

The Commonwealth Quarterly

News from around the circuit.

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Commonwealth Electric Company of the midwest

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Lancaster County Adult Detention Facility

Bob Philipps - Project Manager

Commonwealth Electric Company of the Midwest (CECM) was recently awarded the Lancaster Adult Detention Facility (LCADF) project. The \$59.9 million dollar 800 bed facility is to be located near the intersection of SW 40th Street and West O Street in Lincoln, NE.

The project was awarded by the Lancaster County Board in an open public bidding process. The Clark Enerson Partners are the architects along with being the electrical and mechanical engineers of record. Sampson Construction Company will serve as the construction manager. Mr. Chuck Richter is the project

manager for Sampson Construction Company. Steve Wilken will be the site superintendent and Brad Owen will serve as the field engineer for CECM. Kris Swanson at this point has been the only one on-site installing the temporary power system. The project will begin in the near future as the pre-cast work has begun along with footings and piers.

The project has a schedule of approximately 28 months with completion slated for February 2012. The facility is to begin housing inmates in July of 2012.



Raytheon Low Frequency Chamber Project

Jay Hoobler - Vice President

CECM recently began work on a new project at Raytheon Missile Systems here in Tucson. Building 850 is being erected and will house Raytheon's Low Frequency Anechoic Chamber. The new facility is a 14,800 square foot, pre-engineering metal building that encloses a series of offices, supporting facilities and an open bay area that will house the new chamber. Radio Frequency (RF) Anechoic Chambers are designed to suppress the electromagnetic wave energy of reflected electromagnetic waves or echoes. During testing, an RF signal that is generated from a signal source can be directed at the equipment being tested. Since the chamber will not internally reflect any of the electromagnetic waves, this ensures that the integrity of the subject being tested is not influenced by external or internal reflected signals. The shielding provided by the chamber further limits interference from equipment or sources located outside the chamber. The interior of the chamber is covered with radiation absorbent material (RAM) that is specifically designed to absorb and not reflect electromagnetic radiation.

The project is currently scheduled to be completed within a six month time frame. Due to the height of the building (65') most of the overhead conduit was installed to the roof structure before it was raised into place thus limiting the amount of work that will be required to be performed over the top of the chamber. We are subcontracted on this project with Concord General Contracting, Inc. out of Tucson. Pictured from left to right is our project superintendent Matt Merriman along with Bob Ervin, Kevin Tamayo, Amos Santa Cruz and Justin Parish.



Bob Ervin working at Building 850



Raytheon Building 850 Low Frequency Chamber



Left to Right: Matt Merriman, Bob Ervin, Kevin Tamayo, Amos Santa Cruz, Justin Parish

New MRI for Iowa Radiology

Michael Duffy - Special Projects Manager

Commonwealth Electric recently completed another successful project for Iowa Radiology working with Rick Portel, Chief Operating Officer and DeAnn Weuve, Clinic Director. The construction team was once again lead by Rich Clark of PDC Partners. In Iowa Radiology's ongoing effort to stay on the cutting edge, they recently upgraded their radiology capabilities with a new Toshiba -Vantage Titan MRI at their Clive, Iowa location. The new unit has a superior magnet strength producing sharper and more precise images requiring substantially less procedure time for patients, improving claustrophobic issues and patient comfort. This project consisted of the removal and replacement of the new MRI as well as new x-ray reading room, dressing room, sedation room and staff breakroom. Scheduling is always an important factor during construction of radiology projects and this one was no exception. DeAnn's staff worked extra hours to cover for the downtime and construction of the new MRI. This allowed Iowa Radiology to continue to meet their patient's needs during the construction process. Along with Rich Clark and his construction team's efforts, the project overcame construction obstacles and was completed on schedule.

CECM project team consisted of Mike Duffy, CECM Special Projects

Manager and electrician Keith Marschel. The Iowa Radiology staff along with De Ann and Rick has always been a pleasure to work with. Their knowledge and understanding of the construction process allows conflicts to be resolved quickly and efficiently without delaying the construction schedule. Keith Marschel's experience, understanding of radiology projects and his customer service oriented mentality contributes to the success of these types of projects.

DeAnn Weuve, Clinic Director, has always enjoyed working with Commonwealth, and this project was no exception, stating "I wouldn't want to work with anyone else but Mike and Keith."

CECM's association with Iowa Radiology and PDC Partners are two of our most valued professional relationships. We look forward to continuing these partnerships in the future.



DeAnn Weuve and Keith Marschel

Safety Update

Ruben Bera - Corporate Safety Director

An important part of having a safe work site is to have informed employees. Training is a very important part of educating workers on how to stay safe. Training can be a weekly tool box meeting to a formal classroom session. We constantly strive to provide all employees with the up-to-date safety information to help them not only stay safe but informed. During the past few months some of the training that has been completed included:

In Tucson, we were able to complete an OSHA 10 hour for all foremen. This class was held on a Monday and Tuesday, 5 hours each day. Although we were in tight surroundings, the class was completed.

Lincoln just completed an OSHA 10 hour for all electricians and line crew personnel. This class was held on three evenings.

Omaha conducted a 30 hour OSHA class for all service personnel. In addition to the 30 hour class, Omaha also holds foreman training meetings. These are conducted by Ed Gable and safety is always included.

During a recent visit to Phoenix we conducted a fall rescue class for all foremen. This class discussed the concept of self rescue and the use of trauma rescue straps.

Des Moines continues to hold safety committee meetings as well as Omaha, Lincoln and Columbus.

Training will always be an important part of our safety culture. Getting the message out enhances our ability to maintain a healthy work force. Our motto is "Committed to Excellence" and that includes our commitment to employee safety.

Iowans Package Meals from the Heartland

Allison Petersen - Service Coordinator

"Iowans have demonstrated over and over again how blessed we are to be living in the "Breadbasket of America" and how willing we are to share our bounty with those in need."

From MftH Website

Meals from the Heartland, a grass-roots movement aimed at addressing the issue of world hunger, held its annual meal packaging and fundraising event over the Labor Day weekend at Hy-Vee Hall in Des Moines.

From September 3rd through the 7th, groups and individuals from all over Iowa volunteered their time to help feed the hungry. Over 15,000 volunteers made it possible to feed more than 4 million people around the world. Among those volunteers were Allison Petersen and Jason Lane, members of the service department in the Commonwealth Des Moines location. Jason and Allison joined the effort as part of a local networking group called Synergy II. As a group, they were able to fill 12 boxes, enough food to provide 2,592 meals to those in need.

Jason and Allison both found the experience very rewarding. In addition to the fun they had socializing and the friendly competition with other groups, the event also provided some perspective. It's easy in day to day life to forget how fortunate we are to have food on the table. Meals from the Heartland remind us of this fact and lets us do something to help those who aren't so fortunate.



Synergy II Members

OSHA 10 Hour Training Class

Bob Philipps - Project Manager

On the nights of September 15th, 17th and 28th, Ruben Bera, Commonwealth Electric's Corporate Safety Director conducted a 10 hour OSHA safety class at the IBEW Local 265's training center in Lincoln, NE. The class was attended by 24 electricians and linemen from the Lincoln CECM branch. Lately, we have seen and heard more projects and general contractors requiring personnel to possess an OSHA 10 hour certificate. In the case of IBEW Local 1525 in Omaha they have two pay scales, one with all the required certificates (OSHA 10 being one of them) and a lower scale without. We have also received two large general contractors that have sent out letters stating that they will be requiring the OSHA 10 card in the near future. Along the same lines at least one personnel from each contractor on a jobsite is required to be CPR and First Aid certified. It appears Ruben and his staff will be very busy in the next few years conducting all of the required training.

I would like to thank Ruben for conducting these classes along with Nicole Roach and Lyndsey Harms for logistical issues we dealt with and coordinating the food and beverages provided. A special thanks to Roy Lamb II for allowing us to conduct these classes at the hall.



Des Moines International Airport Baggage Handling System

Matt Masters - Project Manager

Anyone traveling by plane recently has undoubtedly noticed that security measures continue to heighten. The Des Moines International Airport has looked at ways of increasing efficiency through the airport and increase passenger satisfaction at the same time. With all of the added procedures to increase security, new methods to accommodate new screening procedures are being implemented. These evolving procedures have prompted an upgrade to their Baggage Make-up Conveyor System.

Currently, when you fly out of Des Moines, your baggage is checked in with the airline. Then you, the passenger, are required to deliver your checked baggage to a screening area located in the front of the terminal lobby. The baggage is scanned by TSA, and once scanned, a third party transfers your bags back to the airlines to be loaded onto the plane. Upon completion of this project your baggage will be checked in by the

airlines, baggage placed on a conveyor belt which will carry it thru the TSA examining equipment and then onto a carousel in which it will be sorted to the appropriate airline.



Commonwealth Electric Company of the Midwest was awarded the electrical portion of this joint project between the City of Des Moines and the Federal Government. The project includes new electrical equipment, light fixtures, fire alarm and electrical connections to the new baggage handling equipment.

CECM is working with Dean Snyder Construction, who is the General Contractor on the project. Commonwealth Electric's team consists of Tracy Simmons, Project Foreman, along with Matt Masters, Project Manager, and Jeff Gero, Estimator. It is exciting to collaborate with Dean Snyder and the Des Moines Airport. We look forward to working with them on future endeavors.

Expo Division Awarded a Multi-Year Contract

Dan Shannon - General Manager-Expo Division

The Expo Division has just had a huge win that will help maintain our stellar reputation as one of Arizona's leading temporary power company for tradeshow, conventions and special events. I am proud to say that we have signed a multi-year contract with the Phoenix Convention Center to exclusively provide utility services for all events held in this tremendous facility.

This entire process started in late March and many hours of hard work and countless meetings resulted in the award of the contract in late May. Our biggest competitor was unrelenting in their quest to take this contract of 14 years from us. Our record at the Phoenix Convention Center, along with our tremendous staff and their tireless dedication to customer service, made it very difficult for the PCC to choose anyone else other than Commonwealth Electric. We have grown side by side with this facility and have shared in the many victories in producing over 4000 events such as NRA Annual Convention, NBA Jam Session, multiple Presidential visits, National Indian Gaming, and National Steel Show. These events have brought over 200,000 people through the Phoenix Convention Center. These events went flawlessly and really showed how Commonwealth Electric can handle every event, no matter

the size, and provide great customer service every time.

From start to finish, Commonwealth made it easy for the panel to choose us as their exclusive provider. The fact that we have been in the Convention Center since 1995 was not going to be enough. We had to prove that choosing anyone else could possibly be a detriment to service levels that have constantly been very high. We did just that. Our RFP response was head and shoulders above our competitors and our presentation thoroughly impressed the entire panel. How can you argue with a flawless service record, spotless safety record, and state of the art equipment? At the Phoenix Convention Center alone, our entire staff has over 200 years combined experience and knows this facility inside and out. Currently we are the only temporary power company that is staffed entirely with fully trained IBEW electricians that are masters in their field.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone from our Executive staff to our dedicated Expo staff in helping to secure this very important piece of business. I truly could not have done this without each and every one of you. We should all be very proud of the job that we do and the service that we provide.