Grading on the Curve

Chicago Metal Rolled Products curved 40 tons of structural steel members (TS 16" \times 8" \times .500" wall and TS 10" \times 4" \times .375" wall material) the hard way for the framing of the Cottrell Hall dome.

Eight of the TS 16 x 8 x .500's "ribs" were detailed with a single radius; the tightest outside radius being 25FT 5.6875in. The other eight TS 16 x 8 x .500 "ribs" did not have a specified radius, but instead had specified points along the arc which the tube needed to hit. CMRP calculated multiple, specific radii to roll the tubes to in order to match the curvature defined by the multiple points required – without any costly splices.

