.C.

RESIDENTIAL TOWER
VANCOUVER, B.C.

HOKUJI BUILDING
HONOLULU, HAWAII
**PERIMETER BEAM**

The perimeter beam at the slab edge is easily supported by a Transfer Cord bolted to the truss posts. The Transfer Cord could be positioned at any required height as trust posts have pre-set holes at every 100mm (4"). The Transfer Cord must be supported with post shores just under the slab edge perimeter beam.

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**SLAB - BEAM STRUCTURE**

To support perpendicular concrete beams to the A-Frame Trusses, A-Frame Trusses are positioned below the concrete beams and the secondary truss chord is placed between the concrete beams over adjustable supports on top of the Trusses.

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**CANTILEVER SLAB**

The versatility and strength of A-Frame Trusses offers a simple solution for the support of the cantilever slab. By adding a truss column between top and bottom truss chords and two A-Frames, and repositioning of Telescopic Prop at truss column, A-Frame Fly Form Table could be well cantilevered over the slab edge.
**VARIABLE TRUSS LENGTH**

With modular lengths of Top and Bottom Truss Chord, ability to join them together and to position A-Frames with Telescopic Props and Table Legs at any location between them, A-Frame Truss lengths could be designed to accommodate any truss length requirement of a project. Maximum truss length is determined by project conditions and available crane capacity of a project. A-Frame Truss length is adjustable in increments of 1.5 M (5 feet).

**PRODUCTION AND FORM ASSEMBLY**

National Forming Systems Inc. is proud to manufacture its products at its own production facilities, retaining full process and quality control. Robotic welding and mass production of units ensures a large inventory available to promptly respond to customers’ needs at an affordable cost.

With a full service assembly facility, National Forming Systems Inc. can assemble custom made A-Frame Trusses for a project, load the assembled trusses on trailer trucks and deliver to the job site. Such assembled A-Frame Trusses can be used to form A-Frame Fly Form Tables right away. The cost of preassembled A-Frame Trusses by National Forming Systems Inc. is 1/3 of assembly cost of the same trusses by forming contractor on site.

**TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE**

The various members of A-Frame Trusses are easily and compactly packaged for shipment and storage. Truss members required to assemble A-Frame trusses for 1,000 M2 of suspended slab can be conveniently loaded on a 12.00M long truck deck for shipping or storage.
ELECTRIC HOIST - TURFER

The Electric Hoist is a device attached to the crane hook, consisting of two chains supporting back lifting points of a table. When a table is rolled out, the two chains from the crane hook support two table front lifting points while two chains from Electric Hoist support table back lifting points. With use of a remote controlled Electric Hoist, it pulls the back-side of a table until the table reaches a level position and is ready for relocation.

This is a safe relocation method but requires tables to be pushed out in order to be picked-up by the crane and the rigger to connect lifting chains at four table lifting points.

PINCHING METHOD

The Pinching Method got its name from the table position when it is pinched between slab and ceiling in order to be picked-up by the crane.

It is a fast and labour intense relocation method that requires high skills and experience of workers. It also requires engineering approval of the truss bottom chord capacity as this relocation method creates a high point load on the bottom truss chord.
SKY LIFT

The Sky Lift is a U-shaped lifting gravity device supported by a crane, consisting of an upper horizontal arm with a trolley for leveling purposes and a lower horizontal arm for lifting tables. Before a table is lifted, the trolley, with remote control, is placed in a position so that the table is leveled when lifting and relocating.

Relocation of tables with the Sky Lift is the most safest and least laborious and intense relocation method. It eliminates the need to roll out tables in order to be picked-up by the crane and also eliminates the rigger need to attach crane chains to four lifting table points.

A-FLY FORMS ACCESSORIES

1. Hydraulic Jack
2. Gliding Roller
3. Lifting Bracket
4. Caster
5. Floor Jack up to 30°
6. Railing Bracket

SKY LIFT CAPACITY

Maximum Table Length is 12.20m (40ft)
Maximum Table Weight is 2.7t (6,000lb)