



Client:
SLS Building Systems

Project:
Hotel Henrietta

Location:
New Orleans

Products:
FRAMA™ 3200
FRAMA™ 5600

Project overview

- **Project:** Hotel Henrietta, New Orleans; 34,000 square feet
- **Partner:** SLS Building Systems, LLC
- **Challenge:** Aggressive schedule, high-spec façade, tight budget
- **Solution:** Offsite panelized cold formed steel framing with a seamless digital-to-physical workflow
- **Machines used:** Howick FRAMA™ 5600 and FRAMA™ 3200
- **Result:** Four floors of load bearing panels and composite metal deck delivered and installed:
 - **Completed** in 3 months, twice as fast as traditional methods
 - **Completed** by 5–6 crew members, 66% less labor than traditional methods
 - Zero rework on critical aesthetic features

The Project

In the middle of New Orleans' historic Uptown district, a new boutique hotel has raised the bar for modern construction efficiency. Hotel Henrietta at 3500 St. Charles Avenue is a Michelin awarded five-story luxury hotel that blends classic Southern charm with modern performance. Developed on a prominent corner site, it needed to

maintain strict aesthetic standards while staying on budget and on time.

With a 16-month schedule and exacting design details, particularly around the distinctive window openings, the project demanded precision, speed, and flawless execution.

Compressing time with panelized performance

To achieve this ambitious goal, the project team called on SLS Building Systems, LLC, a prefabrication specialist with a track record of delivering high-performance buildings using cold formed steel framing. While the ground floor featured a structural steel podium, the upper four floors were constructed using SLS's prefabricated load-bearing metal stud panels, manufactured on Howick FRAMA™ 5600 and FRAMA™ 3200 roll-forming machines.

These were fabricated offsite to exact dimensions, shipped to site, and installed by a lean team of just 5–6 workers in just 3 months.

“Had the project been traditionally framed without prefabricated metal stud wall panels, the same 4 floors of load bearing construction would have taken 7 to 8 months with triple the onsite manpower.”





Digital design meets precision fabrication

SLS Building Systems, LLC used **Autodesk Revit with Graitec Strucsoft** framing software to design and coordinate the framing. The seamless integration with Howick's machines meant every component was labelled and tracked for easy assembly on site. This ensured that critical design elements like the highly specific window rough openings were built exactly to specification with no rework needed.

Results that speak for themselves

Both the client and general contractor (GC) were new to offsite panelization and were impressed with the results. The project was completed four months ahead of schedule, and SLS Building Systems, LLC received letters of recommendation from both the owner and GC acknowledging their performance, quality control, and professionalism.

About SLS Building Systems, LLC

Based in the United States, **SLS Building Systems, LLC** specializes in the design, manufacturing, and installation of panelized steel framing systems for mid-rise commercial buildings. With a focus on quality, safety, and speed along with cost efficiency, SLS partners with owners, developers and contractors to bring smarter building solutions to life.

HOWICK

ABOUT HOWICK LTD

Howick Ltd manufactures precision roll-forming machines and technology for light steel framing.

For nearly 50 years we have been innovating in this space, creating systems and machines that are now employed by construction businesses in over 80 countries the world over. We are proud of the formidable reputation we have built up over that time for performance, reliability and service.

Unique in our sector, Howick steel roll-forming systems are 100% manufactured at our plant in Auckland, with top quality New Zealand made componentry either made in at the Howick factory or sourced locally.

FOR MORE INFO OR QUOTES CONTACT

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