THE RESOURCE FOR THE CEILINGS & INTERIOR SYSTEMS CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

# WWW.CISCA.ORG ACCOUSTIGATION APRIL-JUNE 2017 ACCOUSTIGATION MARCE ALL ACCOUSTIGATION

# WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS:

### **CISCA Awards,** Education and Networking

People's Choice Award Winner Elite Acoustics & Interior's Alaska State Library, Archives & Museum (SLAM)



# INSIDE

Brad Sampson Receives CISCA's DeGelleke Award

Award Winner Spotlight: Groupe Piché's Ford Hall Inside Rogers Place Wins CISCA's Founder's Award

**Predictability Construction** 







Designer BOYTORUN Mimarlık

Acoustic Mirror

rchitecte : Concept Consult Architects Switzerland

Acoustic 3D



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Ceiling Solution Spotlight #3 & #4

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Ceiling Solution Spotlights highlight time-saving techniques that can help keep every job on the mark, getting you on and off the job site faster.



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Acoustical Interior Constru









Ceilings & Interior Systems Construction Association 1010 Jorie Blvd, Suite 30 Oak Brook, IL 60523 630.584.1919 Fax: 866.560.8537 www.cisca.org

Executive Director Shirley Wodynski

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**APRIL-JUNE 2017** 

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APRIL–JUNE 2017 | CISCA ACOUSTICAL INTERIOR CONSTRUCTION

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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

While it was a great convention and all attendees had a great time, the year is not over yet.



BY JEFF HUDEPOHL, VALLEY INTERIOR SYSTEMS, 2016–2017 CISCA PRESIDENT



hat a convention it was! The 2017 Convention is behind us and we had the largest turn out in over 8 years! Thank you to all who attended. If you missed it, here are some things you missed:

#### **EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION SESSIONS**

The 2017 Economic Forecast was again presented by Bob Treadway. Bob is forecasting a very good year for our industry. Let's hope it is better than he thinks!

Drones – We had a very interesting and informative session on drones.

#### **NETWORKING EVENTS**

We had a reception every evening to allow attendees an opportunity to network with other attendees. The One-on-One meetings were also a success.

#### **CELEBRATION DINNER AND AWARDS PROGRAM**

Gold awards were presented to 21 of the projects submitted into the 2017 Construction Excellence Awards Program. It was a great night of entertainment, speeches (not too long or too many!) and fun.

#### **INTEX EXPO**

Again, this year, attendees visited over 100 exhibitors to get new ideas and learn about new products.

#### **2018 CONVENTION**

If you didn't attend the convention this year, mark your calendar now to attend the 2018 Convention in Orlando, Florida, March 26–29, 2018.

#### **FUTURE CISCA EVENT**

While it was a great convention and all attendees had a great time, the year is not over yet. The next CISCA event on the calendar is the Emerging Leaders In-Person meeting June 20–21, hosted by Owens Corning. I know you all have a young person in your company who could benefit from this group. Ask one or two to attend. This will be time very well spent and you will be glad they got involved. The meeting will consist of education, networking and a plant tour. Many of our younger employees may not have experienced a plant tour yet. Sign them up!

#### **COMMITTEES**

We are looking for people to serve on the Education, Emerging Leaders and Membership Committees. There is no better way to meet new people than to get involved. Email the CISCA office, cisca@cisca.org, if you are interested in serving on a committee.

5

USG Ceiling Solutions

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#### **CORE PURPOSE**

CISCA exists to provide the acoustical ceiling and wall systems industry with a network of relevant opportunities for professionals to interact, grow and prosper through actionable education.

#### VISION

CISCA is the recognized authority and resource for acoustical ceiling and wall systems committed to providing solutions to contractors through education, leadership and networking opportunities.

#### MISSION

Recruit and retain contractors Provide relevant, effective education Develop, update and promote technical and installation guidelines Promote the acoustical ceilings and wall systems industry

Provide opportunities to allow those in the industry to advance their relationships with other professionals in the industry



meeting JUNE 19-21, 2017 hosted by Owens Corning in Charlotte, North Carolina. Be sure to send at least one of your emerging leaders to the meeting. This is a great way for emerging leaders to meet other emerging leaders, make contacts, network, and have training that will benefit them when they

> Owens Corning's Director, Organizational Design; a team building event at Nascar Hall of Fame; a tour of the Owens Corning

plant in Gastonia, and networking with other

More information is available on our website. You can also call CISCA, 630-584-1919 or email CISCA, cisca@cisca.org,

# CISCA's 2017 Amards & Runners-Up

# Gold Winners

#### CIVIC — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — SOUTH REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### Faena Forum

#### **TITUS CONSTRUCTION GROUP**

Other CISCA members involved: Radius Track Corporation *Manufacturer* Hunter Douglas Architectural Products *Manufacturer* USG *Manufacturer* L&W Supply *Distributor* Tamarack Materials Inc. *Distributor* OMA *Architect* Revuelta Architecture International *Architect* Electro-Media Design *Acoustician* 

The crowning jewel at Faena Forum, designed by OMA, is a spiral coffered dome with central oculus and punched openings. Titus Construction Group delivered the masterpiece, collaborating closely with Radius Track Corporation, who designed and manufactured the fully engineered dome framing. Titus championed this complex project delivering superior quality.



The 70-foot diameter spiral coffered dome spins up to the oculus, 40 feet above the finished floor.

#### CIVIC — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — WEST REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### Ford Hall inside Rogers Place

#### **GROUPE PICHÉ**

Other CISCA members involved: Decoustics *Manufacturer* HOK, Kansas City *Architect* Orchestral Arts Inc. *Acoustician* 

The Decoustics<sup>®</sup> Claro<sup>®</sup> Ceilencio<sup>®</sup> ceiling is the highlight of Ford Hall grand atrium entrance in Rogers Place, Edmonton, Alberta. The 1,200 pre-curved panels of varying shapes and sizes, covering about 33,000 square feet, were custom engineered and manufactured with high precision, meeting the fluid design intent and achieving exceptional acoustics.



High-precision and acoustical excellence.

#### CIVIC — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — EAST REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### **New York State Police Academy**

#### **BUNKOFF GENERAL CONTRACTORS**

Other CISCA members involved: Sound Seal *Manufacturer* AVI Design, Inc. *Acoustician* Hyman Hayes Associates *Architect* 

The New York State Police Academy was in need of an acoustical upgrade. The original building design had poor acoustic performance. Sound Seal of Agawam, Massachusetts, supplied the acoustical wood and fabric panels used in the project, resulting in aesthetically pleasing finishes along with exceptional acoustic performance.



The lecture hall, with acoustic-rated wood and fabric walls.

#### CIVIC — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — CENTRAL REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### St. Cecelia Catholic Church

#### **APPLETON LATHING CORPORATION**

Other CISCA members involved: Fellert North America *Manufacturer* Mau, Inc. Independent *Manufacturer's Representative* River Architects A*rchitect* 

Look around St. Cecilia Catholic Parish in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin, and you'll see how each piece complements each other, without detracting from each other. The historical integrity was preserved through the use of Fellert acoustical plaster, which provides an acoustical environment that performs with function and beauty.



St. Cecilia's worship space.

### CIVIC — OVER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — SOUTH REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### Hornet's Nest Park North Carolina

#### **BONITZ CONTRACTING CO., INC.**

Other CISCA members involved: Rulon International *Manufacturer* Gantt Huberman *Architect* 

Installing contractor, Bonitz Contracting, Inc.; Architect, Gantt-Huberman Architects; Manufacturer, Rulon International.



Rulon Linear Open System – Red Oak Species & Satin Clear Finish – Bonitz Contracting.

# CIVIC — OVER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — EAST REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### International Monetary Fund (IMF) H01 Seq 1

#### C.J. COAKLEY CO., INC.

Other CISCA members involved: Steel Ceilings, Inc. Manufacturer USG Manufacturer Armstrong Ceiling Solutions Manufacturer Rulon International Manufacturer L&W Supply Distributor SOM Architect

The IMF Headquarters is best defined as a large, complex building project in all aspects of construction and management. The building hosts some 1.9 million square feet of space. The project required installations using all skills and disciplines in our portfolio. Major installations of metal panel ceilings are the legacy.



The gallery space, illustrating integrated metal panel systems, drywall walls and ceilings.

# CIVIC — OVER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — WEST REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport T3 Modernization Phase 1

#### **T-P ACOUSTICS, INC.**

Other CISCA members involved: Hunter Douglas Architectural Products *Manufacturer* Lanton Associates Independent Manufacturer's Rep DWL Architects & Planners Inc. *Architect* Corgan *Architect* SmithGroupJJR *Architect* 



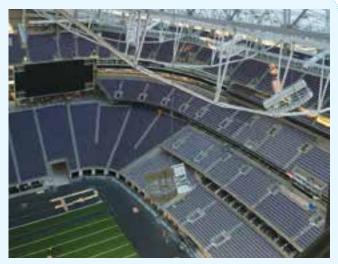
#### CIVIC — OVER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — CENTRAL REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### U.S. Bank Stadium

#### SPORTS FACILITY ACOUSTICS, INC.

Other CISCA members involved: MBI Products Company, Inc. Manufacturer HKS, Inc. Architect WJHW Acoustic

Sports Facility Acoustics, Inc,. has established a reputation as being the leading acoustical installer for large venues such as U.S. Bank Stadium. Our success can be attributed to our highly skilled and knowledgeable crew, who work closely with the on-site personnel to ensure a smooth installation and satisfactory completion.



A view of the lapendary panels from the catwalks.

#### EDUCATION — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — CENTRAL REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### **Bloomfield Hills High School Auditorium**

#### **COMMERCIAL CONTRACTING CORPORATION**

Other CISCA members involved: Acoustigreen *Manufacturer* Rice Associates *Independent Manufacturer's Rep* Stantec Architecture *Architect* 

The new Bloomfield Hills High School in Michigan design specified acoustical walls and ceilings in its auditorium. Commercial Contracting Corporation (CCC) worked with the architect to install 36,000 square feet of Acoustigreen Fusion Ceiling and Wall panels. With a tight timeline, Acoustigreen provided the constant support necessary to successfully complete the project.



Bloomfield Hills High School Auditorium with fusion ceiling and wall panels.

#### EDUCATION — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — WEST REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### Marcus Mariota Sports Performance Center

#### PERFORMANCE CONTRACTING, INC.

Other CISCA members involved: Ceilings Plus *Manufacturer* SRG Partnership *Architect* 

The University of Oregon Marcus Mariota Sports Performance Center's "Duck Ceiling" was designed by SRG Partnership. The goal of this project was to create a space that could utilize the most state-of-the-art technology to improve studentathlete wellness and emphasize the commitment of the school to the health and safety of the student-athletes.



Every room and corridor has a directional flow for "ducks."

#### EDUCATION — OVER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — EAST REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### Minnesota State University Mankato

#### **TWIN CITY ACOUSTICS**

Other CISCA members involved: Rulon International *Manufacturer* 

The new dining facility at the University of Minnesota Mankato features two beautiful, cylindrical curving walls above the serving area. The custom flexible wood panel grilles were provided by Rulon International. The professional installation was done by Twin City Acoustics. The stunning design was from Ayers St. Gross Architects.



The dining facility at University of Minnesota Mankato was designed by Ayers St. Gross. The beautiful wood panel grilles were provided by Rulon International while the professional installation was done by Twin City Acoustics.

#### EDUCATION — OVER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — CENTRAL REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### **Shawnee Mission Schools**

#### E & K OF KANSAS CITY, INC.

Other CISCA members involved:

Hunter Douglas Architectural Products *Manufacturer* FBM Kansas City *Distributor* Mau, Inc. *Independent Manufacturer's Rep.* Hollis and Miller *Architect* 

Shawnee Mission Schools located in Johnson County, Kansas, were constructed with a unique and colorful design. E&K of Kansas City, Inc., worked closely with JE Dunn throughout the construction process, which included ceiling clouds, wall-panels, light-coves and colorful trims. The size and appeal provides enhancement to educational, environmental and technological opportunities for students.



Metal panel ceilings and soffit at the cafeteria in school 2.

### EDUCATION — OVER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — WEST REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### Whittier College Renovation

#### **ALERT INSULATION COMPANY**

Other CISCA members involved: Rulon International *Manufacturer* Steinberg Architects *Architect* 

Steinberg Architects designed the stunning ceiling at Whittier College. The highly custom wood veneered panel grilles were manufactured and provided by Rulon International. The challenging install was accomplished by Alert Insulation, who did an outstanding job.



Steinberg Architects designed the beautiful ceiling at Whittier College. Rulon International provided the wood veneered panel grilles. The professional installation was done by Alert Insulation.

#### HEALTHCARE — OVER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — WEST REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### Mayo Clinic Proton Therapy Facility Phoenix, AZ

#### T-P ACOUSTICS, INC.

Other CISCA members involved: Armstrong Ceiling Solutions Manufacturer Hunter Douglas Architectural Products Manufacturer Norton Ceilings, Inc. Manufacturer Lanton Associates Independent Manufacturer's Rep. Ellerbe Becket, Inc. an AECOM Architect

The Mayo Clinic Proton Therapy Facility in Phoenix, Arizona, designed and constructed by AECOM/Hunt and HDR Engineering along with T-P Acoustics, utilizes the classic look of various Armstrong ceiling systems, complemented by Hunter Douglas Architectural Woodwright<sup>™</sup> Linear Metal Deep Box ceiling systems to set an example for peaceful healthcare design.



A clearstory interior-to-exterior linear metal ceiling, along with acoustical ceilings.

#### OFFICE — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — EAST REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### 4 Times Square Lobby Ceiling

#### **RIVCO CONSTRUCTION, LLC**

Other CISCA members involved: Structuretone *Contractor* Formglas Products Ltd. *Manufacturer* HOK (New York) *Architect* 

Rivco Construction installed the compound curved GFRG ceiling feature of the office tower lobby owned by the Durst Organization at 4 Times Square in New York. The ceiling, designed by HOK, manufactured by Formglas and comprised of 750 unique GFRG coffer panels, was installed while the building was fully operational.



View of ceiling section at highest point, approximately 55 feet.

#### **OFFICE — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET – SOUTH REGION AWARD WINNER:**

#### Hillwood Offices at Turtle Creek

#### **BAKER TRIANGLE**

Other CISCA members involved: 9Wood *Manufacturer* Architectural Materials *Independent Manufacturer's Rep.* BOKA Powell *Architect* Mithun *Architect* 

The Perot Family and Hillwood Development Company's new offices at Turtle Creek, Dallas, feature 10,576 square feet of crosspiece backer/dowel wood grille ceilings manufactured by 9Wood. The ceiling contractor, BakerTriangle, Dallas, installed 1,055 individual wood grille panels in two months. Architects:

BOKA Powell, Dallas, Texas; and Mithun, Seattle, Washington.



The new legacy headquarters office – featuring 10,576 square feet of wood grille ceilings – is impressive on all levels.

#### OFFICE — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — CENTRAL REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### NOAA National Logistics & Reconditioning Center

#### K.D. CHRISTIAN CONSTRUCTION CO.

Other CISCA members involved: Armstrong Ceiling Solutions Manufacturer Burns & McDonnell Architect

To create a visual reminiscent of lightning bolts coming down from the sky, metal ceiling panels from Armstrong Ceiling Solutions were installed diagonally in a herringbone pattern by K.D. Christian Construction in this conference room at the NOAA facility in Grandview, Missouri.



To create the effect of "lightning bolts," two-by-four metal ceiling panels were installed diagonally across the room in a herringbone pattern.

#### OFFICE — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — WEST REGION WINNER:

#### **US Bank Tower Los Angeles**

#### **MARTIN INTEGRATED SYSTEMS**

Other CISCA members involved: Armstrong Ceiling Solutions Manufacturer Gensler Architect

The inspiration behind the design of the chevron ceilings on the 70th floor of the US Bank Tower in Los Angeles was a gold art deco style bangle bracelet. The ceilings were designed by Gensler and installed by Martin Integrated Systems using custom MetalWorks™ ceiling panels from Armstrong<sup>®</sup> Ceiling Solutions.



The geometry of the chevron-shaped ceiling clouds was inspired by the facets in the office tower crown.

#### OFFICE — OVER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — EAST REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### 1785 Massachusetts Avenue

#### C.J. COAKLEY CO, INC.

Other CISCA members involved: USG *Manufacturer* L&W Supply *Distributor* Hartman-Cox Architects *Architect* 

C. J. Coakley Co., Inc., was selected by Grunley Construction to help renovate the historic 1785 Massachusetts Avenue property. It brought us back to our roots of traditional plaster. Blending old and new construction together is a very difficult task. The project was also awarded the WBC Presidents Award for Renovation.



The main lobby.

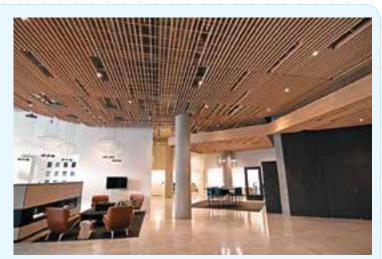
### RETAIL — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — WEST REGION AWARD WINNER:

#### **NV Portland**

#### **ANNING-JOHNSON**

Other CISCA members involved: 9Wood *Manufacturer* ZGF Architects *Architect* 

Close coordination between 9Wood and ZGF Architects in Portland, Oregon, led to a 4,325-square-foot, multielevation crosspiece backer wood grille ceiling that looks like custom millwork.



"The exterior entrance sequence begins with a wooden trellis," the interior designer said. "The idea was to extend that trellis into the interior space and have it become the ceiling."

#### **BOUTIQUE AWARD WINNER:**

#### Etihad Airways JFK Airport Lounge

#### CORD CONTRACTING COMPANY

Other CISCA members involved: Armstrong Ceiling Solutions Manufacturer Gensler Architect

The ceiling above the bar at Etihad Airways Lounge at JFK International Airport is a modern interpretation of a glowing antique Persian lantern. The ceiling was designed by Gensler and installed by Cord Contracting using custom MetalWorks™ Torsion Spring ceiling panels and Infusions® translucent infill panels from Armstrong® Ceiling Solutions.



The design vision for the ceiling above the bar called for a modern interpretation of an antique Persian lantern with a warm glow emanating from within.



#### CIVIC — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — WEST REGION RUNNER-UP (PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD):

#### Alaska State Library, Archives & Museum (SLAM)

#### **ELITE ACOUSTICS & INTERIORS**

Other CISCA members involved: 9Wood *Manufacturer* Hacker Architects *Architect* ECI/Hyer Architecture *Architect* 

The Alaska State Libraries, Archives & Museum (SLAM) features a 21,250 square foot wood grille ceiling over its main lobby, library and reading room. 9Wood fabricated 3,282 individual 1 foot wide panels in varying lengths. Design: Hacker Architects, Portland, Oregon; and ECI/Hyer, Anchorage, Alaska. Ceiling Contractor: Elite Acoustics & Interiors, Wasilla, Alaska.



The state library, archives and museum features 21,250 square feet of stained solid Western Hemlock wood grille ceilings in its lobby, library and reading room.

#### CIVIC — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — SOUTH REGION RUNNER-UP:

#### **College Football Hall of Fame**

#### **ANNING-JOHNSON COMPANY**

Other CISCA members involved: Armstrong Ceiling Solutions Manufacturer TVS Design Architect

The ceiling and wall system inside the College Football Hall of Fame in Atlanta conveys the warmth, texture and the shape of a football. The ceilings and walls were designed by TVS Design and installed by Anning-Johnson using custom WoodWorks<sup>®</sup> Channeled wall panels and WoodWorks Linear planks from Armstrong<sup>®</sup> Ceiling Solutions.



The wood veneer ceiling and wall system inside the football museum conveys the warmth, texture and shape of a football.

#### CIVIC — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — WEST REGION RUNNER-UP:

#### **Guildford Aquatic Centre**

#### STRUCTURECRAFT BUILDERS, INC.

Other CISCA members involved: ROCKFON *Manufacturer* Bing Thom Architects *Architect* BKL Consultants, Ltd. *Acoustician* 

Guildford Recreation Centre's new, 37,000-square-foot aquatic center uses ROCKFON stone wool ceiling panels to meet high acoustic performance; standards in light reflectance, humidity and sustainability; meet budget and schedule requirements and present a clean appearance. StructureCraft Builders directly mounted the ceiling panels to the trusses and installed them as a prefabricated system.



A city-owned recreation facility recently expanded to include a new, 37,000-square-foot, \$38.6 million aquatic center. Its numerous goals included high standards for acoustic performance, light reflectance, humidity and sustainability, as well as aesthetics with a neat, clean appearance.

#### CIVIC — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — SOUTH REGION RUNNER-UP:

#### The Walton Art Center

#### **TCM ENTERPRISES**

Other CISCA members involved: 9Wood *Manufacturer* Bora Architects *Architect* Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects *Architect* 

The Walton Art Center in Fayetteville, Arkansas, features two custom wood cube ceilings – a 5,598 square foot ceiling over the lobby, and a 1,008 square foot ceiling in a secondary room. 9Wood manufactured both ceilings, and TCM Enterprises of Fayetteville installed them. Architects: Bora Architects, Portland, Oregon; and Polk Stanley Wilcox, Fayetteville, Arkansas.



The diamond-like wood ceiling in the museum lobby is 5,598 square feet in size. It appears monolithic, but is made from 2 foot 9 inch by 2 foot 9 inch cubes, 8 foot main runners, and 3 foot cross tees.

#### CIVIC — OVER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — WEST REGION RUNNER-UP:

#### Angle Lake Station – Sound Transit

#### FORREST SOUND PRODUCTS

Other CISCA members involved: Architectural Surfaces Inc. Manufacturer

When the initial vendor was unable to supply an originally specified stainless-steel ceiling, Forrest Sound turned to Architectural Surfaces, Inc. and its Alumiline Linear Metal ceiling system for the new Angle Lake Station in Seattle, Washington. The Alumiline-extruded aluminum planks and mounting system were a perfect fit throughout the weatherexposed building.



Sine wave ceiling concept with Alumiline™ from Architectural Surfaces.

#### CIVIC — OVER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — EAST REGION RUNNER-UP:

#### Boston Logan Airport, Terminal E

#### **AMERICAN CONTRACTORS**

Other CISCA members involved: Armstrong Ceiling Solutions Manufacturer Kamco New England Distributor Aecom Acoustician

American Contractors, a New England subcontractor specializing in acoustical ceilings, acoustical walls, custom wood and metal work, fabricated and installed all of the custom metal work in Boston Logan International Airport, Terminal E. This project consisted of over 95,000 square feet of new construction.



Terminal E Gate: Armstrong metal ceiling; custom stainless steel column enclosures.

#### CIVIC — OVER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — EAST REGION RUNNER-UP:

#### National Museum of African American History and Culture

#### **COMPONENT ASSEMBLY SYSTEMS, INC.**

Other CISCA members involved:

ACGI, Architectural Components Group, Inc. *Manufacturer* Armstrong Ceiling Solutions *Manufacturer* Ceilings Plus *Manufacturer* Plasterform *Manufacturer* Rulon International *Manufacturer* 

Extreme attention to the manufacture and installation of numerous different finish specialties executed by Component Assembly Systems' carpenters at the National Museum of African American History and Culture make this an award-winning project.



National Museum of African American History and Culture.

#### CIVIC — OVER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — WEST REGION RUNNER-UP:

#### **YYC Calgary International Airport**

#### SUNCO DRYWALL LTD.

Other CISCA members involved: Decoustics *Manufacturer* Dialog Design *Architect* FFA Consultants in Acoustics *Acoustician* 

Decoustics' custom wood Solo planks are providing the stunning ceiling highlight to the newly opened International Terminal of Calgary Airport. The innovative design called for 200,000 square feet of wood products supplied by Decoustics to be FSC<sup>®</sup> certified, meet Class A fire rating and to exceed acoustical performance requirements.



A global gateway to acoustical design.

#### EDUCATION — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — CENTRAL REGION RUNNER-UP:

#### Girls, Inc.

#### **E&K OF OMAHA**

Other CISCA members involved: pinta acoustic, Inc. *Manufacturer* AO Interior Design *Architect* 

E&K of Omaha carries a reputation as a high-quality specialty contractor. Our distinctive trade is showcased in each of our superior projects. From the energy-efficient headquarters of TD Ameritrade to the primitive archways of St. Thomas Church, E&K of Omaha continues to build excellence throughout the developing metropolis.



Grand entryway.

#### EDUCATION — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — CENTRAL REGION RUNNER-UP:

#### Northwestern University – Kellogg School of Management

#### **E&K OF CHICAGO**

Other CISCA members involved: Architectural Components Group, Inc. *Manufacturer* Mau, Inc. Independent *Manufacturer's Rep.* KPMB *Architect* Threshold Acoustics *Acoustician* 

Located on the prestigious Northwestern University campus, the new Kellogg School of Management was designed by KPMB and built by Power Construction. The 415,000-square-foot ground-up facility features custom wood ceilings manufactured by Architectural Components Group, Inc.



The floor and ceiling – a perfect match.

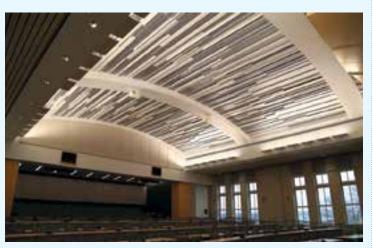
#### EDUCATION — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — CENTRAL REGION RUNNER-UP:

#### University of Cincinnati's Health Professions Building Learning Center

#### **VALLEY INTERIOR SYSTEMS**

Other CISCA members involved: Hunter Douglas Architectural Products *Manufacturer* Glaserworks *Architect* KJWW *Acoustician* 

This ceiling is located at the University of Cincinnati's Health Professions Building Learning Center. Valley Interior Systems' skilled installation lead the way installing this system, made from Luxalon Linear Metal manufactured by Hunter Douglas. The Luxalon Linear Panel system consists of two colors, five depths, four widths and four lengths.



This ceiling system creates an amazing look and feel to this contemporary learning center and provides phenomenal acoustics.

#### EDUCATION — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — WEST REGION RUNNER-UP:

#### University of Oregon OEMBA

#### HARLEN'S DRYWALL

Other CISCA members involved: Ceilings Plus *Manufacturer* ZGF *Architect* 

ZGF Architectural designed state-of-the-art 11,000-square-foot innovation hub in downtown Portland, Oregon, housing the University of Oregon's Executive MBA and Sports Product Management programs, both part of The University of Oregon's Lundquist College of Business.



The world map illuminated by light.

#### EDUCATION — OVER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — WEST REGION RUNNER-UP:

#### Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law

#### **BARRETT-HOMES CONTRACTORS**

Other CISCA members involved: Gordon Incorporated *Manufacturer* Hunter Douglas Architectural Products *Manufacturer* ACGI *Manufacturer* Fellert North America, Inc. *Manufacturer* Armstrong Ceiling Solutions *Manufacturer* Lanton Associates Independent *Manufacturer's Rep.* Jones Studio *Architect* Ennead Architects *Architect* 

ASU College of Law serves as a unique urban environment where society and the study and practice of law converge. Designed and constructed by Tomas Rossant/Ennead Architects, Jones Studio, Barrett-Homes Contractors and DPR, it features Hunter Douglas Architectural Techstyle<sup>®</sup> Ceilings, 300C-Linear Plank Ceilings and ACGI wood.



Executive Conference Center ceiling, comprised of American walnut grills.

# EDUCATION — OVER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — CENTRAL REGION RUNNER-UP:

#### University of Toronto Scarborough Campus Environmental Science & Chemistry Building

#### **NELMAR DRYWALL COMPANY LIMITED**

Other CISCA members involved: ROCKFON *Manufacturer* Diamond Schmitt Architects *Architect* 

University of Toronto Scarborough campus' 126,788-square-foot Environmental Science & Chemistry Building features ROCKFON ceiling systems to meet the project's specifications for appearance, acoustic performance, light reflectance, sustainability, budget and schedule. The installation team, Nelmar Drywall Company, depended on Patene Building Supplies to provide ROCKFON ceiling systems throughout the phased construction.



The ceiling panels selected for the project have an NRC as high as 0.90 to optimize acoustics, which can help increase speech intelligibility and dampen ambient noise.

#### HEALTHCARE — OVER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — WEST REGION RUNNER-UP:

#### Salt Lake City Regional Medical Center

#### **MITCHELL ACOUSTICS INCORPORATED**

Other CISCA members involved: Rulon International *Manufacturer* Perkins + Will *Architect* 

The Salt Lake City Regional Medical Center's beautiful interior was designed by Perkins + Will. Rulon International provided flexible panelized acoustical wood veneered panels, Aluratone 930 acoustical wood veneered panels and flat wood veneered panels. Mitchell Acoustics completed the challenging install with the usual professional skill they always provide.



Salt Lake City Regional Medical Center featuring flexible veneered linear provided by Rulon International, designed by Perkins + Will Architects - Dallas, installed by Mitchell Acoustics.

#### OFFICE — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — SOUTH REGION RUNNER-UP:

#### **Center for Medical Interoperability**

#### **ACCESS FLOOR SYSTEMS**

Other CISCA members involved: Ceilings Plus *Manufacturer* Gresham, Smith and Partners *Architect* 

Gresham, Smith, and Partner's design for the Center for Medical Interoperability, a technology start-up headquarters, centers on a concept of "follow the flow of data." A custom perforation design inspired by the pattern of data seen on old computer punch cards, allowing the ceiling to define a visitor's "experience path."



The long journey is more of a delight!

#### OFFICE — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET — WEST REGION RUNNER-UP:

#### Twitter — Boulder, CO

#### **HEARTLAND ACOUSTICS & INTERIORS**

Other CISCA members involved: USG Manufacturer Steel Ceilings, Inc. Manufacturer Western Interior Supply Distributor

The Twitter Headquarters project is a cutting-edge, two-story, 12,000 square foot, tenant finish in the heart of downtown Boulder, Colorado. The project incorporated high-end finishes throughout the space using acoustical and specialty products. The final design created a unique finished space with eye-catching visual appeal and high performance acoustical control.



Acoustical ceiling cloud.

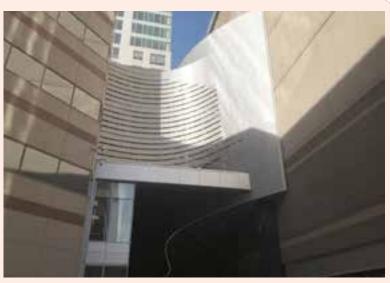
#### RETAIL — UNDER 50,000 SQUARE FEET – EAST REGION RUNNER-UP:

#### Nashua Street Residences

#### **ALLAN CONSTRUCTION**

Other CISCA members involved: Ceilings Plus *Manufacturer* CBT Architects *Architect* 

Avalon North Station, designed by CBT Architects, is a retail tower giving access to the pedestrian traffic between Nashua and Causeway Streets. The Arcade façade concept emphasizes a smooth pedestrian flow connecting different parts of the city as the rain screen façade creates a smooth transition from the outside in.



The wallpanels are rainscreen and architectural connected at two structures.

#### **BOUTIQUE RUNNER-UP:**

#### Merchandise Mart Grand Stair Ceiling

#### E & K OF CHICAGO

Other CISCA members involved: Conwed *Manufacturer* Mau, Inc. *Independent Manufacturer's Rep.* A+I *Architect* 

The Merchandise Mart, one of the largest buildings in Chicago, recently completed its Grand Stair addition that features a beautiful marble staircase and an intricate triangular felt ceiling. This project was designed by A+I out of New York and built by JC Anderson, Inc.



The top of the stairs.





# What Happens in Vegas: CISCA Awards, Education and Networking





























# SAVE THE DATE





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# FOR CISCA'S FALL CONFERENCE AND NETWORKING EVENT

New name; new format; still a great event not to be missed. CISCA's 2017 Fall Conference and Networking Event will be held on October 3–6 in San Antonio, Texas.

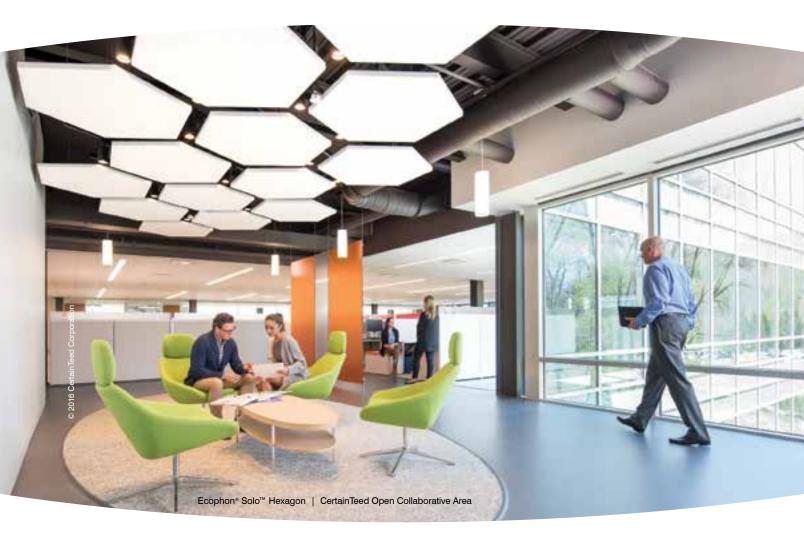
Why attend? Because the CISCA Fall Conference provides value by:

- · Great networking and partnering opportunities
- Forming lifetime relationships
- Meeting new contacts/relationship building opportunities

- Networking with others outside your markets that are facing similar challenges
- Superior Education
- Bringing an idea or concept back to your company to make your company more money
- Exceptional accommodations
- A great opportunity to meet CISCA Board of Directors, past presidents, emerging leaders & other CISCA members



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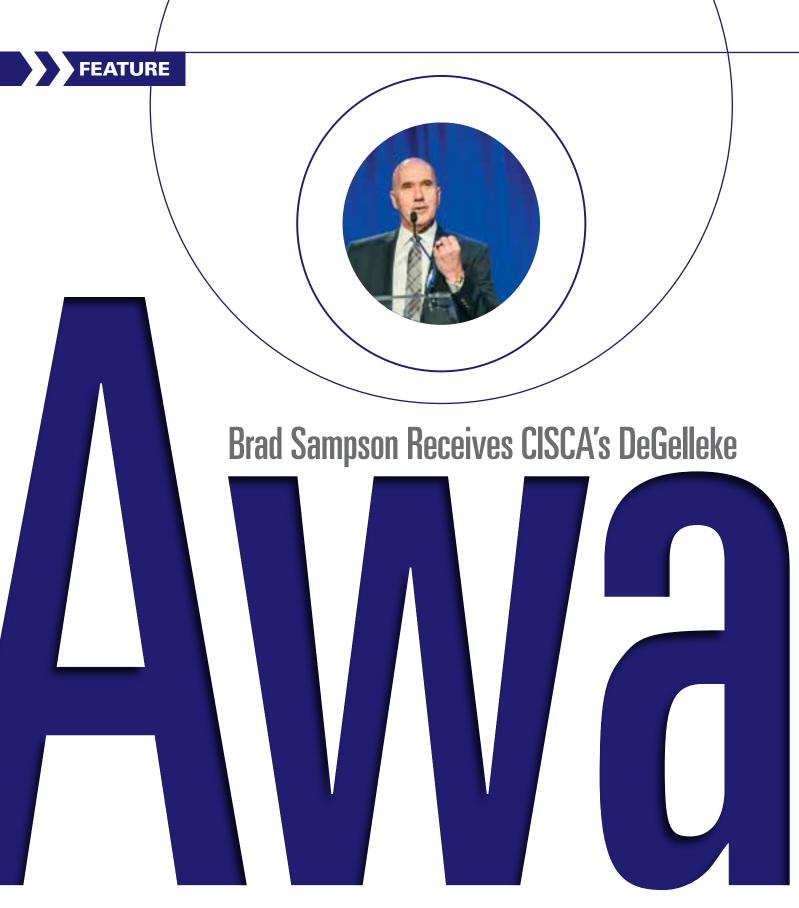
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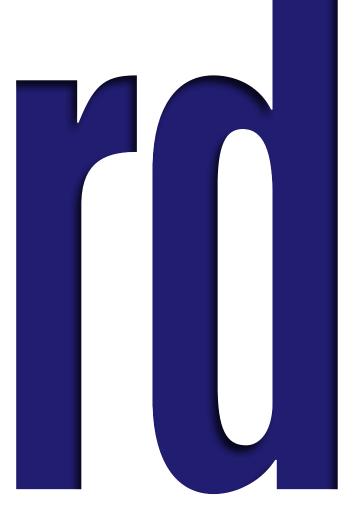
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**BY META LEVIN** 





was shocked; truly honored and humbled," says Brad Sampson, CISCA's 2017 DeGelleke Award winner. Sampson, a past CISCA president, has been active in the association for nearly 30 years and has earned a reputation for mentoring new and younger members. "CISCA has given me so much more than I have given it."

The DeGelleke Award was named for one of CISCA's founders, Gerry DeGelleke, and is given annually to recognize a member who has made important contributions to the industry and the association.

Sampson remembers his early days in CISCA as attending conferences just for fun. As time went on, however, he started looking around and "realized that the right people were there."

"Where else could I go where I would get to network and partner with people in the industry?" he says. At that point he appreciated the fact that in one trip he got to see important contacts, manufacturers and distributors.



"I was able to network, partner and meet the right people," he says. Later he began to take advantage of educational opportunities.

Sampson's networking landed him his current job. In 2001 he met Kent Vipond, now CEO of CDM Investment Group. They hit it off. About three years later Vipond offered him a job in what was then known as E&K Companies.

Gradually Sampson began to give back to CISCA, understanding that you get out of an organization what you put into it. "He's a giver," says another CISCA past president, Eric Mau. In fact, it was Sampson who first pulled Mau into CISCA, encouraging him and mentoring him onto the board. "He contributes so much with unconditional commitment."

Sampson understands that, as well. "Until you get on a committee and on the board, you are not going to get out of an association all that you can," he says. To that end he served on the new member, mentoring and education committees, as well as two board stints — from 2002-2004 and later, as CISCA president, from 2012-2013.

He is planning to step down after seven years with the education committee and return to mentoring, for which he has a passion. In the meantime, he has helped with white papers and used to write an annual article for CISCA's *Interior Construction* magazine (now called the *Acoustical Interior Construction magazine*). "He has contributed a tremendous amount of time and energy to CISCA," says Dustin Sandoval, vice president of sales for E&K of Chicago, who has worked with Sampson for about 10 years.

Sampson's priorities are not limited to work. They are spiritual, family and job, in that order. His spiritual life drives everything, he says. "It all comes together; it affects how you treat your customers, family and friends." Although he is not as active

CISCA has given me so much more than I have given it. Until you get on a committee and on the board, you are not going to get out of an association all that you can. in his church as he once was, he still tithes, which he believes is important.

Mau, who has been a business associate of Sampson's for nearly 30 years, also deems him a friend. "I consider him a long standing colleague, but we also hang out on a personal level," says Mau. "I know his family." Both have homes on Lake Geneva in Wisconsin, and share a love of golfing and water sports.

Born and raised in the Chicago area, Sampson comes by his love of and facility with sales naturally. His father was vice president of sales for a company and had a home office, so growing up Sampson heard how he interacted with his customers and listened when he talked about his job. His father even took him along on sales calls when he traveled.

During high school and college, Sampson worked for an acoustical ceiling company, but once he earned his degree he spent seven years with Pitney-Bowes, two years in sales and five years in management. His brother-in-law wanted to start his own company, but knew nothing about sales, so Sampson agreed to help. That's where he was working when he met Vipond.

Sampson is passionate about sales. Part of his role with CDM is college recruitment, and in doing that he has worked to establish



relationships with professors and staff in the building management departments. They, in turn, have asked him to present to their classes, which he enjoys doing. He's even written a book about sales.

Married with two grown children and two grandchildren, Sampson revels in his family life. "Both [of my children] live in the area," he says. "We are engaged and

involved and close to family." His wife, Lisa, has worked in employee benefits, full-time until the children were born and part time after that.

For fun Sampson golfs, water skis, boats and wake skis (a mixture of waterboarding and skiing). But, in truth, he is having fun with work and play.

"I enjoy doing what I do," he says.

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# Acuard Winner SPOTLGHTE Groupe Piché's Ford Hall Inside Rogers Place Wins CISCA's Founder's Award



BY META LEVIN

utting it together was like a puzzle," says Arturo Feria, Groupe Piche project manager of the Ford Hall inside Rogers Place job, for which Groupe Piché earned CISCA's prestigious Founders Award. It was, he says, at once a complex, challenging and a fast-paced project.

Groupe Piché was teamed with CISCA member Decoustics to successfully design and build the 33,000 square feet of geometrically designed, multiplanar ceiling.

"Ford Hall is a very large, high ceiling atrium, about the same area as an American football playing field, excluding the end zones," says Dale Faucet of OAi. "It is, therefore, cathedral in its proportions, acoustically highly reverberant, but the conception is multi-use."

When not serving as an entrance area and lobby for the ice hockey arena that is home to the NHL's Edmonton Oilers and the WHL's Edmonton Oil Kings, as well as serving as a concert venue, Ford Hall hosts events





The acoustics need to be such that announcements over a public-address system are intelligible and music and other communication must be clear, more than 0.95 NRC.





such as public gatherings, presenters, singers and instrumental musicians. This means that the acoustics need to be such that announcements over a public-address system are intelligible and music and other communication must be clear, more than 0.95 NRC, says Ally James, a Decoustics marketing specialist familiar with the project.

The Decoustics' Claro® mimics the appearance of drywall or plaster. In this case, a white stipple texture imitates plaster. At its core, it has acoustic absorbent material. "This met the architect's objectives of attaining high light reflectance and excellent sound absorption," says James.

OAi, with help from HOK's Tom Usher, created a computer model. Decoustics worked with HOK and OAi during the design phases, helping especially with a mock-up, says James. "Venues like this rarely receive the attention they deserve," says Faucet. Using both the Decoustics product, as well as another, proprietary product on the walls, "the sound reverberation was lowered to an acceptable time and level," he says.

"We had to balance the budget with the vision, and bring the reverberation time

down," says Usher, who admits that they looked at other products, but found that the Decoustics ones best fit their needs. "This is a public space. We did not want to see it compromised. It now has a nice, crisp look."

The floating two-level ceiling is made of 1,200 custom panels, constructed of Decoustics<sup>®</sup> Claro<sup>®</sup> Ceilencio<sup>®</sup> ceiling, all of which were custom engineered and manufactured. Fully 60 percent of the panels were uniquely shaped. The Ceilencio ceiling suspension system is designed to be tailored for use with custom panels.

"This added to the degree of difficulty of the project, putting more weight on the accuracy of the calculations," says James. Decoustics' engineering work took about eight months and an estimated 90 percent of that was taken up with detailing the custom components. "The product tolerance had to be within 1/16 of an inch to achieve the precision desired and required by the other trades that took the panel dimensions and radiuses provided to build their sections of the ceiling."

Panels had to be 100 percent downward accessible, which is a feature of the Ceilencio

system, says James. This was a requirement of the job, to allow for maintenance on the infrastructure above the ceiling.

In addition, the ceiling needed openings to accommodate more than 300 light fixtures of varying diameters. All were factory cut. Each panel was designed and positioned to a master plan, allowing for a way to hide the grid of the framing system, so that it wasn't visible through the light holes.

"This was a curved ceiling with different elevations," says Feria.

Usher notes that it was important to create the curvilinear shape design, which was complex: "Our concern was making sure it took the curves." Those compound curves were a challenge for everyone. "We had lengthy calls with Decoustics," Usher adds. "In a few cases, we had to tweak our design a little bit to work within the parameters."

To make it curved, Decoustics engineered the panels using 3D design software, flattened them out for manufacturing purposes and curved them afterwards, joining them with pre-curved metal edges to provide strength and integrity.

#### FEATURE



Groupe Piché had to navigate coordinating with more than 10 different trades, as well as an environment that required close oversight to ensure that not only was the work quality up to expectations, but that everyone was operating within the correct safety regulations and guidelines. Groupe Piché had to navigate coordinating with more than 10 different trades, as well as an environment that required close oversight to ensure that not only was the work quality up to expectations, but that everyone was operating within the correct safety regulations and guidelines. "We had our own safety officer to make sure every worker was meeting the requirements," says Faria.

The ceiling rose up to 70 feet above the floor in some places, spanning not only the main floor, but mezzanines, as well. This meant that installers were operating from scaffolding over the main floor, but using socalled "giraffes" or elevated lifts with arms to reach more difficult areas, says Feria.

Storage and equipment were other issues. Ford Hall inside Rogers Place is built on an overpass of a multi-lane main avenue in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. This was challenging for all concerned. Groupe Piché had to ensure that its equipment was in the right place on the right side of the roadway, while designers from HOK and acousticians from OAi were constantly aware of the effects of all that traffic on the building.

A computer analysis showed the possibility of a 4-inch deflection, says Usher. He was concerned that the ceiling system would handle it, which the Decoustics product showed that it could.

Groupe Piché had a good working relationship with Decoustics, says Faria. This was especially true when navigating the issue of limited on-site storage space. Not only was room a concern, but Groupe Piché took extra precautions to guarantee that there was no damage to the panels and grids, thus, just-in-time delivery was crucial. "Decoustics played a big part in the coordination and having the materials there when we needed them," says Faria.

Time management, manpower with the necessary expertise, experience and skills, and getting materials at the right time and the right place were the biggest challenges, Faria says. They also took great pains to confirm that they had the right customized pieces for the areas in which they were working. It took six months to get it all installed.

It was, admits Faria, more complicated than anything they had done before. "We have installed this type of ceiling, but at a much lower scale and less complexity." In the end, though, the project "allowed us to grow as a company" and was a success.



## Predict-Ability: How Partnering Scorecards Can Dictate a Project's Success

**BY SUE DYER** 

ow would you like to be able to predict the level of success (or failure) of your projects? Well, it seems that it is closer than you might think. Studies show that by using a monthly Partnering Scorecard, you can in fact have a great handle on what is actually happening on your project; and *the scores turn out to be a great predictor of what is going to happen*! So, you and your team have time to make course corrections *before* they become inevitable. How would you like to be able to predict the future for each of your projects?

It seems the scores that the team provides accurately and truly depict what is going on within the project. A recent study on the efficacy of partnership when constructing the Woodrow Wilson Bridge found that what the team members scored and said on the partnering scorecard was in fact what was going on (strong correlation) at that given time on the project. So, the collective wisdom of the team came forth in a clear snap-shot of the project's status.

In the International Partnering Institute's Study of 13 different projects that used a monthly partnering scorecard over a two-year period, 12 of the 13 projects' scores improved over the life of the project. Overall, project scores improved by as much as 1.13 points (28%) over the life of FEATURE

*Predict-Ability* does take commitment. You must use the construction scorecard as a tool. Just like every tool, the better you are at using the tool, the better your results.

the project. The average improvement was ½ a point (+0.54 = 14%).

*Predict-Ability* does take commitment. You must use the construction scorecard as a tool. Just like every tool, the better you are at using the tool, the better your results. Here are some tips for getting the most from your partnering scorecard.

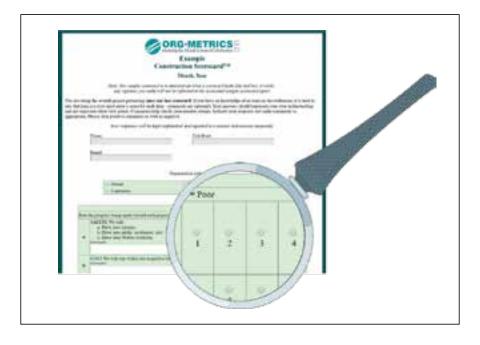
#### TIP #1: MAKE THE PARTNERING SCORECARD A REQUIREMENT

- The project scorecard must be a requirement and the team must feel that it is valued and valuable for them to take the time to share their scores and comments. It is the leader that can and must make this happen. If you take the scorecard seriously, so too will your team members. If you ignore it and don't use it, they will do the same.
- Putting the requirement into your project documents will help ensure everyone knows you are serious.

- Having senior management remind everyone that you want 100% participation in this month's scorecard—and convey that it is an important part of your project's success—will get people to complete the scorecard.
- Monitoring and acknowledging those who are completing the scorecard will reinforce its value. Monitoring who is not completing the scorecard will help ensure they will complete it next time.

#### TIP #2: CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE OF TRUST

• Your partnering effort is designed to develop a culture of trust and collaboration. This fosters the open, honest atmosphere that will allow your scorecard to reflect the good, the bad and the ugly that occurs on your project. The truth will set you free—free to work on what is needed to succeed.



- Trust happens when you grow certainty that you will be fair and resolve issues before they grow into problems or disputes. To have the most meaningful partnering and scorecard program takes commitment. Your actions show your commitment.
- Trust can be built over time, but it is highly predictable that your expectations define your relationships. So, check yourself to make sure you are not defensive, protective or hostile toward your teammates. *You* will define the atmosphere and it will heavily influence your results.

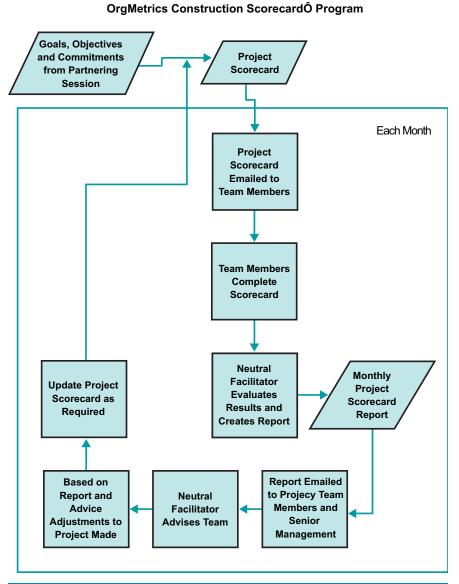
#### **TIP #3: UNDERSTAND THE TOOL**

- The partnering scorecard is a snapshot in time of what is occurring on your project and allows you to measure your teamwork effectiveness and the ability to achieve your project's goals.
- Orienting your team members on the partnering scorecard and its importance can go a long way to overcoming barriers to its use.

#### **TIP #4: EVALUATE YOUR RESULTS**

- Your scorecard will be emailed to everyone on your project team each month but you have to evaluate what the scores mean. This can easily be done during a regular weekly project meeting.
- Look at any scores where you have a "1" or "2" as these indicate negative momentum. These are where the team is feeling frustrated or issues are emerging. Focusing on these areas will help a great deal.
- Look at your scores in the "3's". These are OK, and with a little focus might be able to achieve a "4" or better. This will grow your positive momentum dramatically!

Think about using a Partnering Scorecard to allow you to predict how you and your project team will be spending your time.



#### **Scorecard Program**

If you want to take your program of projects to the next level, implement a partnering scorecard program on each of your projects. Can you imagine being able to predict which projects are going to do well and which are in trouble? Think about how you could focus your resources exactly where they are needed.

#### TIP #5: MAKE COURSE CORRECTIONS

- Resolving issues where the team is stuck or they are creating frustration is your top priority and needs to happen before the next scorecard if possible. You can use your partnering session for this and get the help of your professional neutral partnering facilitator.
- Elevating issues up your dispute ladder is needed and should not be put off because you want to hold on to the decision. Get a decision and move on.
- Set deadlines and keep them. This will create trust and grow your predictability. It is *not* the issues that predict your success or failure; it is how the team deals with the issues. Correct your course so the team stays together and gains positive momentum!

Woody Allen said "We are all interested in the future, because that is where we are all going to spend our lives." Think about using a Partnering Scorecard to allow you to predict how you and your project team will be spending your time. Will it be celebrating the building of great things? Or, fighting over project disputes because things didn't turn out as hoped?



Sue Dyer is President of OrgMetrics LLC, the author of Partner Your Project, and a recognized thought leader on collaboration in construction. Sue just launched Partnering FIT<sup>TM</sup>,

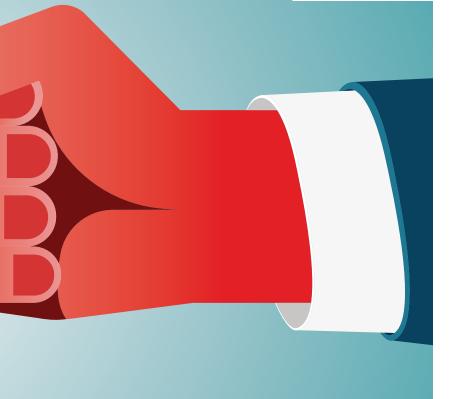
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# **Considering** Before the Dispute



# ResolutionArisesArisesArisesArbitration and Mediation<br/>as Alternative Dispute<br/>Resolution Mechanisms

**BY LAURYN E. PARKS** 



hen a dispute arises, many businesses rush to the courthouse hoping that a judge or jury will soon issue a ruling in their favor. However, it is often the case that litigation in a crowded and overloaded state or federal court system is slow and costly. Litigation can last years, and ever-mounting attorneys' fees, expert costs, and other related expenses can force a party to settle its claim before the case reaches trial.

For these and other reasons, a growing number of businesses turn to alternative dispute resolution mechanisms when a dispute arises. The term "alternative dispute resolution" (ADR) refers to a series of methods outside the typical litigation system for resolving disputes. The most popular methods are mediation and arbitration.

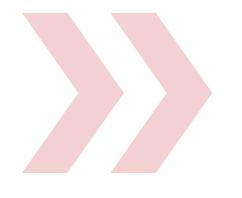
Mediation involves a facilitator who explores the issues with the parties and attempts to negotiate a settlement between them. Typically, mediators do not announce their opinions to all the parties. Rather, they speak confidentially with the parties about the strengths and weaknesses of their respective cases in the hopes of brokering an agreement.

Arbitration allows parties to select an expert decision maker to make a determination on the merits of

#### **TORNEY CORNER**



**Frequently cited advantages** to mediation and arbitration are speed in reaching a resolution and the parties' ability to select a mediator or arbitrator with expertise in the relevant subject area.



the case. Often, the parties will agree to some limited or expedited discovery (a process of exchanging information about each other's case) and will then proceed to an arbitration hearing. At the hearing, each side will present evidence and the arbitrator will issue a ruling.

In both arbitration and mediation, the parties must agree in advance to submit their dispute to a dispute resolution system outside the courts. This can be done either in the parties' contract or once the dispute has arisen. It is important that any clause selecting ADR specify (i) the form of ADR, (ii) the rules that shall govern the ADR, (iii) the site of arbitration or mediation and (iv) a method for selecting the arbitrator or mediator. Often, parties simply elect to follow the rules and procedures of the American Arbitration Association (AAA), which has a substantial and well-developed system of rules.

Frequently cited advantages to mediation and arbitration are speed in reaching a resolution and the parties' ability to select a mediator or arbitrator with expertise in the relevant subject area. If a dispute arises, a project can be delayed until the matter is resolved. Therefore, it is often important to resolve the dispute as quickly as possible.

The AAA reports that the median time frame from filing to award for construction arbitration cases that it administered in 2015 was 232 days, or less than 8 months.<sup>1</sup> In federal court, the median time frame from filing suit to trial was 27.2 months.<sup>2</sup> (However, the average time from filing to disposition in federal courts is only 8.7 months, reflecting the fact that the majority of cases settle).

As the arbitrator or mediator generally has a more flexible schedule than a federal or state judge, he or she is typically able



to schedule the matter for an arbitration or mediation in line with the parties' desired time frame.

Furthermore, in both arbitration and mediation, the parties have the ability to select the person (or persons) who will mediate or arbitrate the dispute. This allows the parties to select someone with expertise in the necessary subject areas. Particularly where the dispute concerns complex facts or industry practices and customs that an average juror or judge would be unfamiliar with, an arbitrator or mediator with experience in this area can be very beneficial.

A draw back to arbitration and mediation is that it can be a more costly process than litigation. That is because the parties must pay the arbitrator or mediator for his or her time, typically on an hourly basis. In addition, if an administering agency, such as the AAA or JAMS is used, there are additional fees that must be paid. The parties can elect in their ADR agreement to either split these fees or provide that the winner shall be reimbursed.

Although ADR is not the preferable method of resolution for every dispute, in situations when a quick resolution or expertise in the industry are important factors, a business should consider negotiating to include an ADR mechanism in its contract.

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- 1 American Arbitration Association, The Plans Aren't Drawn as You May Think: Debunking 6 Myths about Construction Arbitration (2016), at https://www.adr.org.
- 2 Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, U.S. District Courts Combined Civil and Criminal Federal Court Management Statistics (December 31, 2015), at http://www.uscourts.gov/statistics/table/na/federal-court-managementstatistics/2015/12/31-2.



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