Terra Contracting Restores Fremont Street Experience Concrete

Terra Contracting, through its Las Vegas distributor JES Supply, created a unique system used to repair and beautify the famed Las Vegas, NV, Fremont Street Experience in the first phase of a $35 million renovation. Since its creation in the mid-1990s, the Fremont Street Experience had lost its luster as the original epoxy concrete overlay deteriorated. Following a competitive request-for-proposal (RFP) process against seven other companies, Terra Contracting won the bid to revitalize the outdoor mall by combining multiple specialty products, including a polymer-based foundation; a surface that stands up to intense foot traffic and UV damage from the Las Vegas sun; and increased surface friction as required under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The Fremont Street Experience remained open 24/7 during revitalization, allowing the hospitality industry and adjoining businesses to serve guests with minimal interruption.

Ware Malcomb Expands in Canada

Ware Malcomb, an international design firm that first entered the Canadian market in 2007, announced the opening of a second office in Canada. The office is located in downtown Toronto, ON. Frank Di Roma, Principal, will oversee both Canadian offices. In addition, Christina Kolkas, Director of Interior Architecture and Design, will lead the growth, development, operations, and studio management of the new Toronto office, as well as continuing to lead the Vaughan Interiors Studio. Specializing in architecture, planning, interior design, branding, and civil engineering design for commercial real estate and corporate clients, Ware Malcomb has completed over 700 projects in Ontario, and the firm currently has active projects in six Canadian provinces.

HNTB Awarded National Program Management Oversight Contract

HNTB Corporation received a contract from the United States Department of Transportation’s Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to provide project management oversight services in support of major transit capital projects nationwide. As project management oversight (PMO) contractor, HNTB will support FTA’s technical and management role in assessing the ability of transit project sponsors to successfully implement FTA’s capital programs. PMO contractors provide recommendations and insights to assist FTA in determining whether projects are managed effectively, are progressing on time and within budget, and are in accordance with the project sponsors’ approved plans and specifications. PMO contractors also assist FTA in monitoring project sponsors’ risk management, assessing readiness to advance projects to new phases, and providing technical assistance to ensure project success.

3-D Concrete Printing Planned for Offshore Wind Turbines

Accucode, Inc., and RCAM Technologies plan to develop wind-energy components using three-dimensional (3-D) printed concrete. This announcement comes after RCAM Technologies secured $250,000 from the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade’s Advanced Industries Accelerator Grant Program. The grant was awarded to RCAM Technologies for developing a 3-D printed concrete wind-turbine foundation that will reduce offshore deployment costs by up to $4 million per foundation and $400 million per wind plant. RCAM will use the funding to expand its 3-D concrete-printing capabilities at two partner locations: the U.S. Department of Energy’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in Golden, CO, and Accucode’s new facility in Colorado Springs, CO.

RCAM will first install a large-scale 3-D concrete-printing system at NREL, where they will begin fabricating the fixed-bottom support structures for offshore wind turbines. After manufacturing and assembly processes have been tested, the 3-D printer will be moved to Colorado Springs for further research and development by Accucode’s 3-D printing divisions. Accucode’s team of engineers and concrete-printing experts will then use the equipment to develop and test 3-D concrete printing for a variety of renewable energy and civil infrastructure applications.

StonePoint Materials Acquires Standard Gravel Company

StonePoint Materials LLC announced the acquisition of Standard Gravel Company, LLC. Standard is a regional producer of sand and gravel serving eastern Louisiana and southern Mississippi from four active mine sites. The acquisition of Standard will complement and expand StonePoint subsidiary Southern Aggregates, LLC, the largest sand and gravel producer in Louisiana.

Zweig Group Announces Inaugural ElevateHer Cohort

Zweig Group announced the inaugural 2020 ElevateHer™ cohort, a special task force comprised of individuals with a commitment to promoting diversity as a means to combat recruiting and retention challenges in the architectural, engineering, and construction (AEC) industry. This group will operate as a think tank, developing strategies to help solve challenges related to recruiting and retention. All individuals, regardless of age, experience, gender, background, or job role,
were encouraged to apply. The program kicks off with the ElevateHer Class of 2020, a cohort-style annual program designed to define key strategies and provide open-sourced, accessible action plans to tackle diversity and its role in recruiting and retention issues. Results from the 2020 class will be presented at a special ElevateHer Symposium on September 30, 2020, a preconference to Zweig Group’s annual conference, Elevate AEC 2020, in Denver, CO.

The program’s founding patrons include SGA Design Group, Forensic Analytical, CORE, JQ Engineering, and McAdams. Funds raised through patronage will be used to financially support program initiatives so that finances are not a barrier to program participation.

**OxBlue Corporation Announces OxBlue Foundation**

OxBlue Corporation, based in Atlanta, GA, a professional construction camera service provider, formed the OxBlue Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, all-volunteer organization focused on educational initiatives related to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The OxBlue Foundation funds activities and events such as STEM-related field trips for local schools and continuing education for adults, as well as scholarships and more. The foundation’s activities and educational programs focus on building diversity and expanding access for all people, regardless of gender, age, race, or financial circumstances. Initial funding for the OxBlue Foundation was a donation of $300,000 from OxBlue Corporation. Going forward, continued sustainable funding will be derived from OxBlue Corporation, employee matching grants, and external community partnerships.

**USGBC Certifies Bank of America Tower LEED V4 Platinum for Core and Shell**

The recently renamed Bank of America Tower, formerly Capitol Tower, was certified LEED® Version 4 (V4) Platinum for Core and Shell by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). The Bank of America Tower is a 35-story, 775,000 rentable ft² (72,000 rentable m²) office building in downtown Houston, TX. V4 is the most stringent LEED version to date, and Platinum is the highest level of green building certification offered by the USGBC. The Bank of America Tower’s LEED V4 Platinum for Core and Shell designation is the first in the United States. Environmental features include daylight harvesting technology, a 40% parking reduction, tenant metering, vehicle charging stations, and a rainwater-collecting façade system.

Project credits: Skanska, Developer and General Contractor; Gensler, Architect; Walter P Moore, Structural, Civil, Parking, and Traffic Engineer; and OJB, Landscape Architect.

**Hawaiian Dredging Construction Company Teams Up with Pype**

Pype, a software-as-a-service family of products for the construction industry, announced an enterprise partnership with Hawaiian Dredging Construction Company, Inc. (HDCC), a full-service general contractor serving the state of Hawaii since 1902. HDCC came to Pype seeking an intuitive solution that could streamline the process of creating submittal logs. The general contractor was following a standard procedure of creating the logs from scratch using spreadsheet software, and the process took up to a month of skilled work to complete for large projects. Since deploying Pype AutoSpecs, HDCC has been able to reduce the time spent on developing submittal logs for large-scale projects from 1 month of skilled work to 1 week.

**Rapid International Launches Rapid Tumbler**

Rapid International Ltd, County Armagh, Northern Ireland, reentered the concrete truck mixer market with the launch of a sister company, Rapid Tumbler. Rapid Tumbler supplies premium lightweight truck mixers. Rapid Tumbler’s first product to market was the RTM89 truck mixer. The mixer’s 8 m³ (10.5 yd³) mixing drum is manufactured using long-life, high-strength Arcelor Mittal steel. These truck mixers also feature components from Bosch Rexroth and ZF Germany. The official launch of Rapid Tumbler took place in December 2019 at Rapid’s headquarters in Tandragee, County Armagh. The event was attended by many local and national ready mixed concrete companies as well as members of the Mineral Products Association Northern Ireland. Attendees had the opportunity to view the new truck mixer and meet with representatives from Mercedes, Volvo, Scania, and DAF truck manufacturers. The morning was concluded with a factory tour and a light breakfast.