

## CASE STUDY

### CounterStrike® in Commercial Structures

TracPipe® CounterStrike® FGP-CS-500 Pat. 7044167 B2 224

- Save Time
- Save Money
- Increase Installation Options

**Product:**  
CounterStrike® Flexible Gas Piping in Commercial Remodel Applications

**Location:**  
Buffalo, NY

Hotel Lafayette, listed in the National Register of Historic Places, was recently renovated in 2012. The building was designed by the country's first female architect, Louise Blanchard Bethune. It originally opened in 1904.

The newly restored complex located in Buffalo, NY, includes 67 one bedroom and 48 two bedroom apartments, plus a 34 room boutique hotel.

H&M Plumbing & Mechanical Contracting, Inc. was incorporated in 1985 in the State of New York. The company is diversified and has completed every type of plumbing project from remodeling office buildings, new construction, assisted living, student housing and hospital renovations.

Approximately half of H&M's work is design/build. Their staff consists of 60 plumbers in the field, with three project managers and three clerical staff in the office.

They were contracted to handle the gas piping for this design/build project, and specified CSST for its labor saving potential over black iron pipe. According to David Morrison, President of H&M, "we saved \$270,000 by using CSST instead of black iron pipe."

Established in 1975, OmegaFlex® is the preeminent international producer of flexible metallic piping products. With over 90 patents registered worldwide, the company supplies proprietary products for a broad number of applications and markets, which include primary steel production, semi-conductor, medical, pharmaceutical, petrochemical, residential, residential and commercial construction, and power generation.

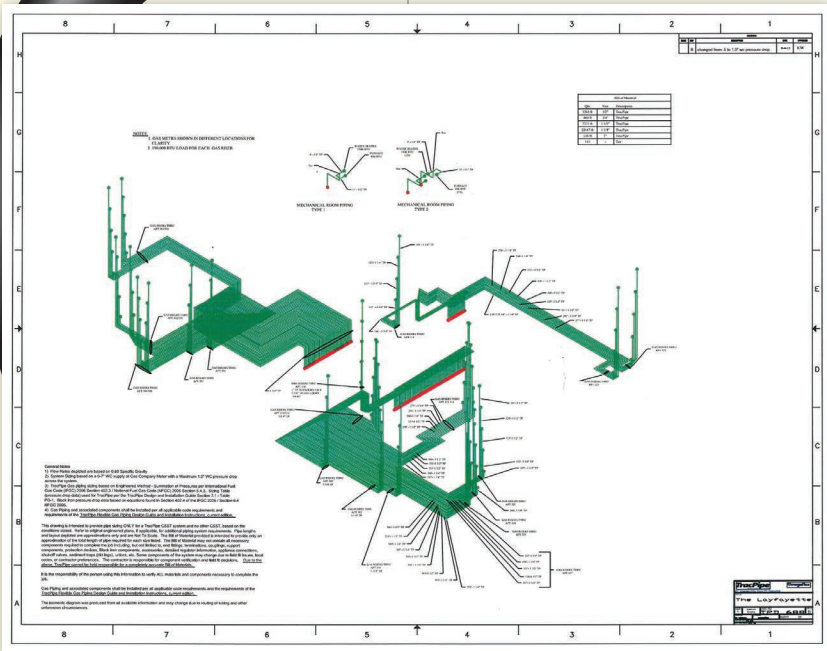
All of the condos/apartments in the restored hotel featured a natural gas furnace, stove and hot water heater which required the gas pipe to be run up the first seven floors from the basement. The job was originally quoted using yellow CSST (Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing). However CounterStrike® was requested to quote on this job by its local NY wholesaler due to its superior features.



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*(continued from front)*

CounterStrike CSST, which was first introduced to the market in 2004, is used for natural gas and propane installations. It is a patented CSST innovation that is engineered to significantly decrease the potential for lightning induced damage to fuel gas piping systems. CounterStrike's superior corrugated tubing coupled with AutoFlare® fittings combine to make the best CSST product available.

Due to the size and complexity of this project, the OmegaFlex VP of Business Development requested his Engineering Department to lay out and size this job.

OmegaFlex provided H&M a detailed sizing drawing, saving them valuable engineer resources. According to David Morrison, H&M's President, the excellent response times he received from the OmegaFlex sales and engineering departments made the choice of using CounterStrike an easy one!



*CounterStrike has larger pipe diameters compared to competitive brands, so save money by using a smaller size CounterStrike!*



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CounterStrike CSST's higher flow rating compared to other brands, helped H&M achieve additional cost saving versus lower priced yellow CSST. This is because it is often possible to use smaller pipe diameters with CounterStrike compared to competitive brands. For the Hotel Lafayette job it is estimated that because of CounterStrike's size advantage made for additional material cost saving on this gas piping installation over the leading yellow brands of CSST.

H&M also saved time due to the proprietary OmegaFlex manufacturing process for CounterStrike. It is the only approved product in the industry that does not require heat-treating to meet the rigid ANSI Standards. It provides a much stronger, durable, more damage resistant product that cuts cleaner every time, saving time and money.

The heavier gauge black jacket is more abrasion resistant than thinner yellow CSST jackets. Plus there is no additional bonding for CounterStrike required by OmegaFlex.

CounterStrike uses the most reliable, patented AutoFlare fittings which provide more sealing surface than other brands of CSST fittings. The AutoFlare fitting is self-centering, and can make a perfect metal-to-metal seal even when the pipe is cut out of round. CounterStrike is UL listed for 1, 2, 3 and 4 hour through penetration fire stop systems, meets ASTM E84 with respect to flame spread and smoke density, and is listed by Factory Mutual for seismic resistance.

**For safety, cost-savings, and ease of installation, CounterStrike CSST is the logical choice.**