ePermits in Broward County

It’s now easier than ever to do business with Broward County through the new ePermits Website, a centralized source of online information on permits, licenses and approvals. Contractors, businesses, design professionals and residents can visit broward.org/epermits to identify their project type and obtain information on required permits.

ePermits features a database of more than 100 online environmental, building, engineering and water and wastewater services permit applications. The Development and Environmental Review Approval was the first ePermit option available that is now exclusively electronic as of January 2013. Customers are able to access their Development and Environmental Review application anytime, upload design plans and receive electronic approvals, ultimately saving time and money.

In the future, ePermits will enable users to apply for and obtain all building permits, licenses and approvals online from anywhere using a new web-based application. The website currently is organized in five categories: Permits A to Z – A useful guide on the various permits issued by Broward County. Users can also search permits simply entering key words in the “Search” function.

Homeowner – The section allows for homeowners unfamiliar with the permitting process to research permit information by topics including, single family, multifamily, mobile home or condo owner.

Contractors - Contractors can search permit information by use, which include environmental, structural, electrical, plumbing and mechanical.

Design Professional – Includes permit information for environmental, building construction and site preparation and land development.

Small Business - Useful for existing or new businesses and features information on permits sought after by small businesses, which may require a licensed contractor or design professional.

CASF, along with other organizations, such as AIA, ABC, BOMA, FSE, the Broward Alliance and others, are working with the County and the Broward County Building Officials Assn. (formerly BOIEA) to encourage all cities to adopt ePermits.

Member News

Thermal Concepts has been awarded the contract for mechanical construction on the new Brickell CityCentre in downton Miami. The contract includes all heating, air conditioning and ventilation for this huge and important project - and construction is already underway. Upon completion, the entire project will cost $1.05 billion and comprise 5.4 million square feet of mixed-use development that includes office, residential, hotel, retail, entertainment space and underground parking.

JWR Construction has been selected as Construction Manager for pool deck improvements at Southpoint Condominium in Fort Lauderdale. The project will include the addition of a reflection pool feature, upgraded pool deck amenities such as new landscaping, trees, planters and new brick pavers along with associated plumbing and site lighting. The project is scheduled to start in the Summer.

Plaza Construction has broken ground for the AC Hotel by Marriott in Miami Beach, the U.S’s first all-new AC Hotel. Located at 2912 Collins Avenue, the seven-story, 150-room AC Hotel will offer upscale amenities, it is located across from the beach and is just minutes from Lincoln Road and South Beach’s Ocean Drive.
Can Ship Anything to Anyone from Any Store

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 James A. Cummings, Inc., will be held on Thursday, April 17, 7:30 a.m. at the Courtyard by Marriott-Cypress Creek in Ft. Lauderdale.

White Cap Construction Supply was founded in 1976 with only one store in Santa Ana, CA. The company’s objective from the very beginning was to create a place where professional contractors of all sizes could get all the products they would ever need. Their mission still holds today to be the leading nationwide supplier of hardware, tools, and materials to the construction industry by making it easier for their customers to do business. Through the combination of offering the best service, product selection, and price, they strive for superior customer satisfaction.

The company currently has over 150 locations in 25 states and can ship anywhere in the world. They currently have about 1700 employees nationwide and continue to grow. "One of the best things about working here is the comfortable, family-like team environment", explains Branch Manager Mike Grecz. Some other key people in the company include President John Stegeman and Regional Vice President for the Southeast US Paul Radomski.

The buying power, size of the company, number of locations and extremely knowledgeable staff sets White Cap ahead of their competitors. Through their centralized order desk, they can ship any product to any customer from any store. All information about product quotes and availabilities, job quotes, specific delivery dates, or technical questions can be answered by one of White Cap’s Product Champions. On the company website, there is an alphabetical list by manufacturer of each "Product Champion" and their expertise. Each person listed has years of experience and product knowledge in their specialty field.

They offer products for all trades and jobs including: concrete accessories, erosion control, industrial commercial, residential, jobsite safety and fall arrest, power tools and equipment, precast and tilt up, waterproofing, rebar, D.O.T. and governmental. The products they carry come from some of the leading manufacturers: Armor-Tile, Bosch, DeWalt, Hitachi, Knaack/Weatherguard, Makita, Milwaukee, Porter Cable, Rigid, Simpson, Skil and SpecChem to name a few.

White Cap joined CASF in 2011 and has definitely been taking full advantage of the networking opportunities with presence at many of the events. "CASF is a great organization. It is a useful way for people to grow and strengthen important business relationships", expresses Grecz.

White Cap White Cap Construction Supply has four locations in the Southeast, which include downtown Miami, Medley, Pompano Beach, and our newest location in West Palm Beach, with a total of 16 locations statewide. For more information call 954-979-3030 or visit www.whitecap.com.
Cave-ins pose the greatest risk and are much more likely than other excavation-related accidents to result in worker fatalities. One cubic yard of soil can weigh as much as a car. An unprotected trench is an early grave.

**Trench Safety Measures**

Trenches 5 feet (1.5 meters) deep or greater require a protective system unless the excavation is made entirely in stable rock. If less than 5 feet deep, a competent person may determine that a protective system is not required. Trenches 20 feet (6.1 meters) deep or greater require that the protective system be designed by a registered professional engineer or be based on tabulated data prepared and/or approved by a registered professional engineer in accordance with 1926.652(b) and (c).

**Competent Person**

OSHA standards require that employers inspect trenches daily and as conditions change by a competent person before worker entry to ensure elimination of excavation hazards. A competent person is an individual who is capable of identifying existing and predictable hazards or working conditions that are hazardous, unsanitary, or dangerous to workers, soil types and protective systems required, and who is authorized to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate these hazards and conditions.

**Access and Egress**

OSHA standards require safe access and egress to all excavations, including ladders, steps, ramps, or other safe means of exit for employees working in trench excavations 4 feet (1.22 meters) or deeper. These devices must be located within 25 feet (7.6 meters) of all workers.

**General Trenching and Excavation Rules**

- Keep heavy equipment away from trench edges.
- Identify other sources that might affect trench stability.
- Keep excavated soil and other materials at least 2 feet (0.6 meters) from trench edges.
- Know where underground utilities are located before digging.
- Test for atmospheric hazards such as low oxygen, hazardous fumes and toxic gases when > 4 feet deep.
- Inspect trenches at the start of each shift.
- Inspect trenches following a rainstorm or other water intrusion.
- Do not work under suspended or raised loads and materials.
- Inspect trenches after any occurrence that could have changed conditions in the trench.
- Ensure that personnel wear high visibility clothing when exposed to vehicular traffic.
Third Annual CASF Sporting Clay Shoot
Friday, March 14, at the South Florida Shooting Club

1st Place - MOSS Team
Total Score - 370 points
Top Score - Jimmy Harrod 98 pts

2nd Place - USI Team
Total Score - 338 points

3rd Place - Kaufman Lynn Team
Total Score - 333 points