

FOCUS ON FACILITIES

Balloon scarecrow scares more than crows

Ted Armstrong, Xerox's supervisor of building systems in El Sugundo, had a duplication problem, but it had little to do with photocopy machines. Xerox Corporation's Business System's Division headquarters is in a 300,000-sq-ft, 16-story office building housing more than 1,000 employees within a few

birds, their droppings started creating serious problems. The pigeons carry bird mites, which came into the building from window ledges. People bitten by the mites became ill. The mites also sought shelter in keyboards and computers. Armstrong tried various means to rid the grounds of the pigeon-related problems, but

move.

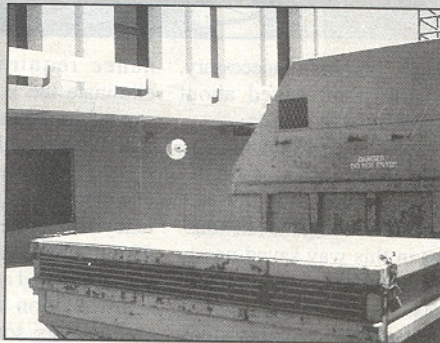
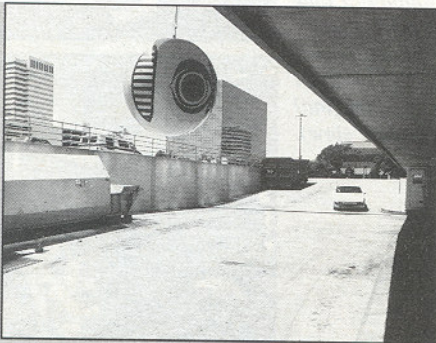
Terror-Eyes resembles an owl, a natural predator of the pigeon. According to the manufacturer, the birds react to the balloon which, like a scarecrow, causes them to flee to less vulnerable places away from the building. Xerox's Armstrong recalls: "From my experience here, I think it is the eyes that make the birds go away. No matter from which angle you look at Terror-Eyes, it always appears as though it's looking directly at you."

Before Xerox began using Terror-Eyes units, Armstrong was spending \$500.00 per visit to have the grounds steam cleaned. Now, that cost has been eliminated. Armstrong noted, "I also had to fumigate two floors in the building because mites from the birds spread throughout the floors. We'll save cleaning costs there, too."

Additional applications for Terror-Eyes exist in agriculture and aerospace businesses as well as in residential areas.

Circle 432 for more information

Like a scarecrow, Terror Eyes causes birds to flee to less vulnerable places away from the building.



miles of the Pacific Ocean. The building, it seems, was a favorite roost for local pigeons.

It started with a few harmless pigeons, but as the roost became more popular with the

his attempts were unsuccessful. He ultimately found his solution in the form of 2-ft diameter balloons (a.k.a. Terror-Eyes from Bird-X Inc.) containing two sets of holographic eyes that appear to

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