

Safety 2013

Ruben Bera – Corporate Safety Director

It's hard to believe that we are in April of a new year. The safety department is gearing up for the warm weather work and the issues we need to deal with. Training is always a concern and we will make sure we stay on top of all electrical changes. As we get into the new year we begin with two exciting developments. One of our branches has received the award of "Honor with Distinction" for 2012 safety performance. This will be the 7th year in a row for this top honor. This is not just a single location award but an award that reflects the efforts of all electricians and staff throughout the Commonwealth family. It is an indication of the commitment to safety that all employees have demonstrated.

Another piece of exciting news is our EMR continues a downward trend. An EMR is an

indicator of how well we manage our safety. It's also a big factor that many general contractors and owners look at when they consider us as their electrical contractor. A low EMR reflects the commitment to safety that upper management has made. It also indicates the safety performance of the workers in the field. Another pat on the back for all of us who help make this happen.

There are so many factors involved in getting the "next job". Good budget numbers are important but how well we keep our employees safe and free from injuries is vital in the discussion making. We are off to another good year and we look forward to the challenges ahead.

Think Smart/Work Safe

Larry H. Miller Dodge

John Silvas - Project Superintendent

CECM Phoenix was recently awarded and began work on the expansion and remodel of the existing Larry H. Miller Dodge Dealership in Peoria, AZ, with Okland Construction.

The project consists of interior demolition of the existing Showroom/Sales Building, addition of 42,000 sq. ft. to the facility and a complete remodel of the building including the sales area, parts department, service drive and administrative offices. The total area of the new Showroom/Sales Building will be 85,000 sq. ft. The existing service facility totaling approximately 25,000 sq. ft. is also being remodeled as part of this project as well as additions to the site lighting infrastructure.

Our work on the project involves replacing the entire electrical distribution system; new lighting and lighting control systems, new branch circuit installations, raceways for telephone/data and security systems and a complete new design build fire alarm system.

One key element to the project is the existing

electrical service and distribution system needs to be maintained in operation until cut over to the new electrical distribution equipment in order to support the owner's on-going sales and service activities. This will require extensive planning and coordination by CECM will all construction and owner team members.

The project schedule is five months and the original contract value is \$ 790,500. CECM's Project Manager is John Silvas and our Project Superintendent is Carl Pollock.



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Larry H. Miller
Dodge

CECM nears Completion of Initial Phase of Involta Data Center in Tucson

Clay Gideon – Project Manager

We are nearing completion of the first phase of a multi-phase Data Center project for Involta, LLC. This project is being performed under a subcontract with Rinderknecht Associates, Inc. of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and involves the renovation of an existing 38,000 square foot building. When completed, the facility will be a state of the art, tenant data center that will provide multiple organizations with secure data storage and a full complement of managed services. This cutting edge facility will provide a secure and redundant environment while saving clients the usual expenses associated with owning, operating, and maintaining their own facilities. The Fifteen Million Dollar installation will be a stable, predictable, high performance data center complete with environmental controls, redundant back up power, and specialized fire suppression. It will feature a total capacity of 20,000 square feet of conditioned data center space that will contain approximately 600 cabinets of IT equipment. The facility has been designed to meet Leed Certification requirements.

The Tucson Data Center will be Involta's seventh and will house computer systems and related components for health care organizations, businesses, government and educational institutions. Involta provides services for domestic and international clients and use their internal resources and expertise to become an extension of their customer's IT departments.

As our team approaches the completion of the First Phase of construction Commonwealth crews are involved in last minute revisions, testing and assisting with the commissioning of new equipment. Major items of equipment include medium voltage switch gear, primary metering cabinet, two 2,500 KVA medium voltage transformers, two 1,500 KW redundant generators, two 3,000 Amp Service Entrance Sections, four 2,000Amp, one 1,200Amp and four 800Amp Distribution Sections. Other special items are two 550 KVA UPS Units, fourteen Automatic Transfer Switches, twelve panel boards, nine large dry type transformers, 1,300 feet of cable tray, 800 feet of Starline Busway, a specialized fire suppression



system (VESDA), an enhanced grounding system throughout the facility along with a new lightning protection system for the building.

Tony Doar is our Field Superintendent and Clay Gideon is handling the Project Manager duties for the first phase of construction. In spite of an aggressive completion schedule, Tony and his crew have done an incredible job in completing the installation on time. Their dedication and hard work has certainly impressed the owner and general contractor. Other than several verbal compliments and a formal thank you from the owner, we have now been assured that Commonwealth will be involved in all future phases and will participate in new installations for incoming clients. We are looking forward to a long and successful relationship with Rinderknecht and Involta and can thank Tony and his crew for their skill and commitment in securing the confidence of the owner and general contractor.



Lincoln Electrical Standards Group

Bob Philipps - Manager Design-Build

The Lincoln Electrical Standard's Group was formed by several Lincoln area electrical contractors both signatory and non-signatory to Local 265. This group's Chairman is Chris Callihan of Local 265. The mission of the group is "To advocate and protect the interest and viability of the business owners and workers in the electrical industry in Lincoln". Commonwealth Electric Company was invited to become a member of the newly formed Lincoln Electrical Standard's Group last March 2012 and we have actively participated in monthly meetings and have helped the membership grow by inviting other electrical contractors, material vendors and electrical sub-contractors that we partner with while performing electrical design, installation and service.

Part of the mission of this group is to work in the electrical industry involving contractor education, safety, retainage issues, working with the local authority on permitting and various items aimed at ensuring proper electrical installation by all members of the electrical industry. Some of the major items we have addressed are the growing number of active electrical contractors in the area, allowable interest rates on late payments and getting the updated NEC quickly adapted by the city. We are currently working on the Prompt Pay Bill LB373. (LB373 is basically a bill that reduces retainage to a maximum of 5% and enforces owners and or owner's representatives to pay sub-contractor's invoices within 30 days). We worked with several State Senators to help write and sponsor the bill. Those we worked with are Senator Heath Mello, Senator Steve Lathrop and Senator Bill Avery. I, along with several electrical contractors (both union and non-union) and lobbyists, testified in front of the Business and Labor committee in support of LB373. It currently is in committee and will be voted on in the next couple weeks.

Also, we are currently working with the local inspectors Ed Bergstrasser (City of Lincoln) and Randy Anderson (State of Nebraska) on LB244 which deals with apprentice CEU's and with City Councilman Gene Carroll on the license requirements of General and Sub-Contractors in the City of Lincoln. The license requirements would be very similar to various states including Virginia, proper insurance, compliance with local labor laws and financial responsibility being the basis of the requirement along with the specialty license (electrical, mechanical and etc.). Being pro-active in state and local policy making can only help us in future electrical endeavors.

Norfolk Priory of Missionary Convent Project

Ruth Chermok - Business Development

When the Benedictine Sisters of the Norfolk Priory Convent were left with a renovation project that was installed improperly, and were in litigation with a former contractor who had completed a poor installation and overcharged them; they turned to a contractor with a reputation for ethics and integrity and enlisted Bierman Contracting to revise the mechanical systems and solve their problems.

The Norfolk Priory of Missionary Benedictine Sisters is part of



Norfolk Priory of Missionary

an international community of monastic women who participate in the missionary service of the Church by seeking God through community, prayer, and ministry.

The Sisters had been involved in a \$15 million dollar renovation project from 2007-2009. When they moved back into the convent they discovered the mechanical systems did not work properly and they had a significant mold problem. Bierman's Project Manager, Jeff Keating, became involved and developed a complete solution for repair of the convent and the appropriate mechanical system to properly serve the facility and prevent the problem going forward. Insurance matters and litigation caused the project to move slowly at first, but Jeff was involved to assist the Sisters with the information they needed to resolve those matters.

Bierman turned to Commonwealth Electric and Jake Gable, for the electrical solutions to provide a good project for the Convent. Jake and Jeff worked together to develop a plan within budget and to meet the timeline of what had become an exhaustive process for the Sisters.

Work is still underway, but the Convent will have an appropriate and properly working mechanical and exhaust system to insure a safe and comfortable residence and spiritual retreat center for the Sisters.

Lincoln Communications - Pinnacle Bank Arena

Jerry Van Amerongen - Telecommunications Manager

In September of 2012, with a ton of help from our Omaha Communication's Division (Russ Williamson and Chris Gall), we secured the system's portion (voice and data, broadcast, audio, and security) of the new Pinnacle Bank Arena.

This project is in full swing for us at this time. We started on this project in the first week of February, 2013 and our substantial completion date is set at June 21st of 2013. We are currently looking at other opportunities as well, (scoreboard, D.A.S. etc.).

Our current crew count is at 8 and we are looking for this to rise as these other opportunities come to fruition. Ron Dodd is the Superintendent on this project and the rest of the crew consists of Roland Lusins, Kent Crosbie, Ben Hammer, Allen Jones, Chris and Jacob Malcom, and Aaron Burke. Brad Owens is helping us out in the administrative part by attending weekly progress meetings, coordinating between the field and office and by helping do take-offs and quotes for change orders.

This is by far the largest project that we have going on in the Communications Division in Lincoln, and we also are still keeping up with all of the other projects in the area. We were

HuskerVision to the Arena and Haymarket Park. This is a project consisting of the installation of more than 8 ½ miles of inner duct and more than 5 miles of fiber optics and almost 700 terminations. Our line crew, with Paul Hoegemeyer leading, is doing the majority of this install and Shiloh Menter will be doing the terminations. More work will be coming from HuskerVision in the very near future to make this all tie



just awarded the contract for the voice and data portion of the East Stadium remodel. In this project there are three different areas to work on. First is the stadium itself which is a lot of tv locations and some data, second is the Athletic Performance Lab, and The Center for Brain, Biology, and Behavior Analysis Lab (CB3). CB3 is going to be a Cat6A installation and we will be starting on this as early as 4/1/2013 with a completion date of 7/1/2013. Todd Starkey will be the lead man on this project. We are currently working on getting a 96 strand fiber connection from the City's network to HuskerVision and from

together.

We are also still working on the "unit price" contracts we have with UNL and the City on a daily basis (Roger Rezac, Aaron Gobel, and Greg Konwinski). Along with that we are waiting on a project to begin in Peru, Nebraska at Peru State College. Things are really looking good for us here in Lincoln and should only get bigger and better with the outlook of future projects still lying in wait and with our "teaming up" effect we have between Omaha and Lincoln.

