



Day After Day, Fiberglass Edges Out Concrete

For one Midwestern university, the road to fiberglass grease interceptors started with concrete and went through steel.

Location:

- East Lansing, Michigan

System Capacity:

- 20,000 gallons (75,700 liters)

Application:

- Plumbing engineered solutions

Company:

- Michigan State University

Products:

- One Grease Interceptor

I really like the corrosion resistance of fiberglass and the design flexibility Xerxes offers.

- MSU project manager.

For decades, grease interceptors at university dining halls and kitchens were made of concrete. When Michigan State University (MSU) replaced a deteriorating concrete grease trap in one of its busiest dining halls, it installed a coated steel grease interceptor.

However, the coating needed to protect against corrosion added costs to both the initial installation and the ongoing testing required to check the integrity of the coating. These extra costs led them to search for an easier, less expensive option – which led their engineers to Xerxes.

They liked what they learned and chose corrosion-resistant fiberglass instead of steel for that site and decided on fiberglass for all future sites.

The grease interceptor was designed with fewer elbows than alternative products. This eliminated a common problem at installations like this because most of the waste is food, which quickly plugs up the system. Because the Xerxes interceptor needs much less frequent pump outs, it's an ongoing cost advantage over concrete.