FOR JAYHAWK FOOTBALL PROGRAM
As Jayhawk Nation enters the Les Miles era with its football program, the University of Kansas finds itself in need of an all-weather practice facility. The 9,000 ft² (840 m²) indoor practice space is being built on the west side of Kansas’ Memorial Stadium. The project is the start of Kansas’ “Raise the Chant” fundraising campaign focusing on KU’s Memorial Stadium.

PROJECT DETAILS
J.E. Dunn was awarded the $26 million dollar contract for the practice facility. Ground breaking took place, and J.E. Dunn started work in late April of 2018. Utilities, site work, and construction of the building pad lasted through August. J.E. Dunn chose to utilize EFCO’s PLATE GIRDER® to self-perform the concrete walls on the west and north side of the facility. The practice facility contained 33’ tall one-sided walls that would be needed as the facility is built into a steep hillside. Forms for the walls arrived on site in late August. The first two pours each contained either an inside or outside corner. Pours 3 - 8 were the typical 16” (400 mm) thick and 33’ (10 m) tall straight wall pours that contained two 24” (600 mm) x 30” (750 mm) pilasters built into the wall. EFCO built cam strippers into the form design to achieve stripping relief between the two fixed pilasters. For the first hours of each cycle, J.E. Dunn’s crew would remove most of the she-bolts and quick bolts between the gang forms. At that point, they were ready to start collapsing pipe braces and pulling forms off the wall to be cycled ahead. With the typical pours, J.E. Dunn was able to achieve a three-day turn-around with the forms. Despite flooding throughout the Midwest all through the fall of 2018, J.E. Dunn maintained a strict schedule, and KU’s new practice facility will be complete early in 2019.

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Lawrence, Kansas