P.S.I. NEWS

July, 2005 Volume 8 Issue 1

PSI Forms Joint Venture for McCormick Place Expansion

Precast Services, Inc. has teamed up with International Erectors, Inc. to form PSI / IEI, LLC for the erection of precast panels at the new multi-million dollar McCormick Place West Expansion project located in Chicago, Illinois. For those of you who are not familiar with Chicago, McCormick Place is the premier convention center for the city.

Unique features of this massive project include the erection of 46 interior precast columns in the grand concourse alone which are 60' high, and the erection of an elevated loading dock and roadway which will cantilever over Interstate 55.

Also very unique is the fact that there are only a few areas of the building where erection will be repetitive as there are very few panels identical to each other. Due to restricted headroom, many of the soffits and underneath wall panels will be erected utilizing many different configurations of lifting beams and our "flying jib".

The precast portion of the project consists of approximately 2,500 pieces (305,000 sq. ft.) of architectural panels and will require over 3,000 pre-welded gravity, lateral, and supplemental steel connections.

Many hours of pre-planning has been and will continue to be spent by both the office and field staff to assess the specialized rigging needs and erection of virtually each panel.

County of Chester PG - W. Chester, PA

Project Foreman Mike Hart lead the erection team on this recently completed project located in historic West Chester, PA. Representing PSI and Ironworkers Local # 451 were Joe Bieski, Bill Dreyer, Francis Green, Foreman Joe Kalinowski, Jim Pankowski, Rick Ramsey, Anthony Russo, Ralph Ryan III, Ron Williams, and Paul Yuskiewicz.

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President's Message...

I hope everyone had a good 4th of July and spent some quality time with your family. The remainder of 2005 looks encouraging. I'm asking for everyone to put extra effort in the coordination and managing of your projects so hopefully we can make the projects profitable. It appears that as long as there are no surprises we should have a good year and I know all of us want this to happen.

As most of you are aware of, we are looking for additional experienced Ironworkers who are at the top of their field when it comes to the erection of precast concrete. We have a lot of young ironworkers working with us and I would like nothing more than to see these individuals step up and become one of our key Foremen. If anyone thinks he has the ability and the desire to step up to the level Precast Services Inc. needs and requires, please call me. I would love to promote individuals up to a higher status but the desire and ability has to come from you.

We need to strive to help our customers do the very best they can do by keeping them informed about their projects, help solve problems, and give suggestions to them if we see that we can help. The same problems should not keep occurring on the same project. We are not helping our customers if we don't get involved and let them know if they have a connection that won't work, or if their shipping is causing delays so that when the project is complete, it isn't a surprise to their project manager. I'm looking forward to the remainder of the year and hope you are also.

Barry L. Cooper - President

A Look Ahead.....

Project	Est. Start	Location
Niagara Center PG	July 2005	Buffalo, NY
U of Michigan Cardio PG	Sept. 2005	Ann Arbor, MI
Firelands PG	July 2005	Sandusky, OH
U of Kentucky PG	August 2005	Lexington, KY
Market Square	July 2005	Knoxville, TN
Montgomery Co. Jail	August 2005	Dayton, OH
MRB IV	Sept. 2005	Nashville, TN

Project	Est. Start	Location
CDC Lab	July 2005	Ft. Collins, CO
OSU Psychology	August 2005	Columbus, OH
St. Jude Dock	August 2005	Memphis, TN
Lehigh Hosp. PG	August 2005	Allentown, PA
Sheridan Hollow PG	August 2005	Albany, NY
Harrahs Chester PG	September 2005	W. Chester, PA
Carnegie West PG	October 2005	Mercer Co., NJ

Employee Spotlight "Dan Coppers"

Precast Services, Inc. is blessed with many great employees. The intent of "Employee Spotlight" is to recognize these individuals for their accomplishments, loyalty, and dedication.

One of these individuals is Mr. Dan Coppers. Dan has been with Precast Services, Inc. since 1993 and performs a great number of support services for our field operations. In most cases, Dan is among the first to arrive on a jobsite delivering the tools and equipment (which he also more than likely helped organize) necessary for the work. Dan has logged literally hundreds of thousands of accident free miles and often must start his travels early in the morning to be on site at the beginning of the work shift.

By the time you read this, Dan would have just celebrated a milestone birthday. Next time you see Dan, wish him a Happy Birthday.

For these and other reasons too numerous for this space, our "Employee Spotlight" shines on Dan Coppers, "You know what I mean"?

Dan Coppers

Project Snapshots

SUNY Upstate Medical Center PG - Syracuse, New York

The SUNY Medical Center PG Erection Team members, representing PSI, Ironworkers Local # 60, and Operating Engineers Local # 545, pictured left to right, front row, kneeling, Don Kennedy, Dave Dean, and Ken Papular. Back Row, left to right, Pike Project Manager Scot Hoyt, Owner's Representative "Ted", Project Foreman Dave Schlaufman, Larry Cole, Rod Smith, John Dupuis, Operator Jerry Beebe, Mike Bouchard, Wayne Borland, Mike Phillips, Mark Billion, Matt Hollady, and CMI Welding Inspector John Krause.

Beaver Avenue PG - State College, PA

This recently completed project, lead by PSI Foremen Dave Schlaufman and Larry Cole, will provide much needed parking for the surrounding college community. Erection Team members, representing PSI, Ironworkers Local # 772, and Operating Engineers Local # 66, are Andy Arnold, William Bamat, Mike Bouchard, John Gilson, Walter Stucke, William Swancer, and John Walnock.

Blue Chip Casino - Michigan City, IN

Project Foremen Loren Cheney, Dave Archibald, Steven Depung, and the rest of the crew representing PSI, Ironworkers Local # 395, and Operating Engineers Local # 150 recently completed this four level garage Owned by Boyd Gaming.

Crew members were Larry Johns, Brent Kingery, Jason Kochan, Marc Kochan, Dan Moran, Jim Stemmler, Doug Strayer, Garry Thompson, Chris Minard, and Bricklayer Terry Streets.

Financial District PG - Detroit, Michigan

Slated for completion in mid-July, this vertical and horizontal expansion project will help accommodate the parking needs of the many visitors who are expected to attend the 2006 Superbowl which is scheduled to take place at Ford Field. Project Foreman Monte Owczarzak leads the crew representing PSI, Ironworkers Local # 25, and Operating Engineers Local # 324, consisting of Eric Besaw, Mike Cooper, Tim Crosson, Glen Howell, Jason Howell, Wade Owczarzak, Jim Pierce, Mark Pruitt, Jack Tilot, and Larry Tomczak.

University of Michigan - Spartan Stadium Expansion Ann Arbor, Michigan

The Spartan Stadium Expansion Project is said to represent a new era of Michigan State Football. The completed project will add 24 luxury suites, 862 club seats, new press and media facilities, office space for University Development, MSU Foundation, and the MSU Alumni Association, as well as new recruiting rooms & facilities for MSU Athletics.

Project Foreman Joe Fontaine and his crew representing PSI, Ironworkers Local # 25, & Operating Engineers Local # 324 recently completed the precast structural ramp (right side of photo) and previously erected the architectural portions of this structure. Crew members were Ben Dodson, Dan Fogg, Bradley Hamilton, Jeff Shafer, Joel Simons, Doug Whitson, Steve Wolthuis, and Dennis Wright.

McCormick Place - It's History and Future

The idea for McCormick Place was realized in the late 1940's by Colonel Robert McCormick, former owner of the Chicago Tribune, after recognizing the need for an exhibition hall following the success of large railroad exhibitions held both in 1948 and 1949.

After seven years of success following it's opening in 1960, the original McCormick Place was destroyed by fire in 1967. Through the efforts of the city and state, a new facility was constructed in record time and opened in 1971.

Over the decades, additional buildings were added on to keep up with the demand for trade shows and exhibitions, which today attracts more than four million visitors annually. The existing McCormick Place complex, consisting of the South, North, and Lakeside Center building (formerly the East building), have a combined total of more than 2.2 million square feet of exhibit space, making it the nations largest convention center.

The total cost of the West expansion is estimated at $850 million dollars. Some of the key project components include 470,000 square feet of exhibition space; 250,000 square feet of meeting room space including a 100,000 square feet ballroom; and a covered, centralized transportation center which can accommodate 16 buses at one time allowing for drop-off and departure of attendees.

Spearheading the expansion project is Mc4West, LLC, a consortium of ten construction and engineering firms who essentially built the South building in 1996. At this time, the design phase of the project is largely completed and $214.8 million dollars in construction contracts have been awarded.

You can follow construction progress online at www.mccormickplace2008.com, www.mc4west.com, or via our link at www.precastservices.com.

Caesars PG, Atlantic City, New Jersey - Completed!

PSI thanks everyone involved in the erection of this massive and complicated garage for a job well done. Team Members, representing Precast Services, Inc., Ironworker's Local # 451, Operating Engineer's Local # 825, and Teamster's Local # 331 were Project Foremen Mike Hart, Bob Nelson Jr., and Clifton Lashley, crew members Steven Bennett, Gill Calabrese, Bill Dreyer, John Elwood, Brandon Florczynski, Dave Garfinkle, Keith Grodziak, Albert Novak, Ken Parliament, Marquise Rose, Robert Rodriguez, Anthony Russo, Joe Weeks, Taylor Moore, Tom Cohen, and Larry McCauley. The aerial photo to the right was taken at approximately 35% completion.

Beverly Briley - Nashville, Tennessee

Representing Precast Services, Inc. and Ironworker's Local # 492 are, pictured left to right, back row: Dan Stinson, Tim Wagner, E. Paul Jones, and Ray Williams. Front row: Barry Boyd, Drake Duke, Jimmie Hewitt, Dan Nichols, and Project Foreman Karl Schneider.

Holmes Medical Center - Melbourne, Florida

Representing Precast Services, Inc. and Ironworker's Local # 808 are, pictured left to right, back row: Wayne McSenin, Pete Hooper, Dan Young, Eugene Beniot. Front row: Project Foreman Don Phillips, Ken Hager, Jeff Pierson, Mike Hall, Project Foreman Mark Derus, Jeff Brown, Tony Barnes, Foreman Rick Marshall, Doug Henson, and Jason Hill. Not Pictured: Danny Lynch, James McClellan, Gary Sullins, Ben Fish, Vernon Groves, and James Gosnell.

Good Sheppard Hospital PG - Allentown, Pennsylvania

Completed this past March, Erection Team Members, representing Precast Services, Inc., Ironworkers Local # 36, and Operating Engineers Local # 542, were Project Foremen Dave Schlaufman, Loren Cheney, and new traveling Foreman Larry Cole of Ironworkers Local # 60 . Crew members Mike Bouchard, Robert Beitler, Vince Gaspar, Tom Keller, Larry Nothstein, Tim Scott, Wilmer Stofko, Ed Tognoli, and Mark Tornetta.

The Safety Page

OSHA Inspection's - Who, Why, When, and How

Every year, OSHA, The Occupational Safety and Health Administration, visits thousands of workplaces throughout the country to ensure employers are providing a safe workplace for their employees. Although statistically, based upon the number of workplaces around the country and the number of inspectors, the odds of being visited are quite small for most employers, however, large cranes sticking up in the air tend to attract attention.

OSHA
Occupational Safety and Health Administration
U S Department of Labor

WHY: There are basically four reasons a worksite will be inspected. The first reason could be that OSHA received a complaint regarding workplace safety by either an employee, a former employee, a concerned citizen, or even an OSHA Compliance Officer passing/driving by. Also included within this category would be news reports or newspaper photographs in which potential violations are observed. If the complaint, photograph, or videotape indicates an "imminent danger" situation, this becomes a top priority for OSHA. Secondly, and perhaps the #1 reason OSHA will visit the worksite is what is referred to as a "Regularly Scheduled Inspection". A computer data base of construction sites randomly chooses sites to be inspected and distributes the information to OSHA regional offices. This type of inspection results in a "comprehensive" inspection, meaning OSHA will walk the entire site searching for any and all alleged violations. Inspections which result from any of the other three categories usually focus on and are limited to the specific topic of the compliant, however, during the course of the inspection, OSHA has an obligation to investigate all alleged violations they observe.

Employers are required to report all fatalities, and any incident involving the hospitalization of 3 or more employees directly to OSHA, who will then come to the worksite to perform an investigation. Lastly, the fourth reason for an OSHA inspection would be a follow-up visit to determine if prior violations have been abated (corrected).

WHEN: Don't expect advance notice of an OSHA inspection. OSHA can show up any time during regular business hours and often observe, photograph, and videotape activities from public property before even stepping foot on the project.

HOW: A fairly standard agenda is as follows: OSHA arrives and presents photo identification. During a brief opening conference, OSHA will explain the purpose of their visit. The inspectors may then ask to examine records such as OSHA 300 forms and Company Safety Programs prior to performing a "walk-around" inspection of the worksite. During this walk-around, OSHA will look for activities which appear to be violations of specific OSHA regulations and may also speak with employees if necessary. At the conclusion of the inspection, a "Closing Conference" is typically held during which OSHA will discuss any alleged violations they noted.

This is a basic summary of the OSHA inspection process. Should OSHA show up on your project, be sure to notify Michael Hudgins immediately. The best way to prepare for an OSHA inspection (and to prevent injuries) is to ensure all safety procedures are implemented, followed, and enforced daily, long before OSHA comes a knocking.

Design the Next PSI T-Shirt !

Precast Services, Inc. is having a T-Shirt Contest - no not that kind, but rather a contest to design a new PSI 2005 T-Shirt.

Whether you are a part time artist, graphic designer, or just handy with a pencil, this contest is open to all employees of Precast Services, Inc. and their immediate families.

One design will be chosen and the designer will receive $200., and of course, a T-Shirt. Deadline for submissions is August 1, 2005. You may use the template on the flyer inserted within this newsletter, or create your own. Please send all submissions to our Columbus, Ohio office (address on back cover).

Safety Performance !

Precast Services, Inc.' own Mr. Jason Hill (left) was recently recognized by the Construction Manager / General Contractor's Safety Manager Mr. Bubby Woodside (right) at the Holmes Medical Center project in Melbourne Florida for his efforts to promote a safe workplace by reporting a pump hose which was not properly secured.

As to why Mr. Hill works safe, he stated: "To keep me and my union brothers safe each day!"

Congratulations Jason. Keep it safe out there!

Projects Under Construction

1. Merck PG Expansion
Upper Gwynedd, Pennsylvania
Foreman: Jim Allen

2. Center for Disease Control
Ft. Collins, Colorado
Foreman: Mark Derus

3. Cranbrook Institute PG
Farmington Hills, Michigan
Foreman: Monte Owczarzak

4. Pfizer Bldg. 115 PG
Morris Plains, New Jersey
Foreman: Mike Hart

5. U of Michigan Cardio Cntr.
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Foreman: Joe Fontaine

6. Financial District PG
Detroit, Michigan
Foreman: Monte Owczarzak

7. Beverly Briley
Nashville, Tennessee
Foreman: Karl Schneider

8. Holmes Medical Center
Melbourne, Florida
Foremen: Phillips/Marshall/Hall

9. McCormick Place West
(PSI / IEI, LLC)
Chicago, Illinois
Foreman: Loren Cheney

10. Pfizer Building 185 PG
Morris Plains, New Jersey
(Late July 2005)

11. Lehigh Valley Hospital PG
Allentown, Pennsylvania
(August 2005)

12. U of Michigan Cardio PG
Ann Arbor, Michigan
(September 2005)

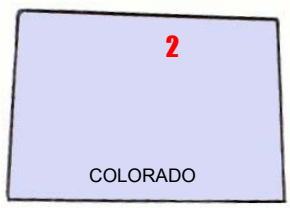
13. Firelands PG
Sandusky, Ohio
Foreman: Dave Archibald

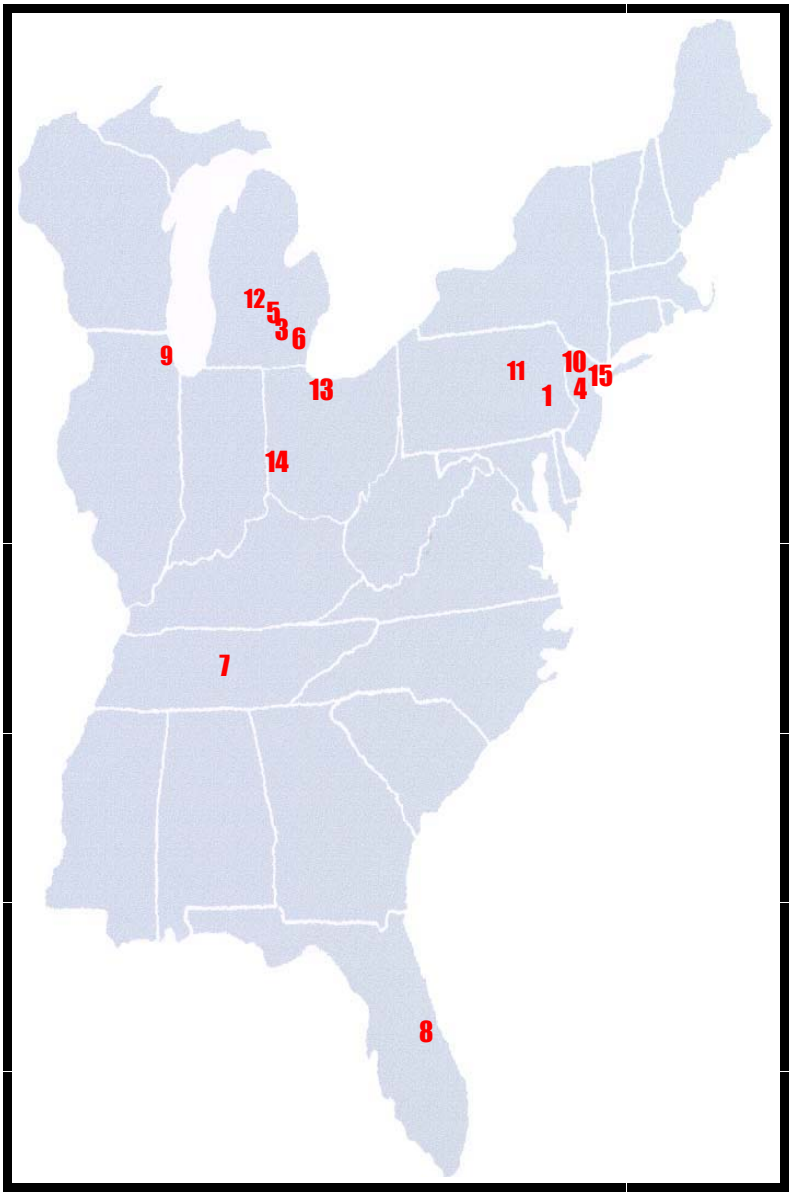
14. Montgomery Co. Jail
Dayton, Ohio
(August 2005)

15. Xanadu PG
E. Rutherford, New Jersey
Foremen: Bob Nelson Jr.
Ken Williams

Click For More!

When you see this symbol, **Click For More** on www.precastservices.com for more information relating to the project or subject matter covered within this newsletter.





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