Why Woven Wire Mesh?

By Gary Brunelle (retired) and Bonny DesJardin
Jesco Industries Inc-Wire & Iron Products Division
Active member of the Woven Wire Products Association
Active member of MHI – ProGMA

Wire mesh partitions and infill panels offer a fast, durable answer to projects that require more security and safety. Wire mesh is used in all type of industries because it provides security and safety while allowing free air flow and visibility. The partitions can be specially fabricated to fit different size and functional needs. Wire mesh partitions are economical and easy to install; and often enhances the esthetics.

The Project

Everything starts with a clear understanding of the project and communication is the number one priority. The planning stage can and should be challenging and fun. Successfully finishing the toughest projects are both rewarding and self satisfying. It all begins with a telephone call, email, or a fax and ends when the product is installed.

A clear understanding of the job can often be challenging when design build projects have some unusual specifications which cannot be economically produced with the materials specified for the project. Compromise and acceptance from the contractor and the owner is paramount when trying to stay within budget. Blueprints and specifications (or at least sketches) will get the quoting process done. Small projects are quoted more quickly but all are unique because we have found no two projects are ever the same. The paperwork remains the same whether the project is small or large; receiving purchased order, establishing credit, creating cad drawing, send the submittals, getting a change order, verifying field dimensions from the contractor (or installer), and establishing an acceptable timetable for fabrication and delivery.

Good reliable measurements are critical in providing the product where and when you need it. As in all wire mesh projects; it is the last area of the project to be installed. This usually means HVAC, sprinklers, mechanical, compressors lines and anything else has been installed after you took your initial measurements and you will need to install or work around them. This means cut-outs, as frustrating as it sounds, will only be as difficult as you let it. The cut-outs may be done at the factory or in the field. You can get very creative in your thinking when installing around these impediments. Problems with installation can occur. If a problem occurs during the installation, there is normally more than one solution.

Woven wire mesh partitions specifications:
10 gauge woven into a 1-1/2” diamond in a 1-1/4” x 5/8” channel frame
8 gauge woven into a 1-1/2” diamond in a 1-1/4” x 5/8” channel frame or 1-1/2” x 3/4” channel frame
6 gauge woven into a 2” diamond in a 1-1/2” x 3/4” channel frame
10 gauge woven into a 2” x 1” rectangular opening in a 1-1/4” x1-1/4” x 1/8” angle frame

Infill panels offer a reliable, fast, high quality and low cost method of security and safety applications. Woven wire mesh panels are often used in stairways, window guards, catwalks and provides the most economical means for complying with OSHA and code regulations.

The product is also utilized in other industries such as government facilities, warehouse supply chains, food and beverage, appliance, aerospace, cabinet and furniture manufacturers and ornamental iron work.
Woven wire mesh infill panels specifications:
10, 8 and 6 gauge woven wire in diamond, square or rectangular
Channel frames: 1” x 1/2”, 1-1/4” x 5/8”, 1-1/2” x 3/4”, “U” edging
Other options available: banding or capped with larger channel which produces a highly desirable finished edge, and stand-offs.

The wire mesh products Jesco Industries - WIPCO Division manufactures are packaged in crates and the infill panels in gaylords with a forklift/pallet base for smaller to medium size projects to minimize the freight issues which can occur. When we started to crate our partitions/panels, freight claims decreased significantly. Only the dedicated truck loads are hand loaded and packed side to side, top to bottom and braced in the truck for transport; however this does mean the contractor at the job site will be off loading. Jesco/WIPCO has selected carriers which handle most of our freight and they have a clear understanding of our requirements which allows us an avenue in the event something does go wrong. Most projects we prepay the freight. Some customers prefer to use their choice of carriers; which means that they are responsible for the product once it leaves our facility.

When a project is completed and the owner accepts, the contractor signs off and everyone is happy. You know you did your best. This is when you are remembered for future projects. That in itself is worth doing all over again!