

THE CUTTING EDGE

The function behind the form

Every great architectural structure has two parts: The part you actually see and the part you don't see – the hidden structural components beneath the surface that hold everything together.

Grunau Metals recently modified some off-the-shelf structural steel components for the rebuilding of Interstate 94 here in Milwaukee. The highway's retaining walls were constructed from vertical steel beams that had a decorative concrete facade attached to them. Keeping the vertical beams straight with the added weight of the facade required tie-rods set 20 feet into the ground behind the wall to help anchor them in place.. The challenge for Grunau Metals was to cut and install special holes and brackets for the steel tie-back rods in each beam so that they would hold the walls true once the backsides were back-filled. The tie-rods would keep those beams straight-up forever.

We wish we could have you look for these wonderful beams and tie backs as you drive on I-94, but alas, they are now strictly behind the scenes.



GRUNAU METALS

THE **CUTTING EDGE**



GRUNAU METALS

Grunau Company, Inc. 1100 W. Anderson Ct., Oak Creek, WI 53154
Phone: (414) 216-6900 or (800) 365-1920 Fax: (414) 768-7950 | [Contact us](#)