



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Goodyear Airship Operations Base – Carson, California

The Hangar

How big is the new hangar?

The Goodyear Blimp hangar in Carson is among the largest Air Cell Structures in North America.

- Length: 337 feet to 375 feet with extension – about as long as a football field or 9-10 city buses parked bumper to bumper
- Width: 135.5 feet – about as wide as the neighboring 405 freeway north- and southbound
- Height: 88.5 feet – nine stories high or the equivalent of nine regulation sized basketball hoops stacked
- Compared to Goodyear's iconic Wingfoot Lake hangar in Ohio, which is 800' long, 100' wide and 90' high.

From end to end and floor to ceiling, the facility has a 3.0 million-cubic-foot capacity, which is equivalent to 50 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

What's an Air Cell Structure?

Air Cell Structures are inflatable buildings that self-support the structural integrity of the facility and can be inflated with only an air fan without the need for a foundation, hardware or wires.

What is the hangar's construction?

There are 10 sections to the hangar that are laced together by a system of inner joining strips and eyelets.

- The Main Body: More than 73 miles (1 foot wide) of PVC-coated polyester was used to create the six inner sections or (air)cells that make up the main body of the hangar, three sections that make up the dome at the back end of the building, and the outer skin of the Eyelid Door.
- The Eye-lid Door: The eye-lid door at the front of the hangar is comprised of four air-filled tubes made of PU-coated Vectran.

How much does the hangar weigh?

- The hangar materials weigh more than 30,000 lbs.

How is the hangar inflated?

Twenty fans (two per section) inflate and maintain the pressure inside each cell.

How is the hangar anchored?

The hangar is anchored by about 50 K-rails, each weighing approximately four tons (8000 lbs). Two to three anchoring straps are connected at each K-rail lining the inside of the hangar.



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Are inflatable structures commonly used?

Yes. There are many examples of military and civilian applications of inflatable buildings worldwide.

Some examples of Air Cell Structures, like our hangar, include:

- “H54” MRO Hangar for Airbus Defence & Space – Spain
- Heathrow Airport London Central Bus Station Roof – England
- Swedish Ice Hotel mobile Ice Sculpture Venue – Sweden

Who manufactured the hangar?

Lindstrand Technologies based in the United Kingdom

The Mooring Circle

What is new about the mooring circle?

Goodyear replaced and expanded the mooring circle to accommodate the new blimp’s size and create access roads for the blimp’s support vehicles, including the mast truck.

What makes up the mooring circle?

More than 27,000 interlocking, 43” square Turf Tiles make up the new mooring circle, airship operating zone and floor of the hangar.

What material are the Turf Tiles?

The Turf Tiles are made of Polyethylene (HDPE). They are mostly used for Events in stadiums and national parks to protect grass from vehicle and large crowd traffic.

How much area is covered by the Turf Tiles?

The Turf Tiles cover nearly 400,000 square feet on the property.

Why install temporary pavers versus a permanent asphalt surface?

Goodyear’s base is located on a landfill, which limits construction options. The tiles are an energy efficient and eco-friendly solution that allow us to comply with regulations and meet our operating needs.

Why are some of the tiles lit at night?

Tiles at the center of the mooring circle are lit with LEDs to indicate the location for the mast truck. Tiles inside the hangar are also LED-equipped to provide interior lighting at night, which adds to a safer night time environment for our associates.

Who manufactured the tiles?

Royse Green Technologies based in the United States.