

Formosa Fountain & Engineering Company

Selected Projects & References

Sandia Casino, Albuquerque, New Mexico (2001)

Materials: Sandstone, Concrete, FRP.

Dimensions:

Entry fountain: 230' x 32' wide natural pond form.

Stage fountain: 55' diameter x 4' wide with 8' tall sandstone waterwall.



The entry fountain at the Sandia Casino is designed to appear much like a natural pond. The fountain incorporates three large Oase C-Line nozzles on flanged standpipes. The casino has a variety of nozzles such that the fountain effect can be varied over time. A wind control sensor is utilized to prevent the fountain spray from wetting the entry area.

This waterfall surrounding Sandia Casino's outdoor amphitheater stage creates a dramatic backdrop for a variety of events which occur year-round. It includes wet/dry lighting that lights the wall when the fountain is shut down. Pumping rate is variable to enable a "quiet" mode for more intimate productions. All lighting is by three MR-16 bulbs in single fixtures. Dichroic filtered primary red, blue, and green lamps are used to create a white light effect with colored highlights reflected and refracted by the water action.

This project was originally designed with dry equipment in a buried vault. The initial bids came in over budget, and the fountains were redesigned with all submersible equipment. The second round of bids actually came in under budget.

Both fountain incorporate a freeze control system. When the fountain water reached 32°F, the displays are shut down and automatic drain valves drain the entire system, thus preventing freeze damage. New Mexico experiences freezing weather for about two weeks a year.

Reference:

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