Bi-fold door forms its own canopy and takes no inside space.

FITS SLANTED SIDEWALL BUILDINGS

Electric Bi-Fold Doors for Farm Buildings

Ever thought about equipping your new or existing machinery storage buildings with an electrically-operated door that folds in the middle — the same type used on airplane hangars?

One advantage with a Bi-fold is that the open door forms its own outside canopy and takes no inside space, thus eliminating the clearance needed for overhead type doors, explains Randy Kirk, assistant marketing manager for Erect-A-Tube, the first company to design and market electric Bi-fold doors for the farm market. "It's the only wide high clearance door that fits slanted sidewall buildings, giving you full-width use of trapezoidal-shaped endwalls."

A single door can fit openings up to 50 by 16 ft. Installation is fast and easy, requiring no special subframing. The doors are made of welded all-steel construction and rated to withstand the heaviest wind loads, according to Kirk. And, there are no rails or tracks to clog with snow, dirt or ice. Aircraft type steel cables, powered by a 110V ½-hp motor, raise the door.

"We've installed 15 Bi-fold doors in farm buildings and they've been virtually trouble-free. Farmers like them," says Edwin Bahler, president of Farm Builder, Inc., Remington, Ind. "We can install a 14 by 41 ft. Bi-fold door, complete with electric worm gear, for the same price as a 14 by 20 ft. overhead door with an electric opener. We believe the Bi-fold will have a longer life than any conventional door on the market."

The top hinge is mounted 2 ft., 6 in. higher than the clear span opening to allow fold-up room at the top.

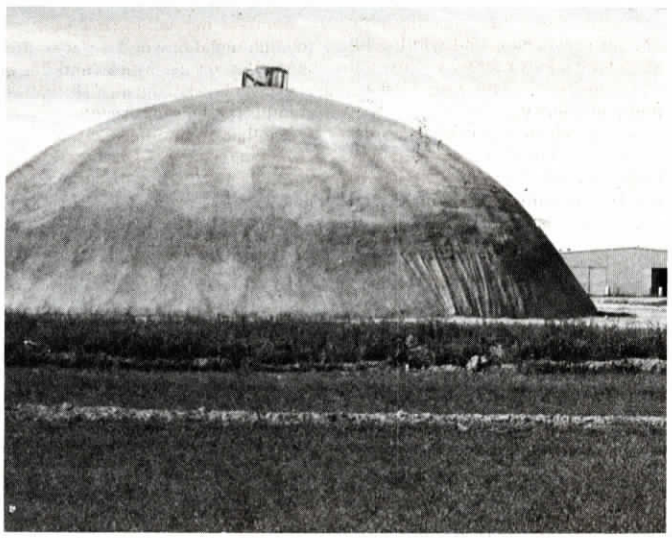
Retail prices range from about $1500 for a 14 by 12 ft. door (inside opening) to $1800 for a 30 by 12 ft., and about $3200 for a 50 by 14 ft. door. Bi-fold doors 24 ft. wide or less are available 18 ft. high for about $500 extra. Custom built doors in non-standard widths, and doors up to 80 ft. wide and 20 ft. high, are available on special order.

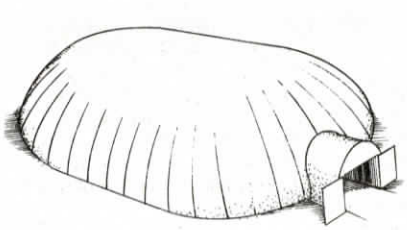
All doors can be sheeted to match, or to contrast with existing buildings.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Erect-A-Tube, Box 409, Harvard, Ill. 60033. (ph. 815-943-4091).

"HALF THE COST OF CONVENTIONAL BUILDINGS"

Concrete Domes: First in Farm Buildings





Doors of most any desired size and configuration can be incorporated into dome or barrel-shaped Monoliths. "We see a tremendous future for it in low-cost agricultural storage," says David South, marketer of the new building concept. Above dome was constructed in 15 working days. It measures 105 ft. in dia., 35 ft. in height. Concrete, blended to specifications, was purchased from a local ready-mix plant.

"Farmers can use it to store almost anything at a third to half the cost of conventional farm buildings," says David South, president of South's, Inc., an Idaho-based company which has introduced concrete Monolith domes, a new concept in low-cost farm building construction.

"The nice thing about the Monolith is that you can build it with materials readily-available in any locality," South reports. "It's virtually fire-proof, warm in winter, cool in summer, extremely strong and permanent. Although tailored for multi-purpose use for grain, livestock or machinery, we think it's the best-available building for storing potatoes and other vegetables."

The basic Monolith structure is built by a "reverse construction" procedure. First, a giant-size balloon, made of reinforced plastic coated fabric, is inflated. Urethane foam insulation (about 4 in. thick) is then sprayed onto the inside of the balloon. After it hardens, special concrete called Gunite or Shot-Crete is then sprayed on the interior of the insulation to form the structure. The concrete is laced with reinforced wire mesh for extra strength. When the inside layer of concrete hardens, the plastic coated outside fabric is removed and the structure sprayed on the outside with a layer of concrete, providing two layers of concrete with 4-in. of urethane insulation sandwiched in between.

"Our engineers figure this Monolith building will handle snow loads of 150 lbs. or more, which is about five times better than conventional buildings," says South. He cites the following additional advantages:

- The concrete and urethane work together to help minimize condensation problems, a key feature for structures used for confinement livestock housing.
- There's excellent fire protection, with urethane shielded on both sides by concrete.

Cost of a large dome for storing upwards of 100,000 bu. of grain runs about 35c per bu., says South and under 30c for larger sizes. He adds that potato storages can be constructed with ventilation systems, vent ducts and electrical system for about $1.10 per cwt. Standard structures are available in diameters up to 100 ft. for dome-shaped units, and widths up to 60 ft. for barrel-shaped Monoliths.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, David South, South's, Inc., 154 E. Center St., Shelley, Idaho 83274 (ph. 208 357-3316).