



Bridging the Language Barrier

NCCER has partnered with constructNet International (cNI), Phoenix, Ariz., to provide online instructional language resources for the construction industry to help bridge the language barrier between employers and employees.

The first series titled, Construction English for the Spanish Speaker, contains five courses. These courses will cover basic terminology related to employment, employability skills, construction, and safety. The first course in this series, *Introduction to Construction English I*, was made available in September. Other courses in this series are *Introduction to Construction English II*, *Intermediate Construction English I and II*, and *Advanced Construction English*. These courses are expected to be released throughout 2008 and 2009.

This program is designed to improve communication at work sites between Spanish-speaking and English-speaking employees. Whether asking for tools or clarifying instructions, employees will learn key phrases and increase vocabulary in an easy-to-

learn online format. Participants can log in anytime and anywhere there is access to a computer and the Internet. An orientation on how to use the computer and the Internet is also included.

A second series titled, Construction Spanish for the English Speaker, consists of one course aimed at foremen, supervisors, crew leaders, and administration and is estimated to be available in fall 2008.

The primary purpose of this course is to ensure clear communication between all parties involved to ensure safety at the job site.

"Safety and productivity are a priority for contractors, and the language barrier is a large factor contributing to construction-related injuries and fatalities," said Don Whyte, NCCER president. "With the increasing number of Hispanics entering the industry, we must do everything we can to create a safe working environment on our job sites."

In addition to the development of the Internet-based language courses, NCCER has developed other Spanish-based curricula and assessment resources. A current listing is available at <http://www.nccer.org>.



Member News

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Stiles Construction Co. has launched construction for The Residences at the Fountains, an upscale rental community being developed by American Land Ventures, LLC as a key step in revitalizing Plantation's mixed-use Midtown District.

With 251 luxury apartment homes and townhomes in 10- and 11-story towers, The



The Residences at the Fountains

Residences at the Fountains is the first of two development phases planned at the site along SW 78 Street, adjacent to the Fountains Shoppes of Distinction.

A recognized innovator in construction safety, construction manager **Moss & Associates** announced a new program to deploy automated external defibrillators (AEDs) on each of its more than 30 jobsites, accelerating a life-saving response in the event of a cardiac arrest.

"Safety is one of our core values - it's how we define ourselves," said Bob Moss, president and CEO of Moss & Associates. "This AED initiative is an important component of our comprehensive, proactive approach that focuses on anticipating the location and timing of dangers on the job site."

Solutions for Temporary Sanitation Needs

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 Bovis Lend Lease, will be held on Thursday, October 16, 7:30 a.m. at Shula's Hotel in Miami Lakes.

Port-O-Tech is a portable sanitation company that provides temporary toilets, tanks, hand-washing units, and other accessories for on-site convenience. They specialize in construction projects, special events, and nurseries.



Their customer base is large and diverse.

Some of their most notable clients include Balfour Beatty Construction, Bovis Lend Lease, Coastal Construction Group, Pavarini Construction, and Turner Construction.

In recent years they have also had the privilege of servicing the

following affairs: Rolling Stones Concert, Pink Floyd Concert, KISS Concert, Santa's Enchanted Forest, Palm Beach International Equestrian Festival and concerts at the Gulfstream Race Track.

Their expert staff supervises every aspect of each project. Port-O-Tech is the concierge of portable sanitation. They take pride in customizing their services to meet their client's needs. They have jobs that need service 2 times per week and then have Special Events that require services every day for the entire event. Port-O-Tech's equipment is maintained and checked daily and they are also looking into the latest technology to provide new services in their industry. Each of their trucks is equipped with high-

pressure sanitizers to ensure that each unit is fresh-smelling and clean.

Port-O-Tech requires their drivers to attend a thorough and very extensive safety program. There are periodic mandatory safety meetings to insure knowledge of the latest safety records and requirements. The drivers and staff are conscientious



and courteous about their duties.

Port-O-Tech joined CASF this year; however, Amy Drinnon, Port-O-Tech's Sales Manager, is no stranger to the South Florida construction industry. She has over 20 years construction experience. She has also earned and been designated as a LEED® AP. Amy

provides customers with detailed solutions for temporary sanitation needs.

Port-O-Tech is located at 1930 NW 18th Street - Bays 1 & 2, Pompano Beach, Florida 33069. For complete details on specific units check out their web-site at www.portotechinc.com or if you need a quote or additional information, call Amy at 954-868-1621 or e-mail her at adrinnon@bellsouth.net.



CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION of South Florida

2929 North West 62nd Street, Ft. Lauderdale, FL., 33309

Phone: 954-974-6333; FAX: 954-974-6633

info@casf.org

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Riverbend Transit Hub in Broward County

The Next Step in Transformation of Broward Blvd./I-95 Interchange As Mixed-use Regional Transportation Hub and Downtown Fort Lauderdale Gateway

With the completion of the first 67,000-square-foot Class A office building at the Riverbend Transit Oriented Development (TOD), developer Amera-Barron recently announced it is finalizing approvals for two additional four-story, Class A office buildings and an adjacent parking garage.

The buildings are part of the first stage of Riverbend, Broward County's first new office submarket in 20 years and the initial phase of a dynamic mixed-use destination and regional transit hub at the western edge of downtown Fort Lauderdale. Riverbend is designed to offer workers, shoppers and residents the benefits of a complete environment without dependence on the automobile.

Overall, the 6 million square-foot mixed-use Riverbend community will encompass nearly 100 acres, spanning both western quadrants of the Interstate 95/Broward Boulevard interchange. The north side will accommodate a corporate park campus, a multi-modal transit hub and twin office towers. On the south side, Riverbend Village will bring several residential neighborhoods, a super regional multi-level retail center and corporate offices to the area.

The project's multi-modal

transit hub is designed to streamline travel throughout Broward County's central corridor. With I-95 ramp infrastructure and a Tri-Rail station in place, a proposed east-west light rail connector route on the boards, and its own internal trolley system, Riverbend is designed to be the most accessible destination in the region for employees and visitors.

The two new buildings will each have 120,000 square feet of space, including 15,000 square feet of ground floor retail and restaurant space. The 5-story parking garage will accommodate 900 vehicles. Located along a redundant FPL power loop served by two substations, Riverbend provides unmatched infrastructure to keep businesses up and running. The buildings also will feature fiber optics and redundant power back up, full impact/low E window systems, and VAV HVAC system. Construction start is projected for second quarter 2009.

In all, Riverbend's first phase, on 18 acres, will include six, four-story Class A office buildings with a total of 700,000 square feet and complementary amenities. The buildings are sited around a 20-plus acre lake and along a spine road. Future phases will include additional office buildings and amenities, with sites for restaurants, banks and business services. An extensive streetscape along Broward Boulevard with more than 240 live oak trees and landscaped berms already has been installed. The main entrance will be flanked by lighted waterfall-lined monu-

ments.

"We are in active negotiations with tenants for the remaining space in the first building, and with the approvals, are eager to begin the next phase," said Charles Ladd, who with George Rahael, is a principal of the development company. Ladd and Rahael said companies are responding to Riverbend's master plan, which will create a transit-oriented new urban community at the nexus of the I-95/595 infrastructure. At completion, Riverbend is projected to generate over \$20 million in annual tax revenues and accommodate employers generating nearly 8,000 jobs.

The developers engaged a nationally regarded design team including Chicago-based architects Solomon Cordwell Buenz & Associates Inc. The general contractor is J. Raymond & Associates of Orlando, Florida.

Principals Ladd and Rahael are long-time partners in market-shaping, top quality South Florida projects under the Amera Barron companies. The team is also master developer for Downtown Coral Springs, which is redeveloping all four quadrants of the Sample Road/University Drive intersection. Other projects include The Walk on University, a 240,000-square-foot mixed-use center and Victoria Park Shoppes, which brought a new level of quality retail to that Fort Lauderdale neighborhood.



Riverbend Building I

McGraw-Hill Membership Mixer at Swigs



See if you can pick them out: *Don Ferguson, Cayman Intr'l Manfact. Doug Johnson, Doug's Tubs & More. Jesse Brewer, James B. Pirtle Constr. Co. Sean Quigley, General Crane USA Michael J. Aiello, Lannes & Garcia, Inc. Nancy Bryant,*



Tom Hartis, Matt Powell, McGraw-Hill Constr. Krista Kingsbury, Todd Barna, Kristi Ronyak, Speedy Concrete Cutting, Inc.



ROUTE TO:

3500 NW 9TH AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33309

