

Smithsonian turns to Smith-Midland for cheetah village

When officials at the Smithsonian's National Zoological Park decided to build a new research facility for their cheetahs, they turned to Smith-Midland Corp. for a customized solution that met the project's unique needs.

Smith-Midland installed nine Easi-Set Transportable Precast Concrete Buildings (precastbuildings.com) at the National Zoo's 3,200-acre Conservation Research Center (CRC) in Front Royal, Va.

National Zoo officials liked that the concrete buildings would withstand the

cheetah's claws, according to Matthew Smith, sales manager of Smith-Midland's Utility Products Division. Additionally, the buildings will be able to withstand the cleaning agents that are used to clean the cheetahs' enclosures.

In a contract worth \$150,000, Smith-Midland Corp. provided the CRC with eight 12-foot by 20-foot precast concrete buildings and a single restroom building, which will be hooked up to a water and septic system.

The buildings have a custom clap board finish with a tan stain and a red roof, which allow them to blend in with other buildings at the facility. Each building was cast and assembled at Smith-Midland's Midland, Va., plant, transported to CRC and installed in less than one day. **CM**