

## Martin Iron Works Inc.

**Project Size:** Specialty Contractor  
Over \$5 Million

**Category:** Meeting the Challenge  
of a Difficult Job

**Project Title:** Downtown Reno  
Event Center

The steel crisis that plagued the United States in early 2004 certainly took its toll on several northern Nevada construction projects. One project where this crisis challenged both the contractor and specialty contractor Martin Iron Works, Inc. was the Downtown Reno Event Center.

From the date of project start on Jan. 2, 2004 until August 23, 2004 Martin Iron Works, Inc. procured, fabricated and erected more than 1,700 tons of steel for the Event Center. This facility is state-of-the-art and designed for special events such as concerts and sporting events as well as for conventions.

The design of the building required nine clear span trusses 230 feet in length weighing 150,000 pounds — all fabricated in Martin Works' shop. The two end sections were 60 feet in length, weighing 40,000 pounds each.



The center sections were 110 feet in length weighing 70,000 pounds each. Martin Iron Works also fabricated and installed more than 1,800 linear feet of catwalk and railing system suspended in the bottom of the trusses.

"Because Martin Iron Works, Inc. applied the administration wisdom, provided their local manpower resources and utilized multiple fabrication they were able to successfully overcome the 2004 steel industry crisis and deliver to us over 1,700 tons of steel to the jobsite right on schedule," said Mark Wilkerson, project manager for general contractor Q & D Construction, Inc.

Martin Iron Works was able to keep the project on schedule and under budget despite all the steel price increases and the problems that came along with it.

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