OSHA Narrows Focus

At the November CASF Safety committee meeting, Vergie Bain, Compliance Assistant Specialist for OHSA's Fort Lauderdale Area Office, presented an OSHA Update. Discussed were the new focus and directives affecting the South Florida Construction Industry.

OSHA's view is "no job is a good job, unless it is a safe job". In 2010 there were 4,547 fatalities in the United States and 68 in Florida.

For the next year OSHA will focus on Enforcement, Outreach, and Partnerships. There will be an effort on strong, fair and effective enforcement. There is an updated penalty policy with higher monetary fines. OSHA will be looking at Safety & Health Programs, emphasis on more accurate reporting, and resetting priorities on the regulatory agenda to have a more common sense approach. They are working on improving their investigative techniques. Target areas will include trenching, falls, ladder safety and the use of nail guns. Exposure to hazardous materials and chemicals, and respiratory protection in construction is an area which is generally overlooked by the employer and will be a new focus area.

Severe Violator Enforcement Program(SVEP)

The SVEP directive became effective on June 18, 2010, cancelling the Enhanced Enforcement Program. Under the SVEP, the criteria was changed to better focus enforcement efforts on significant hazards by concentrating inspection resources on employers who have demonstrated recalcitrance or indifference to their OSHA Act obligations by committing willful, repeated, or failure-to-abate violations in one or more of the following circumstances: (1) a fatality or catastrophe situation; (2) in industry operations or processes that expose employees to the most severe occupational hazards and those identified as "High-Emphasis Hazards;" and (3) exposing employees to hazards related to the potential release of a highly hazardous chemical. The SVEP also created a nationwide referral procedure in which OSHA may inspect related worksites/workplaces of an employer if OSHA identifies a broader pattern of non-compliance. The High-Emphasis Hazards include fall hazards and specific hazards, such as, amputation, combustible dust, excavation/ trenching, etc.

For more information, visit www.osha.gov.

Member News

Crawford Tracey Corporation announced that their employee, Obed Gonzalez, was awarded a 2011 Craftsmanship Award for his work on the recently completed glazing package for the Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital in Hollywood. The Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital is Florida's newest freestanding Children's Hospital. The $140 million project showcases its theme of "Power of Play" throughout the exterior glass with each floor representing themes of Sports, Arts, Games and Dreams.

Miller Construction Company CEO Tom Miller announced the promotions of Brian Sudduth, Jeff Slade and Chris Hannaka to senior leadership positions. "The promotions are a key step in positioning our firm to grow its presence in Palm Beach County and in new market segments", Miller said.

All three executives are shareholders in the 38-year-old design/build and general contracting firm. Named senior vice president, Sudduth leads Miller's Preconstruction team; Slade has been promoted to vice president-operations manager; and Hannaka was promoted to project executive from project manager with over a decade of construction experience at the firm.
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 Stiles Construction Company, will be held on Thursday, December 15, 7:30 a.m. at the Courtyard by Marriott-Cypress Creek in Ft. Lauderdale.

Piedroba Marine Construction (PMC) was founded in 2006 by a group of South Florida based professionals who saw the need for a locally based marine contractor with specific emphasis on dredging. Beyond filling the geographical niche, the closely-knit partnership of engineers, contractors, business consultants, and public affairs specialists envisioned a firm offering marine construction services, guided by the latest and most innovative techniques and engineering methods available.

PMC offers comprehensive environmental engineering services including marine construction, dredging, engineering consultancy, and other related services throughout the south-eastern United States and Latin America. They are one of the few companies in the U.S. that specialize in both the construction and engineering side of dredging. Their understanding of Florida's subsoil conditions, past experiences as both a contractor and engineer and access to and understanding of a wide range of marine equipment sets them apart from competitors.

Starting the business during such hard economic times and in such a competitive and capital intensive industry has definitely created many challenges and adversity for PMC. However, by working in such a tough environment, a foundation of creativity, determination and dependability was made, and it has enabled the company to be successful. The company currently has 13 employees and continues to grow.

"One of the great things of working with PMC is working with Dr. Prieto-Portar; his 40 years of construction and engineering expertise, combined with his ability to transfer his knowledge, make it a pleasure to work with him" expresses Jelle Prins, who has been with the company since it has opened.

One of the company's most significant moments was being selected by the United States Army Corps of Engineers to teach the required 'Dredging Fundamentals' class to their employees/students for the next five years. The successful completion of the course's first year has led to other in-house training contracts with different Army Corps of Engineers Districts. PMC also recently successfully completed the Hernando Beach Dredging Project and work for the South Florida Water Management District, which consisted of bridge repairs around Lake Okeechobee.

Above all else, PMC is a business that enjoys a challenge. Whether it is a complex dredging project, requiring a novel combination of technologies, or assisting a police force with using dredging equipment to recover crime scene evidence, PMC's team of engineers and contractors is always ready. PMC just recently joined CASF in order to get their name out and establish their company within the association as one of the few marine contractors and the only dredging contractor. "We hope to also strengthen our ties with local contractors and suppliers, and take advantage of the great networking opportunities" states Prins.

Piedroba Marine Construction LLC is located at 3250 Grand Avenue, Suite 201, Miami, FL 33133. For more information, call 305-529-2235 or visit www.piedroba.com.
53rd Annual Craftsmanship Award Winners

LANDSCAPING
Randy Singh
PROJECT: Rolling Hills Graduate Residence Pool

CONCRETE
Mike Castellon
PROJECT: NSU Coral Reef Research Facility

CONCRETE FORMWORK
George Gore
PROJECT: Marlins Stadium

CONCRETE TILTWALL
Tom Vanderspool
PROJECT: The Point/ NSU

MASONRY- BLOCK
Jose Done
PROJECT: Publix #1288

NATURAL STONE/ GRANITE MARBLE
Matthew Campbell
PROJECT: Florida Shores Bank

STONE
John Kovachs III
PROJECT: City Furniture/Ashley Furniture

ALUMINUM CANOPY
Cory Jay Dion
PROJECT: Parkway Middle School

ORNAMENTAL METALS
Robert Rosa
PROJECT: Stiles Headquarters- Plaza at Las Olas

STEEL BRIDGE
John Hegarty
PROJECT: Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

STEEL ERECTION
Curtis Mayes
PROJECT: Marlins Stadium

ARCHITECTURAL WOODWORK
Duniex Feliciano
PROJECT: Florida Shores Bank

HEAVY TIMBER CONSTRUCTION
Steve Klosowsky
PROJECT: Bodenweber Residence

MILLWORK
Duniex Feliciano
PROJECT: Beaux Arts Hotel Miami

ROOFING - PRE-FORMED
Javier Cruz
PROJECT: City Furniture/Ashley Furniture

GLASS & GLAZING
Dominic Licari
PROJECT: Miami Freedom Tower

GLASS & GLAZING- CURTAIN WALL
Obed Gonzalez
PROJECT: Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

ACOUSTICAL CEILINGS
Jeffrey Whitaker
PROJECT: Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

ARCHITECTURAL METAL CEILINGS
James Clemence
PROJECT: PBSC Technical Education Center

CERAMIC TILE
Victor Garcia
PROJECT: Soho Beach House

FLOORING- DECORATIVE CONCRETE
Sam Godbey
PROJECT: FIU PG5 Market Station

FLOORING- LAMINATE
Heather Nightman
PROJECT: St. Mark's Episcopal School- Gym

FLOORING- RUBBER
Chuck Johnston
PROJECT: Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

(continued on Page 4)
Craftsmanship Award Winners (continued from Page 3)

FLOORING- SPORTS
Juan Otero
PROJECT: Parkway Middle School

FLOORING- WOOD
Mike Macina
PROJECT: Soho Beach House

GYPSUM WALLBOARD
Oscar Ronquillo
PROJECT: New World Symphony Center

LATH & PLASTER
Max De La Cerda
PROJECT: Miami Freedom Tower

PAINTING
Vergil Smith
PROJECT: Miami Freedom Tower

PAINTING-FAUX FINISHES
Rubens Terci
PROJECT: El Dorado West Palm Beach

PLASTER- VENETIAN ELEMENTS
Alberto Garcia
PROJECT: Villagio Restaurant at Sawgrass

STUCCO
Mario Rivera
PROJECT: Publix #1288

STUCCO- EFIS
Andre Schelchta
PROJECT: Florida Shores Bank

TERRAZZO
Mateo Sebastian
PROJECT: Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

WALL COVERING
Bobby Soars
PROJECT: Florida Shores Bank

SWIMMING POOL
Ronald Sugg
PROJECT: Rolling Hills Graduate Residence Pool

SYNTHETIC TURF
Teddy Ginter
PROJECT: Orange Bowl Field at Moore Park

AIR DISTRIBUTION
Luis Jimenez
PROJECT: Aveva

MECHANICAL/PLUMBING PIPING
Sean Reif
PROJECT: University of Miami Life Sciences

PIPE FITTING
Russ Adams
PROJECT: Broward County Convention Center