



50,000 Construction Jobs

The Facts:

The proposed Destination Resorts legislation would:

- Create the Department of Gaming Control and Gaming Commission.
- Grant authority to the State Gaming Commission to grant 3 destination resort licenses.
- Destination Resorts may only be located in counties where slot machine activities are currently authorized.
- In order to receive a license, the applicant must:
 - 1- Have the ability to expend at least \$2 billion in new development and construction following the award of the license
 - 2- Best serve the residents of Florida
 - 3- Show capacity to increase tourism
 - 4- Provide a facility design where no more than 10% of the total square footage is gaming-related
 - 5- Show a history of involvement in the community
 - 6- Provide adequate, private financing

It has been nearly two years since Florida's average unemployment rate was below double digits, and we

are now facing at least another \$1.5 billion revenue shortfall. Florida must consider new ways to grow its economic base and create jobs. The creation of specific and limited Destination Resorts in South Florida would provide a much-needed boost to Florida's economy; getting tens of thousands of out-of-work Floridians back on a payroll.

HB 487 and SB 710 will create tens of thousands of desperately needed jobs here in the state. Whether it is immediate construction jobs, long-term direct jobs in the resorts themselves, or downstream jobs, these are opportunities which are so desperately needed to ease the unemployment rate in Florida.

By the NUMBERS:

(Unemployment rates for October 2011)

- U.S 9.0 %
- Florida 10.3 %
– 955,000 unemployed Floridians
- Miami-Dade 10.7%
– 140,000 unemployed Floridians
- Broward 8.9%
– 88,000 unemployed Floridians

What Destination Resorts would bring to Florida's unemployed:

- 50,000 construction jobs
- 40,000 to 50,000 permanent jobs
- 80,000 to 100,000 direct and indirect jobs.

Member News

KM/Plaza announced that it is well underway with construction of the new Jewish Community Center located in Miami Beach, Florida. When complete in the Fall of 2012, the 43,502 square foot mixed-use recreational facility will include an indoor basketball court with movable bleachers, fitness center with men's and women's locker rooms, gymnastics and dance studios, racquetball courts, multi-purpose rooms, media lab, and library. A rooftop party deck with catering kitchen, playfields, and an elaborate lap pool overlooking Indian Creek, are also part of the new development.



Jewish Community Center

A joint venture of **Skanska USA** and **Moss & Associates** was awarded the \$80 million contract to expand and renovate the Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport terminal in South Carolina.

The multi-phase terminal improvement program consists of an overall expansion to the airport's footprint and major renovations to the existing airport terminal.

Work begins in December 2011 and is slated to complete in June 2014. As construction manager at-risk, Skanska/Moss is responsible for all pre-construction, construction management and post-construction services.



Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport



Safety, People, Quality and Value First!

Each month Construction FOCUS features a CASF member company, selected by drawing a business card from among those attending the monthly networking breakfast. The next breakfast, sponsored by Craft Construction, will be held on Thursday, January 19, 7:30 a.m. at Shula's Hotel in Miami Lakes.

Dan Baker started Baker Cement Contractors, Inc. in 1968 out of a small house in Oxford, Ohio. He learned all he needed to know about the cement finisher's trade from his grandfather, Elmer Baker, who was a cement and stone mason for over 60 years. Elmer's elemental principle in quality service, strong work ethics, passion, and common sense is

what built the groundwork of Baker's principles. Baker quickly became known for these core principles and fueled by the reputation and an instinctive passion for building, they continued to grow and expand its reach and capabilities over the next four decades to become the industry leader it is today.

Baker has locations all

throughout the United States and the Caribbean, employing over 4,000 people. Some of their key people located in the Southeast Regional office include VPs' of Operations Darrell Whiteside and Joe Orr, VP of Preconstruction Don Marks, and Operations Manager Kerri Smith. Their professional teams have experience on nearly every project variety from light commercial to heavy industrial work.

Baker Concrete provides the industry with cast in place concrete construction, pre-construction services, project management, and specialty concrete services. "Our mission is to be the preeminent concrete company through continuous improvement and commitment to safety, people, quality and value" says Mindy Szarowicz, who has been in Business Development for 3

years. Baker holds itself and each of their employees personally accountable for the well-being of not only their coworkers, but also of their clients, partners, families, and friends. Safety is their number one priority with safety leadership at all levels. The company continuously adapts to all types of client needs, jobsite conditions and schedule requirements while still providing high levels of quality and service.

In 2008 on their 40th Anniversary, Baker decided it was time to modernize. They re-establish themselves with a new brand, developed a new image, new logo, and all new marketing materials.

Baker recently completed the new 750,000 square foot Florida Marlins baseball stadium containing a distinctive retractable roof with massive site-cast track beams. They currently are working on the MIA People Mover, Orange Line Rail, 595 Expressway, and FAU Stadium. They also recently secured the Nova Coral Reef Lab and the University of Florida's Research Center in Lake Nona.

Mindy explains, "By attending events I have met numerous amounts of people and have made strong, lasting, working relationships. CASF has really helped me to build my list of business contacts and I plan on staying active in the association".

Baker Concrete's Regional office is located at 5555 Anglers Ave, Suite 1A, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312. For more information, call 954-964-6027 or visit www.bakerconcrete.com.

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Construction Focus is the official publication of the Construction Association of South Florida. Article suggestions and submissions for publication consideration should be forwarded to the Executive Vice President.

Origins of Paperless Bid Distribution

When the Federal Government adopted paperless bid distribution in 1997 it was seen as a committed step towards reducing paper waste.

Interestingly, several individuals played a significant role in proving-out the technological innovation that closes the critical gap in an end-to-end electronic highway used for document distribution in the bidding of construction projects. In the process, they became environmental stewards eager to shed a wasteful habit of unnecessary paper consumption. The trend towards paperless bid distribution has been a progression that has taken several years and numerous increments to arrive. Its benefits are now demonstrated by thousands of users throughout the US. Early Adopters

Federal Government Agencies like the US Army Corps of Engineers and US Air Force adopted paperless bid distribution as early as 1997-98, first with CD distribution and finally with internet-based distribution. The Corps became convinced to adopt the model when it calculated that in the first full year of their pilot paperless bid distribution program, the reduction achieved a stack of paper that exceeded the height of the Washington Monument!

Commercial plan rooms & local Builders Exchanges soon offered their own versions of paperless distribution for their members. Both McGraw Hill and Reed Construction Data, two major businesses in this sector, closed or consolidated their nationwide physical

plan rooms and improved their online plans and specs subscription services.

They began scanning existing printed documents for distribution using electronic formats. Soon, major growth was driven by demand for electronic services from recipients and most service providers included at least some form of electronic distribution in their product offerings. The launch of Internet websites and software improvements including electronic takeoff and estimating; coupled with incremental increases in PC processing power, storage capacities and communications speeds soon offered different options to distribute documents.

Commercial Market Still Remains Paper-Friendly

Even though the paperless movement derived its original momentum from major federal agencies, the commercial market has not substantially moved beyond paper as its main source of bid documents.

Today, over 80 percent of commercial projects in the US still are distributed via paper. The printing of paper documents (that were originally produced electronically) only to scan them back into an electronic form for distribution, is obviously very inefficient and wasteful, it is a problem that has not been easy to solve.

During 2002-03 the American Institute of Architects (AIA), undertook a study of its member's document distribution practices. This study clearly revealed that their architects had come to rely on print shops to distribute documents to as many as 30 or more dif-

ferent plan rooms and select local contractors in the course of a bid. A similar service simply did not exist for electronic distribution and the absence of a suitable electronic method, by default, meant that paper distribution continued to be the norm. Sensing that they had a unique opportunity to advance a solution that would benefit their industry, the AIA component went on to raise funds from its membership to create a national Internet service to specifically address the issue, which was developed and put into use. The key technology that this service offers included electronic bid creation software that was loosely integrated with a Web site allowing design professionals or project owners to distribute electronic bid packages that are freely accessible by anyone. The site also functioned as a clearinghouse from which existing commercial re-distributors may obtain projects for listing on their own sites. By creating this single point of control for the document originator, the service makes it even more convenient than paper for them to issue a bid and in the process it eliminates paper entirely.

There are still many local planrooms and print shops that continue to scan paper plans from architects and owners. Obtaining the paper plans means printing them first (ironically, from their electronic source program) then shipping them, sometimes clear across the country. This leaves a very big footprint that with today's access to computers and the Internet can easily be avoided.

CONSTRUCTION
FOCUS

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ROUTE TO:

Holiday Kick-off Party at the Riverside Hotel

December 6, 2011

