



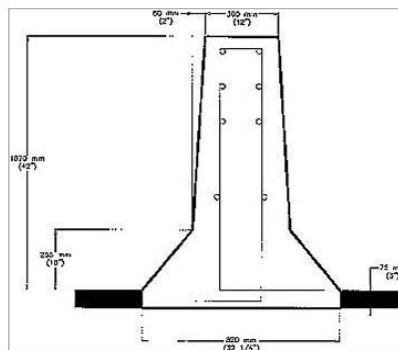
## MEL'S METTLE

## THE GREAT DIVIDE

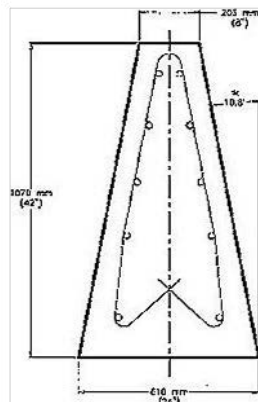


In a myriad of ways, I haven't really grown-up and one of those throwbacks to my youth is my enthusiasm and love of bumper cars. How could one forget that amusement ride where small, electronically powered "dodging" cars crash into each other in a totally random manner? Nothing could beat the excitement of "wiping out" your buddies NASCAR style or, even better, zeroing in on your brother for a head-on crash.

Learning to drive as a teenager, I immediately realized that driving a real car was the direct opposite of operating a bumper car. Now the object was to avoid accidents, not cause them. After my teen years, but continuing in that "non-collision" frame of mind, I began working for a company that would make products to help prevent car crashes, particularly head-on types. That company just happened to be MFC and the safety products they manufacture are



*New Jersey Barrier*



*Constant Slope Barrier*

### Median Barrier Forms.

Concrete median barrier used to separate opposing lanes of traffic, and prevent head-on collisions, did not gain widespread popularity until introduced in the 1960's by the State of New Jersey. MFC began manufacturing median barrier forms shortly after the New Jersey introduction and has been doing so since that time. No one can match MFC's expertise in this steel form category, as median barrier cast-in-place by METAFORMS® can be found on highways and bridges throughout the US, Canada and the world.

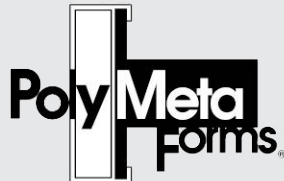
Different designs & specifications for barrier forms, also known as K-Rail and F-Shape, have been introduced over the years. The New Jersey style (and a similar GM design) is still popular, particularly as portable safety devices used on road projects to temporarily...



**METAL FORMS CORPORATION**  
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*mel's mettle continued*

... reroute traffic and/or protect construction workers. Recent barrier variations include the constant slope design which is now specified in Arizona, California, Texas and Wisconsin.



**PRE-CAST (Portable) BARRIER**

*The US Military nicknamed these devices "Qaddafi Blocks" after truck bomb attacker in Beirut in 1983 resulted in more widespread use in military operations.*

Although constant slope barriers are now en vogue, there may be a new design on the horizon. After all these years, the Fun Police have determined that bumper cars are now dangerous and are waving their batons at the evils of this entertaining diversion. Although the idea of the ride is to bump other cars, safety conscious (or at least litigation conscious ) amusement parks are now posting signs warning "This Way Around" and "No Head-On Bumping". Just imagine, designing barrier forms to prevent bumper cars from bumping eachother.





# FIELD REPORT

## BUILT TO ARIZONA SPECIFICATIONS MFC Barrier Forms Reshape I-10 Traffic Patterns



MFC's expertise in engineering different types of barrier forms is on full display at a massive I-10 project in Tucson, AZ. The \$170M reconstruction job was awarded to Granite Construction and MFC is assisting by providing concrete forming systems to cast various types of barrier configurations.

The huge project, along a critical and congested portion of I-10 in downtown Tucson, will increase road capacity and enhance safety. In total, the rebuild will add a fourth lane in each direction and construct six new bridges while also adding and rebuilding key interchanges.

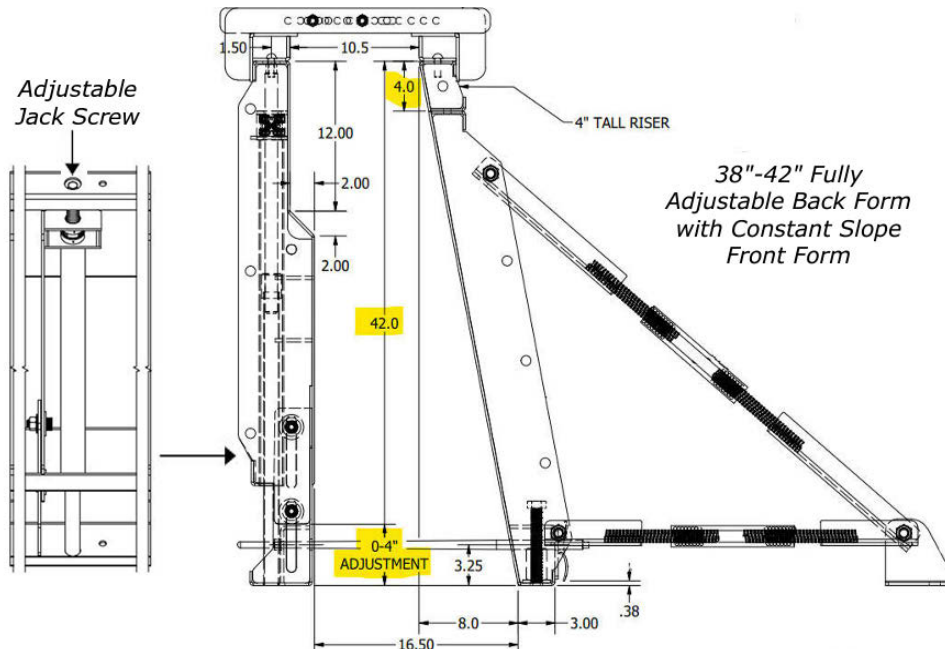
The concrete barrier work is a key component to the project and, to that end, MFC is providing the following forming systems to meet State and Federal specifications:

- 1) In the center of I-10, 38" or 42" high constant slope barrier facing both directions of traffic.
- 2) On bridges, constant slope barrier on the inside (front) facing traffic with the outside (back) having a 12"x2" off-set. The back form is FULLY ADJUSTABLE from 38" to 42" high.
- 3) Transition barrier that gradually tapers and widens to accommodate light pole blisters.
- 4) Transition barrier that gradually tapers in both directions and connects to metal guard rails.

Good communication between Granite and MFC assured that the forms were fabricated to precise specifications and were delivered to the jobsite in an organized and timely manner.



*42" Constant Slope Form  
(38" Form with 4" Riser Form)*



*Transition Barrier Forms  
For Light Pole Blisters*



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## HALLWAY HISTORY

Visitors to MFC are now treated to a unique visual timeline of the company's amazing 100-plus year history.

Surrounded by graphics depicting the start of MFC in 1909, Mel Metalform (company mascot and author of Mel's Mettle) greets guests at the street level entrance off Booth Street.

As one proceeds past Mel to the upstairs offices, additional photos/graphics highlight MFC's rise to a world leader in the concrete forming and finishing industry.

## MILESTONE



Celebrating 115 Years