



Gold
2011

Commercial Landscape
Construction

Any project that begins by negotiating a contract directly with Donald Trump will be one that pushes the envelope and brings a unique set of challenges. From the beginning, it was clear that the biggest hurdles of the Trump Tower project would be the moving of materials and plants into and throughout the site without the use of tractors; everything had to be placed by hand or with the assistance of a crane. Ninety percent of the construction occurred using physical labor. This dramatically increased the square-foot value of the project because it was so labor intensive.

This project was designed by Peter Lindsay Schaudt of Hoerr Schaudt Landscape Architects. It included plantings at six levels: three plaza levels and three terrace levels along the tower. All of the planting occurred over structure, with the exception of the lowest plaza level. Plant

material, including 82 trees of six-inch caliper or 16-foot height, were craned into constructed planters that ranged in depth from two feet to five feet, with 40,000 s.f. of drainboard. Some 2,900 c.y.

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of four different types of soil, including specially created lightweight potting mixes that would minimize weight loads, were installed and compacted in six-inch lifts. Due to the ongoing construction of the building, various areas needed to have landscaping completed before becoming inaccessible. This sometimes meant completing installations out of season and finding out, through trial and a few errors, how far the planting envelope could be pushed. Some 1,100 shrubs,

10,700 perennials and 18,000 flowers were secured during the duration of the project.

This required logistical creativity every day. Without a staging area, a just-in-time supply chain was required, with very

narrow delivery windows. Regardless of the volume of material, the rule was get in line, get it off, and get out of the way. Vendors did an amazing job of supporting these tight schedules and accommodating deliveries at any hour of any day.

Sometimes working outside of normal working hours provided greatest efficiencies. For instance, soil mix was delivered and placed from 4 pm to 11 pm in a February sleeting rain, or at 4 am on Sunday to avoid competition with other