



## Beating the Clock – with Quality, Efficiency and 10x Faster Installation

CertainTeed Ceilings QuickSpan  
Drywall Grid System  
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Drywall Grid System

### The Vision

When The Kroenke Group developers had the opportunity to create beautiful new living spaces near the historic Katy Trail in the Dallas suburbs, their vision was to construct a stunning building that would complement the nearby shops and restaurants that bring visitors to the community and enhance the surrounding neighborhood.

Like all construction projects, Kroenke knew the job would be disruptive to local residents and businesses and they made it a priority to get the job done quickly - but without sacrificing the quality.

Building the new residences was no small task. The work called for completely replacing an existing 78-unit two- and three-story apartment complex with a newly developed, luxury complex offering 214 one- and two- bedroom apartments with easy access to the Katy Trail and the other popular amenities in the area.

## Project Implementation

To manage the project, the development team brought in Marek Brothers. The Marek family of companies has been in business for over 70 years. With over 200 employees, Marek has operations in multiple states and a history of success and safety

on their jobs. At Marek, quality is the standard. They're dedicated to seeking out advanced products and techniques to ensure the job is done right the first time, and surpassing client expectations.

From the outset, the goals were aggressive – complete an average of four (4) apartments per day once drywall installation started – but Marek was confident they could bring the right people and products to the job and manage it efficiently.

One particular challenge was finishing out the hallways and corridors. In the new complex, hallways and corridors make up over 4,900 linear feet of the overall structure – a significant portion



**PROJECT**  
The Katy/Salttillo

**LOCATION**  
Dallas, Texas

**SQUARE FOOTAGE**  
(349,000SF) 155,000SF  
of gypsum ceilings

**DEVELOPER**  
The Kroenke Group/  
Provident Realty Advisors

**CONTRACTOR**  
Marek Brothers

**PRODUCTS**  
CertainTeed Ceilings  
QuickSpan Drywall  
Grid System  
  
CertainTeed Ceilings  
Drywall Grid System



of the space. So when it came to identifying what products to use, the team had demanding criteria:

- Fast and efficient installation
- Strength and stability
- Longevity

## Product Selection

Marek looked at a variety of different product offerings from a range of manufacturers and, after doing comparative testing on a variety of products, selected CertainTeed's QuickSpan™ Locking Drywall Grid System. QuickSpan is an innovative ceiling grid system that provides the industry's longest unsupported spans for flat

drywall, and it's specifically engineered to offer faster, easier installation in narrow room applications. It was the perfect product that not only met, but exceeded the requirements of the project.

"With the increased demand for fast turnaround on these kinds of projects, and taking into consideration that time is always money in the construction business, it's important that everything, from the installers to the products used, are working at maximum efficiency," said Jeff Reeves, Estimator and Project Manager, Marek Brothers. "Using QuickSpan, we were able to frame ceilings quicker and only use a fraction of the ceiling wires originally estimated, saving labor, time, and the cost of additional ceiling wires.

QuickSpan exceeded our expectations and we will be using it on our future projects."

QuickSpan has a locking system that features solid cross tees connectors that click into place for a positive lock, and are comprised of a heavy-duty metal material for maximum rigidity and screw grip. This greater strength and stability is achieved with a meticulously constructed double-stitched web. Its locking channel includes pre-engineered locking tabs spaced every 8" on center, allowing tees to quickly twist and click into place. The design of the system and locking tabs help to prevent lateral movements and twisting, which can often cause issues during and after installations. "It's always exciting to develop solutions that help contractors and developers create new and exciting structures," said Matt Rapposelli,

Product Manager, Grid, CertainTeed Ceilings. We bring contractors into the product development process from start to finish. One key step is putting prototypes directly into their hands to get their reactions and respond to their feedback. With QuickSpan, we didn't compromise on strength and quality, so contractors can count on a higher level of performance.

The installation team at Marek quickly embraced the product and got right to work. The results of the installation process were impressive. QuickSpan helped to increase the speed and efficiency of the overall installation tenfold. A typical corridor installation generally takes two (2) or more days to frame out completely. With CertainTeed QuickSpan, it took only four (4) hours to complete.





In addition, to increase the speed and efficiency further, the CertainTeed Ceiling Drywall Grid system was used in soffit conditions. Using the product, Marek was able to build a 30" deep x 1' high x 11'6" long bulkhead in only 17 minutes.

## The Results

The new apartment complex opens in October 2017, offering sophisticated, luxury apartments and residences to a growing group of homeowners in the Dallas area. Gone are the old two- and three-story apartments, and in their place is The Katy, the latest option in lifestyle living that combines elegantly designed residential spaces with retail and leisure amenities.

Says Eddy Carruthers, Architectural Sales Manager, CertainTeed Ceilings, "When you have the right partners, the right projects, and the right products, it makes it much easier to get things done not only quickly, but also efficiently. We were happy to have worked closely with Marek Brothers and provide a system to help them get the job done."

[View product details, installation tips, and testimonial videos – and see why ceiling pros prefer QuickSpan visit:](#)

[CertainTeed.com/QuickSpan](https://www.certainteed.com/QuickSpan)