



## GRAND AMERICA HOTEL

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

This five-star hotel's ornate exterior was completed by KEPCO+ in 2001, with additional stone site work completed in 2002.

The Grand America Hotel is appropriately named, as it is certainly one of the grandest natural stone-clad buildings in the country. To accomplish the task of detailing, fabricating, and installing this complicated granite within the proposed construction schedule dictated by the impending 2002 Olympics, Owner Sinclair Oil Company entered into a 90-day pre-construction initiative with KEPCO+. During this period, KEPCO+ provided complete design build services, collaborating closely with architect Smallwood Reynolds Stewart and Stewart to help produce extensive design development documents, with the stone portion virtually ready for construction. This circumvented the usual delays associated with total project document completion prior to bidding and allowed for early selection of both the Bethel White granite and the stone fabricator. The initiative also allowed KEPCO+ to proceed with the preparation of shop drawings prior to final stone supplier negotiations, so there was little delay in the procurement schedule after the final selections were concluded.

To protect both the granite and its support system from undue weathering, the stone was mechanically fastened with stainless steel anchors to a hot-dipped galvanized strongback system in KEPCO+'s climate controlled facility. Each individual assembly was outfitted with extensive guttering and weep systems to control any moisture that may occur beyond the stain-inhibiting sealant utilized as the primary barrier.

The complexities in the preparation and execution of The Grand America's elegant facade were transformed into a pleasant cohesive process primarily due to the Owner and Contractor's willingness to participate in a design-build preconstruction initiative. KEPCO+'s corporate philosophy strongly encourages such team collaboration on all major projects.

Cladding Type:  
Bethel White Granite

Cladding Total: 295,000 SF

Installation Method:  
Hot-dipped Galvanized  
Strongbacks and handset

*"The early design build collaboration of your pre-construction team along with our architects, designer, and contractor was critical in achieving the outstanding work."*

Sinclair Oil

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Architectural Cladding Systems  
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