



Austin Chapter AGC

*Outstanding Construction
Awards Banquet &
Installation of Officers Banquet*

Friday, January 31, 2014

AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center



Program

- ◆ Welcome
- ◆ Dinner
- ◆ Installation of 2014 Officers and Recognition of Chapter Leaders
- ◆ Outstanding Leadership Award presented to Mayor Lee Leffingwell
- ◆ 2013 Outstanding Construction Awards

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2013 Outstanding Construction Awards

Category: Building 1 (\$0 - \$2 Million)

General Contractor: Sabre Commercial, Inc.

Project: The Trail Foundation: Johnson Creek Restrooms

Design Firm: Studio 8 Architects

This 600 square foot restroom facility is constructed of steel and artisanal concrete created by small, tightly spaced boards to create an organic layering while maintaining a monolithic appearance, much like the exposed limestone along the creek bed. The design minimizes maintenance needs and has four stalls; two female and two male. The sink area is unisex and shared in an open, see-and-be-seen space, akin to the Trail itself. Sabre Commercial did the construction “at cost” and donated the profit and fee back to The Trail Foundation.

This project included several challenges relating to design and construction. The trail gets an estimated 1.5 million visits a year so any facility nearby needs to be ready to take some wear and tear! Also, due to location, very little laydown area was available which made material staging and sequencing of work difficult. To help give an open feel to the facility, a rebar fence was constructed to replicate blades of grass. The concrete walls are made of board formed concrete which required a finish carpenter to be hired to frame the specialty formwork which promoted the natural appearance of the project design.

Since both sides of the exterior wall are concrete, a plumbing heat trace system was installed to prevent pipes from freezing in the winter. The restrooms boast polished concrete sink tops with an integrated concrete sink, both should stand the test of time and avoid the wear and tear pitfalls associated with a facility that is exposed to the elements as well as high use. Finally, native landscaping was utilized to help with water conservation.

Even with the unique design, location, and weather conditions the project was completed in 20 weeks. After it was completed, the restroom became another symbol of The Trail Foundation’s hard work and dedication to Austin’s active, nature-centered, culture.

Support from the following
AGC Subcontractors/Suppliers:

Building Image Group, Inc.
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2013 Outstanding Construction Awards

Category: Building 2 (\$2 Million - \$5 Million)

**General Contractor: Workman Commercial
Construction Services, Ltd**

Project: St. Paul The Apostle Family Life Center

Design Firm: Fisher Heck Architects

The newly built Family Life Center (FLC) and interior renovations at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church is a welcomed addition to the Existing Chapel prominently placed in Horseshoe Bay, Texas. The FLC nearly doubles the Chapel's original 8,720 square feet to a new total of 16,237 square feet of worship space. Perched atop a granite cliff, this building with its hexagonal shape and abundant storefront grants a spectacular 180 degrees view of Lake Lyndon B. Johnson and the Texas Hill Country landscape.

The project presented several distinct challenges during the different phases of construction. Roughly half of the building is cantilevered over the side of a cliff making erection of the steel beams difficult and time consuming. Additionally, due to the constant high winds, the construction of the decking and stand and seam roofing required extensive precautionary measures including daily weather monitoring, 100% tie off requirements and daily safety briefs to ensure the protection of all personnel.

Exceptionally challenging was the hexagonal shape of the building which presented many of its own obstacles. For example, the placement of embeds had to be laid out with impeccable precision in order to ensure the required accuracy for the placement of the steel columns.

Adding to the construction challenges was the requirement for the existing chapel to be continually occupied during the renovations. This required constant communication and coordination with the Parish's building committee and staff. As a result of the extraordinary cooperation, the Parish was able to hold weekly mass and performed several weddings during the course of construction.

This project was completed within the allotted contracted days despite the many challenges faced by Workman Commercial.

Support from the following
AGC Subcontractors/Suppliers:

APAC - Texas, Inc., Wheeler Companies
C & Z Enterprise, LLC
Champion Site Prep, LP
JM Electronic Engineering, Inc.
Metro Services, Inc.
Pioneer Roof Systems
WeatherTex Waterproofing



2013 Outstanding Construction Awards

Category: Building 3 (\$5 Million - \$10 Million)

General Contractor: Hill & Wilkinson General Contractors

Project: Independent Bank Regional Headquarters

Design Firm: Jim Wilson Architects

Located on .39 acres bordered on three sides by public right-of-way in North Lamar's urban core, the Independent Bank Regional Headquarters project consisted of two levels below grade for parking, grade level for retail banking, and two upper levels for corporate office space making it a challenging mixed-use, infill project. The building has 4 sides of soldier pier earth retention system and a cast in place concrete frame. This project has achieved LEED Silver Certification and has received a prestigious Golden Trowel Award by the Central Texas Masonry Contractors Association for exemplary stonework.

The most significant challenge was site logistics as the project is bordered by 40th Street to the north, Medical Street to the west, and public alley way to the east. Since subterranean parking was in the program the first order of business was to figure out the best earth retention system that would allow a 25' excavation within this small .39 acre site. Once earth retention system was determined and site was surveyed we found that the overhead utilities along 40th Street and Medical Street encroached the safe working distance to the building so we were challenged with burying these facilities in an underground ductbank system prior to beginning earth retention and excavation work.

Also, some ground water was anticipated while drilling building piers. However as excavation reached subgrade an extraordinary amount of seepage was encountered. Ground water required all piers to be cased and in some areas double casements were utilized to control sloughing and water infiltration. More significantly though, in addition to a perimeter drain a network of underslab drains and sump had to be added to control the volume of water. Workflow was managed so that only a few days were lost while additional drainage system was procured and constructed.

Support from the following
AGC Subcontractors/Suppliers:

APAC - Texas, Inc., Wheeler Companies
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Looking Good Masonry
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2013 Outstanding Construction Awards

Category: Building 4 (\$10 Million - \$30 Million)

General Contractor: Bartlett Cocke General Contractors, LLC

**Project: The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor
Isabelle Rutherford Meyer Nursing Education Center**

Design Firm: GSC Architects

This new 73,684 SF state of the art nursing education center is designed around technology-saturated collaborative learning concepts contained in a three-story structural steel and composite deck structure with light gauge metal truss system roof framing. The exterior finish is masonry with both brick, cast stone and EIFS accents. Unusual to commercial buildings, the Nursing Education Center has a shingle roof to match other school buildings and provide continuity with the campus' Classically influenced aesthetic.

The greatest challenge was not so much the physical construction of the building but the managing the compressed nature of the project arc from design through final building delivery. Our team of project managers, estimators, and superintendent met with the Owner-A/E team every other week with updated schedules, estimates, and BIM models to help guide each project decision during preconstruction. Our collective efforts were necessary to insure that when the project's actual construction began, we were able to build, commission, train staff, and mobilize the building within the narrow 13 month window available all within budget.

The most daunting task related to this project was to get all of the diverse systems and components coordinated to fit into the building. To achieve the owner's goals we implemented extensive use of BIM technology both during the design and construction phases of the project integrating our entire project team. All of our efforts were essential for us to have any hope of completing this three story, 75,000 sq. ft. building in the allocated 13 month time frame.

The end result of all the planning and coordination that went into this project is a very attractive, stately building that reflects the leading edge of healthcare education.

Support from the following
AGC Subcontractors/Suppliers:

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Building Image Group, Inc.
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GQ Tile Company
Hull Supply Co., Inc.
Leland Collier Electric Company
Slater Painting Company, Inc.
Strong Electric, LLP
Technology for Education
ThyssenKrupp Elevator Company
Tomek Construction Services, LLC



2013 Outstanding Construction Awards

Category: Building 5 (\$30 Million - \$75 Million)

General Contractor: Bartlett Cocke General Contractors, LLC

Project: Liberty Hill High School

Design Firm: Huckabee, Inc.

The new Liberty Hill High School is a 320,000 SF building complex consisting of a two-story main facility with ancillary buildings to support the stadium, field sports, practice fields, concessions, restrooms and storage. There were two main challenges in building the new Liberty Hill High School, one related to site and the other related to the 'empirical' structural system employed by the Architect.

The new high school complex is located west of Liberty Hill where the local utility had yet to extend water service. For 13 months our team had to truck in potable water from an onsite well we drilled to supply all construction purposes from mixing mortar, priming and testing plumbing and fire suppression systems.

The architect's chosen building structural system is a hybrid load-bearing masonry scheme that relied upon complex combinations of concrete masonry units, concrete bond beams, and integrated embedded structural steel members. Our mason had to maintain very high levels of manpower for virtually the entire construction period that required a very high level of coordination from all trades because of the sheer volume of building systems enclosed within heavily grouted CMU wall assemblies. Complex formwork had to be coordinated with the structural steel fabricators/erectors to minimize delays.

Bartlett Cocke General Contractors worked closely with the Huckabee, Liberty Hill ISD administration, and the local governmental agencies to deliver this project in 13 months. Despite the lack of utility infrastructure and the sophisticated building systems employed that at one point required over 320 workers onsite at the height of our work, we managed to beat our original schedule by one month.

Support from the following
AGC Subcontractors/Suppliers:

ABC Hotel & Restaurant Supply
APAC - Texas, Inc., Wheeler Companies
Air Craft, Inc.
Architectural Division 8
C & Z Enterprises, LLC
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Flooring Solutions, Inc.
GQ Tile Company
Hellas Construction, Inc.
Koetter Fire Protection of Austin, LLC
Tom Wright Construction
Tomek Construction Services, LLC
Triad Mechanical Services, Inc.



2013 Outstanding Construction Awards

Category: Building 6 (Over \$75 Million)

General Contractor: Austin Commercial

Project: The Bill & Melinda Gates Computer Science Complex and Dell Computer Science Hall

Design Firms: Pelli Clark Pelli, STG Design

The Bill & Melinda Gates Computer Science Complex and Dell Computer Science Hall is a seven-story LEED Silver complex comprised of two buildings that houses the University of Texas at Austin's Computer Science department. It sits on the sites of both former T.U. Taylor Hall and the demolished Chilling Station No. 2.

The complex provides almost 20,000 assignable square feet of flexible and highly programmable research laboratory space, a 200-seat lecture hall, seven classrooms, ten electronic seminar rooms and instructional laboratories, two dedicated study areas for undergraduates and graduate students, over 24 discussion areas, eight conference rooms, student organization offices, and other types of space to encourage interaction and collaboration. Featuring expansive glass features, exposed columns and a prominent Escher-esque stair, the Dell Gates Computer Science Complex is both picturesque and functional.

The building skin included not only a high percentage of glass but also extremely large single units of glass. The desire for natural lighting drove the design team to select glass units that were the absolute maximum size that could be produced in the United States. The interior corridor walls also include glass so natural light may pass from the exterior offices through the corridor and into the building core rooms.

The building is located in the heart of The University of Texas at Austin campus on the site of a former chilling station and adjacent to the University's Power Plant and primary Chilling Station. The close proximity to these facilities that provide power, steam and chilled water to a large portion of the campus presented numerous challenges. Additionally, access to the site was from Speedway which serves as the primary pedestrian thoroughfare for the campus. At class change times the access to the site was completely cut off as thousands of students made their way to and from classes.

Support from the following
AGC Subcontractors/Suppliers:

Austin Glass and Mirror, Inc.
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Titus Electrical Contracting, LP
Wattering Company, Inc.



2013 Outstanding Construction Awards

Category: Design Build 1 (\$0 - \$10 Million)

General Contractor: Chasco Constructors

Project: Georgetown Fire Station #2

Design Firm: KAH Architecture

In 2012 the City of Georgetown partnered with Chasco Constructors to design-build a new fire station to better serve the Williams Drive area of town. The existing fire station located on the same property had become too costly to maintain and was not equipped to handle modern equipment or apparatus. Chasco, under Agreement with the City of Georgetown, was enlisted to design and construct this desperately needed facility.

Chasco and KAH Architecture began design in January 2012 working closely with city staff, stakeholders and firefighters to create a facility that was within budget and satisfied all the needs of a growing community. It was important for the new fire station to blend into the residential neighborhood surrounding the site as much as possible. By incorporating features such as shingle roofing, residential type windows, wood picket fencing, cement board siding and concealing mechanical systems, this criteria was met and well-received by the community. Design of the 8,298 SF one-story wood structure was completed in July 2012 and construction began in early August. The contract required the fire station be move-in ready by February 2013 so that the existing fire station could be demolished. Through careful planning and close collaboration with city staff, the new fire station was delivered to the fire department in February 2013 on schedule. Final completion was achieved in March 2013 after demolition of the existing structure.

Fire Station #2 houses a three bay drive through apparatus room, decontamination room for apparatus equipment storage and cleaning, dormitory, training room, dispatch office, public restroom and lobby, full kitchen, day room, work room, laundry, toilet and shower rooms, locker rooms, fitness/workout room and storage areas.

Support from the following
AGC Subcontractors/Suppliers:

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Building Image Group, Inc.
Champion Site Prep, LP
Hull Supply Co., Inc.
Rockford Business Interiors
Slater Painting Company, Inc.
WeatherTex Waterproofing



2013 Outstanding Construction Awards

Category: Health Care 1 (\$0 - \$10 Million)

General Contractor: Bartlett Cocke General Contractors, LLC

Project: Emerus 24 Hr. Emergency Hospital - Cedar Park

Design Firm: Page Southerland Page, LLP

The Emerus Emergency Hospital - Cedar Park project provides a fully operational, 16,000 SF emergency hospital that represents a partnership between Emerus and Scott & White Hospital Systems and is focused on providing the highest level of emergency care. The new Cedar Park facility illustrates the emerging, revolutionary concept of 24-hour, non-centralized stand-alone emergency care facility.

Of the previous 8 projects that Emerus had deployed, the fastest construction duration that had been achieved at that point was 10 months. Bartlett Cocke's charge was to deliver the fully operational clinic in only 7. The clinic buildings themselves are essentially mini-hospitals containing all of the elements of a hospital in an extremely efficient, compact design. The schedule challenges were compounded by the introduction of numerous design revisions during the construction phase (totaling 86 requested changes in all) that required intensive coordination across the entire subcontracting team with constant adjustments to the schedule.

A specific concern was radiation management in the imaging areas of the clinic building. One unusual construction technique was the installation of the lead radiation lining for the CT/Radiation Technology room. The imaging space itself is circular requiring the lead paneling to be radiused. Rather than radius the lead itself, we installed the shielding sheets in straight panels and radiused the drywall assembly over it. Additionally, specific attention was paid in the installation of the shielding assemblies including: radiation rated penetration back boxes, door assemblies, and viewing panels.

Bartlett Cocke's push to make it in 7 months was successful in not only achieving substantial completion but we were also able to negotiate temporary certificate of occupancy approval allowing the Owner to mobilize the building within the 7-month window. The early move-in was of critical importance to assure smooth equipment move-in, system startup, and staff shakedown of the new facility.

Support from the following
AGC Subcontractors/Suppliers:

APAC - Texas, Inc., Wheeler Companies
Architectural Division 8
Champion Site Prep, LP
GQ Tile Company
Lasco Acoustics & Drywall, Inc.
Slater Painting Company, Inc.
Triad Mechanical Services, Inc.



2013 Outstanding Construction Awards

Category: Health Care 2 (\$10 Million - \$30 Million)

General Contractor: Rogers-O'Brien Construction Company, Ltd.

**Project: Seton Medical Center -
Main Campus Additions, Renovations & Upgrades**

Design Firm: HKS, Inc.

Rogers-O'Brien delivered 11 simultaneous projects on the Seton campus affecting 24 separate departments with NO major interruptions or safety incidents. This complex, multi-phased expansion and renovation to the Seton Medical Center Austin campus includes the finish out of the 3rd floor patient rooms and 4th floor ICU rooms, addition of two new elevators, complete renovation and upgrade of the existing Central Plant, addition of a new cardiopulmonary wing, and renovation of Butler Pavilion. The phased renovations were complex and challenging due to the exceptional restrictions created by maintaining ongoing operations of a full-service hospital, and keeping access open to a fully functioning 24-hour emergency room and helipad.

Seton Family of Hospitals is a primary leader in the healthcare industry. Over the years, Seton has trusted Rogers-O'Brien to build and renovate its various facilities and as such, we have developed a special long-term relationship based on trust, mutual respect and unparalleled professionalism. The existing conditions of the hospital, the hospital site, and an impressive and highly complicated design and phasing package from the architectural and structural team offered many challenges requiring careful consideration and an appropriate response.

Rogers-O'Brien maximized efficiency utilizing Lean Construction Principles and Building Information Modeling (BIM) practices. Weekly pull sessions of each hospital area helped guide our scheduling of activities and shutdowns, enhanced subcontractor participation, and reduced site related labor man-hours. The use of BIM modeling and overhead clash detection between design and construction team partners helped minimize re-work and major re-design. This fully integrated process resulted in improved schedule turnover of each individual area 2 to 4 weeks earlier than the original completion date.

Support from the following
AGC Subcontractors/Suppliers:

Architectural Division 8
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Flooring Solutions, Inc.
Lasco Acoustics & Drywall, Inc.
Northstar Fire Protection of Texas, Inc.
Rockford Business Interiors
Sabre Commercial, Inc. **
Schmidt Electric Company, Inc.
SimplexGrinnell
ThyssenKrupp Elevator Company



** Denotes AGC General Contractor Member

2013 Outstanding Construction Awards

Category: Historic Renovation

General Contractor: Braun & Butler Construction, Inc.

**Project: Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church
Bell Tower Renovations**

Design Firm: Heimsath Architects

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church was built in 1954. During construction the church community had the good fortune to acquire the original Austin Fire Department bell from 1887. While this bell adds significant historic value to the church it brings structural challenges that needed to be addressed during this restoration. The bell tower, being difficult to access, was plagued with water leaks, rotting wood, and was no longer architecturally correct due to past renovations that left the original ornate trim and architectural details covered by aluminum siding.

The first obstacle was to design and erect a scaffold system around the tower in a manner that transferred scaffold and material loads to the building foundation versus adjacent roofs. Once access became available the existing structure and trim was exposed and evaluated. Rotted framing was replaced and new trim material was custom milled as necessary while existing “sound” material was scraped and prepared for paint.

The tower had also become home to an enormous colony or colonies of honey bees and so several hundred pounds of active bee honey comb was removed from the perimeter columns. Due to rot, all 8 columns were replaced. The original roof design did not include proper drip edge trim; this caused fascia trim to rot. For this reason copper drip edge was added and the rotted wood was replaced. New flashings were installed as necessary and all the solder joints on the dome were inspected and soldered as necessary. New screens were installed in the copula openings to prevent access of local birds and bees. The tower was then painted utilizing multiple colors to highlight architectural details.

Braun and Butler finished Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church on time despite scaffolding challenges, insect removal delays and time consuming manufacture of matching radius trim for the bell tower. The fit and finish of all the work on the bell tower, stained glass and terrazzo floors are outstanding and the congregation has a renewed feeling of pride in their historic worship.

Support from the following
AGC Subcontractors/Suppliers

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Hull Supply Co., Inc.
Thermal Mechanical Services, Inc.



2013 Outstanding Construction Awards

Category: Industrial Warehouse 2 (Over \$5 Million)

General Contractor: Emerson Construction Company, Inc.

Project: Wal-Mart SuperCenter Gonzales Texas 290-01

Design Firm: SGA Design Group, P.C.

Over the past 25 years Emerson Construction has built dozens of new Wal-Mart stores. When constructing a Super Center, our focus must constantly remain on meeting or beating the construction schedule while performing the work safely and maintaining high quality craftsmanship. This is challenging; from beginning to end the critical path is super-fast. Coordination and planning is crucial as our team has to maintain a consistent balance of flexibility and detailed planning to overcome any delays that might occur during construction. As a repeat general contractor for Wal-Mart Stores Inc., Emerson has developed a system for accomplishing this fast paced construction which contributes to our ongoing success with our client.

The Gonzales Wal-Mart site was extremely complex consisting of a sloping hill with a creek running through the lower terrain. The civil design called for 4 retaining walls which allowed the site to stair step down to a creek. The first “step down” on the site was built to create a flat area large enough to accommodate the 124,000 square foot retail facility and parking lot. The wall that forms this first “step” is the most challenging: at 20 feet tall and 825 feet long, it runs parallel to the street and the store. This wall is 20 feet from the street and only 13 feet from the store and the roof of the store is level with the street. The lower long wall which is the final “step down” follows along the creek’s edge and approaches 15 feet tall in places and is over 1,200 feet long. To allow for the volume of water that ran through the site a very large detention pond was constructed below the lower wall to hold the creek’s overflow.

The Emerson team also initiated a significant design change, working with the Wal-Mart representative and the civil engineer to completely change the design of the retaining walls. The process of redesigning the walls required our team to rethink the critical path and develop a unique re-sequenced construction schedule to give the design team time to finalize plans and still complete the building by Grand Opening.

Support from the following
AGC Subcontractors/Suppliers:

Construction Rent-A-Fence
L&M Steel
Larry Young Paving
HTM Construction Company



2013 Outstanding Construction Awards

Category: Interior Finish-Out 2 (\$500 K - \$2 Million)

General Contractor: Austin Canyon Corporation

Project: Amplify Credit Union Headquarters Renovation

Design Firm: Clark Mente Architects, Inc.

The Amplify Headquarters Renovation project was a phased program wherein the Owner relocated and consolidated various corporate functions into a newly purchased property at 3600 Parmer Lane. The service delivery method was a Team based, negotiated Contract in which the Contractor and the Architects, Clark Mente Architects, worked closely with the Owners to develop their program, design and construction requirements.

The work included demolition of existing improvements and new interior finish construction including upgrades to existing mechanical, electrical and plumbing infrastructure to bring the building up to current Code and Accessibility Standards. The overall building consists of 55,000 square feet of which the Owner prepared a phased occupancy of over 30,000 square feet over an extended period of time. The work of this award entailed several departments consisting of 18,000 square feet, including the Executive Branch, the Board Room, a Corporate Lunch Room and Fitness Facility, Accounting, Retail, IT and a small Branch at the building lobby.

The goal of the design and construction was to mirror and convey the new branding image of Amplify Credit Union that was formerly the IBM Credit Union, therefore the Design and Construction Team worked closely together and were involved with all aspects from the Corporate logo, to signage, to interior design. The project has been a complete success in all aspects coming in within cost, design and time expectations.

Support from the following
AGC Subcontractors/Suppliers:

Hull Supply Co., Inc.
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Rockford Business Interiors
Vanguard Fire Systems
Walls and All, Inc.



2013 Outstanding Construction Awards

Category: Interior Finish-Out 3 (\$2 Million - \$5 Million)

General Contractor: The Beck Group

Project: The Green Mountain Energy Finish-Out

Design Firm: lauckgroup

The Green Mountain Energy Finish-Out Project included 30,000+ SF of interior finish-out of existing Class A office space in 300 West 6th office building. The project consisted of 2 floors of demolition and finish-out (approximately 50,000 SF) prior to re-design and consolidation to a single floor. The project used LEED principles during the design and construction stages, ultimately becoming the 1st finish-out project in Austin to achieve LEED Platinum for Commercial Interiors.

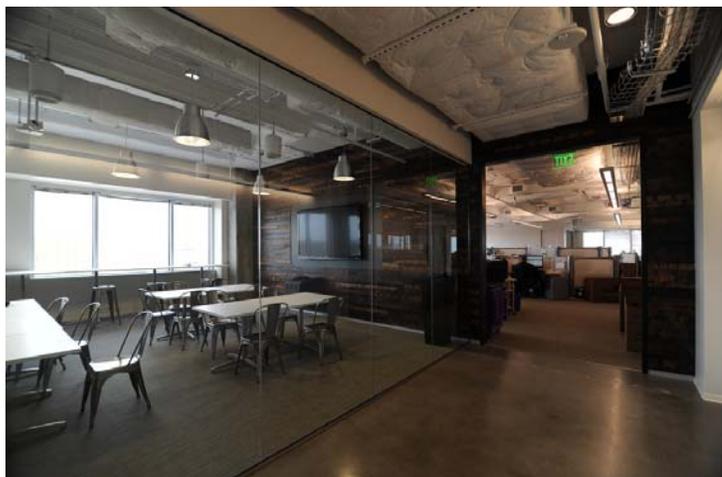
In conjunction with our Subcontractor team and estimators, The Beck Group utilized our internal sustainability consulting services at the corporate level to recommend the most cost-effective LEED products and finishes, providing the Owner and A/E with feedback capable of changing finishes and minor aspects of the design to maintain LEED goals and maintain the Owner's budget. The finished space consists of an open office floor plan, energy use monitoring capabilities, re-purposed materials from the demolition process, salvaged doors and door hardware, relocated mechanical units and equipment, and select materials from overseas with specific LEED qualities.

Located in the 300 West 6th Street office building, the Green Mountain Energy Finish-Out project presented the typical logistical challenges of performing an interior finish-out in an existing building. A single freight elevator (hardly large enough to accommodate a metal stud delivery) was shared with the entire building, necessitating the full coordination of large deliveries with building vendor schedules, maintenance crews and the loading dock manager. Demolition and construction trash was tightly managed, as only 3 trash containers (at most) could fit onto the freight elevator and only a single dumpster was rotated nearly every 2 days. Large scale demolition, anchoring, and track setting for framing took place at night or early morning hours, requiring a split shift and a daily "handoff" meeting between 2-man team of senior project engineer and superintendent.

Overall, the Owner was thrilled with the appearance and feel of their new space and continues to enjoy an office build-out that compliments their company's business philosophy.

Support from the following
AGC Subcontractors/Suppliers:

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Marek Brothers Systems, Inc.
Schneider Electric
Service Shade Shop



2013 Outstanding Construction Awards

Category: Specialty Construction

General Contractor: Sabre Commercial, Inc.

Project: St. David's Medical Center Atrium Water Feature

Design Firm: Schneider Halls Design

The Atrium Water Feature at St David's Medical Center consists of structural steel, heavy gauge framing, mold resistant sheathing, limestone panels, limestone veneer, and a custom acrylic water wall panel.

Before on site construction ever began, Stuart Simpson, owner of Austin Stone Carving, spent 12 months carving the limestone by hand. The relief carvings depicting Christ healing the follower and the Caduceus symbol were entirely carved by hand from a flat slab of limestone. The stone used on the project is Cordova Cream Texas Limestone quarried near Liberty Hill, Texas.

There were several major challenges during the construction and fabrication of the water feature. The total weight of the water feature had to be as light as possible due to a radiology lab located directly underneath. There were no feasible options to structurally support the floor below for added weight; therefore we utilized thin stone veneer when possible.

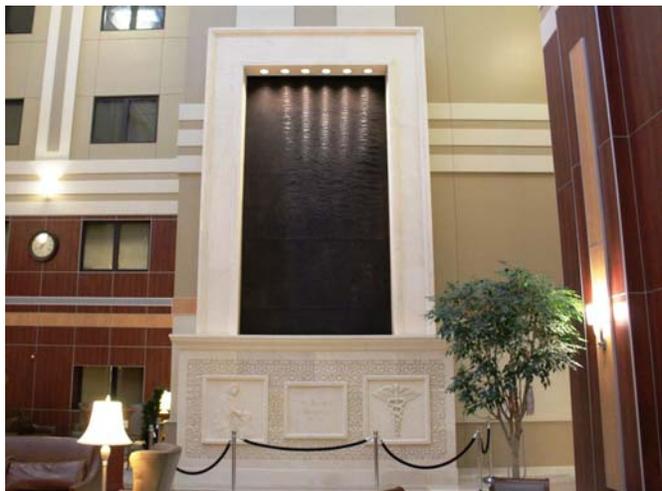
Another challenge was constructing the nearly 3 story tall water feature without compromising patient safety and infection control. A hard wall was constructed around the project site to keep dust contained and patients & staff from entering the work area. The construction area was also under negative pressure with HEPA negative air machines. St. David's Medical Center monitored the air particulars outside the containment to make sure the air was clean and safe to breathe for patients and staff.

A room below the water feature had to be constructed just to house the deionized water system. Stainless steel piping delivers the deionized water to the filtration system. The filtration system consists of a UV sterilization system, submersible filter with multi-canister charcoal filtration to capture any debris that enters the fountain. Magnetic water conditioners were attached to recirculation piping to eliminate hard water and mineral build-up.

In the end the Water Wall was a great success that adds to the elegance and ambiance of the new St. David's Atrium.

Support from the following
AGC Subcontractors/Suppliers:

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ICON Plumbing, Heating & Air, Ltd.
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