

# NAVAL STATION ROTA

CASE STUDY



**LEGACY BUILDING SOLUTIONS** is proud to support our U.S. Armed Forces wherever they operate throughout the world. The U.S. Navy recently stationed one of their helicopter squadrons at an airbase in Rota, Spain as part of their Atlantic Helicopter Maritime Strike Wing, and they were in need of an aircraft maintenance hangar.

Initially the idea was to build one building, 100 ft by 100 ft. As plans came together, the U.S. Navy decided to order two identical structures. One of them has a bridge crane with a 5-ton capacity supported by the I-beam frame that Legacy is known for. The second building is identical and was designed to be “crane ready” so that if the building owners want to add another crane later, they can. Both are classified as MRO hangars.

## LOCATION

**Base Naval de Rota, Spain**

## SIZE

**Each 100 ft x 100 ft  
(20,000 total sq ft)**

## MARKET SECTOR

**Military**

## APPLICATION

**Helicopter  
Repair Hangars**

## SPECIAL FEATURES

**Each designed to support  
a 5-ton overhead crane**

## INSTALLATION

**Legacy in-house crews**





Chris Neely is the deputy maintenance officer for the Navy's Atlantic Helicopter Maritime Strike Wing, and the manager for this project. He said, on the first call, Legacy, "gave us solutions to our problem and the project took off from there." Neely's problem was that it typically takes five to seven years to get a building project approved through the U.S. Government contracting process, and he needed something much sooner. Even though Legacy's buildings are considered permanent, by us, the fact that they were fabric classified them as temporary in the eyes of the government contractors.

The site was on existing tarmac sloped for drainage, which created a challenge, especially when accommodating the bottom rolling door. Legacy worked closely with the general contractor to provide a creative solution for the foundation.

The Navy chose our standard EpoxxiShield™ epoxy paint coating to protect the steel frames from corrosion since Rota is located about a mile from the ocean. In projects located near a coast, we advise extra corrosion protection for our solid steel frames. The combination of the epoxy coating, the fabric exterior and the fabric liner inside provides plenty of corrosion protection for the hangars.

Meeting the timeline on this project would have been a snap—without the pandemic. Legacy was

scheduled to send our installation team to Spain in the middle of the pandemic. The timeline was adjusted with Covid taken into account, and the install crew got the buildings up. Neely himself couldn't be there for the installation, but heard good things from the people on base. "The team that built it—from all accounts—was very professional and did a great job," he said.

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He also had compliments for the team back at headquarters. "They answered every question that I had," said Neely. He has special praise for building and project design consultant, Sara Davis. "Sara answered every question that I had. She didn't pawn me off to someone else, whether it was in her bailiwick or not."

When he finally got over to Spain to see the buildings, he was pleasantly surprised. Said Neely, "what was provided to us far exceeded what I had in my mind. Yeah, they are called tension fabric—I know they are fabric—but those things are pretty solidly built and not really temporary. It's a very well built structure, and it's going to be there a while."