

AMERICAN CONSTRUCTORS CORE VALUES

American Constructors has five core values that we use to measure our success and customer satisfaction. These five core values are:

- Build jobs safely
- Complete jobs when required
- Build within budget
- Have satisfied Owners
- Continuous improvement — Individually & Company

This issue of PROJECTIONS is dedicated to articles highlighting initiatives, activities and projects that incorporate these values producing very successful results.

American CONSTRUCTORS ENHANCES *Safety* PROGRAM



The goal of American Constructors' safety program is to eliminate accidents. OSHA's 2003 report listed 23,000 recordable non-fatal injuries and illnesses in Texas. The problem is not that the hazards are unknown, but that they are difficult to control in a constantly changing work environment.

New technology, new equipment and tools, OSHA regulations, crowded worksites and aggressive schedules all demand that a company's safety plan must meet the new challenges and risks.

The following highlights some of the components and initiatives of American Constructors' safety program that have contributed to eliminate accidents.

DEVELOPED FOCUSED COURSE

To stay abreast of the new challenges as well as the safety codes and regulations, American Constructors has a Safety Committee comprised of senior field personnel to continuously review our current program, discuss safety



Company specific OSHA training classes use everyday examples to demonstrate safety issues.

inspections and reports and brainstorm ways to improve.

All of the American Constructors' supervisors are required to complete the 10 and 30 hour OSHA classes. One unique initiative created to enhance this training was to develop the two classes so that they were focused directly on American Constructors' needs and type of construction. This resulted in training classes that provide substantially more beneficial information for our field personnel and significantly increase the effectiveness of the classes.

SPECIAL CONTACT CARDS

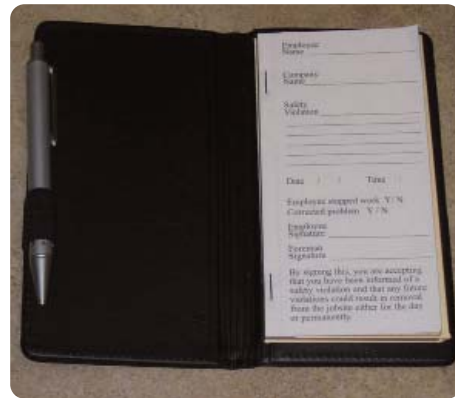
A critical part of any safety program is an emergency action & contact plan. This plan sets out in detail in a cookbook approach each of the steps to be taken in the event of an accident. In addition it includes the emergency numbers for fire, police and medical support. Each supervisory person also has a small card which is laminated and can be carried in a wallet or purse which lists the names & phone numbers of emergency personnel and American Constructors and Owner emergency contacts.

ACCOUNTABILITY

American Constructors is only part of the team and to have a successful program, it is also necessary to help all of our subcontractors be fully compli-

ant as well. To be consistent throughout our jobs and keep up with those that violate the safety codes, a system using safety citations was implemented in which citations are handed out to those subs in violation. Repeat violations could result in removal from the job-site either for the day or permanently. The new policy is not a punishment, but a tool to help make everyone aware of their own safety and the safety of others.

American Constructors believes its safety program which focuses on training, awareness and accountability supports its core value to "Build Jobs Safely".



Safety Citations are handed out to anyone violating a safety code.

AMERICAN CONSTRUCTORS

PROJECTIONS

is published for the friends and team members of American Constructors.

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Charity Golf Tournament BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

American Constructors takes pride in striving to hire strong, technical, professional personnel that meet its core values. In addition, it strives to work with clients, architects, engineers and subcontractors that also have the same core values. One of the core values is to have satisfied Owners which is expanded to include professional partners such as architects, engineers and subcontractors. American Constructors cherishes the trust, respect and overall relationships that have developed over the years with all of its clients and associates, which are considered friends.

As a way to take some time to enjoy these friendships, a charity golf tournament was created in 2004 to support the Capital Area Boys and Girls Club. The club supports more than 6,300 under privileged children in the Austin area annually. With the addition of three more locations this number would rise to 7,500 children. The club has four educational learning sites located throughout Austin where the children go after school to use computers, take art classes, read, volunteer, play organized board, tabletop and athletic games and receive mentoring to become responsible adults.



Members from the Boys & Girls Club pass out trophies created by the children to each of the winning teams.

Dave Martin, Executive Director of the Capital Area Boys and Girls club has increased the budget during his four year term with the organization by 86% - from \$700,000 to \$1.3 million. Of the money donated to the club more than 90 cents per dollar goes to the clubs in support of the children in need. The goal of the club is to help the children become productive, responsible and caring citizens. The club is open 245 days a year with 1,600 hours of programming. If you would like to visit the local website, go to www.besomebodytosomebody.org.

This year's golf tournament was held at the Live Oak golf course in Lakeway on June 10. 96 golfers played starting at noon with a box lunch and shotgun start at 1 PM with a dinner and awards afterward. 13 Platinum sponsors, 12 gold sponsors and one bronze sponsor, as well as many gift and hole sponsors contributed to making this a great day and providing the Boys and Girls Club with a gift of \$13,000.

TECH-TIPS

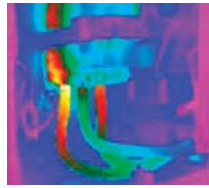
Continuous

THERMAL IMAGING

Improvement

During the early phases of a project we are always looking for ways to enhance our contribution and input on various systems in a facility. We have recently used a technology called Thermal Imaging that has several possible applications that could be valuable to a project in terms of quality, safety, cost and long term maintenance.

Thermal imaging uses video thermography to create a visual picture of heat created within a given area of the building or within building equipment. Using the thermographic images taken at the building under loaded conditions, an analysis can determine whether equipment is operating correctly, if elec-



Power Breaker

trical wiring is correctly installed, locations of excessive heat transfer through walls, absence of insulation, cavity areas and areas that need corrective attention.

In evaluating an older building, this testing could be done during the design phase to "see" and determine the level of repairs required, and then at the end of construction to "see" the effectiveness of the work. For new construction, this testing could be part of the commissioning process to set a baseline for various electrical and mechanical systems as well as exterior wall systems. Then, at intervals throughout the life of the building the imaging could be performed to see how the building is performing.

To find out more information about thermal imaging, check with a professional engineer or visit www.teamworknet.com/Thermal.

CHALLENGING PROJECT BRINGS OUT THE BEST

Leander ISD's High School multi-phase, \$22 Million renovation project would not have happened without the amazing performance of both the American Constructors team and the outstanding subcontractor team members. The list of challenges and obstacles to overcome during this project were overshadowed by the determination and dedication of all team members.

The \$10 Million Phase One of the project was extremely challenging due to its complexity. The first challenge was that the entire phase needed to be completed in 2 1/2 months — which was basically a million dollars worth of work per week! This work included demo and reconstruction of the entire kitchen including a new slab and new equipment. Additionally 100,000 sq ft of terrazzo flooring and the renovation of about 35,000 sq ft of classroom space (which included HVAC, painting, flooring and new ceilings) all had to be meticulously scheduled in order to meet the school opening deadline.

Meanwhile, during this time, there was also new construction of an athletic field house, new tennis courts and some storm drainage improvements.

Next, if this work challenge wasn't enough, four weeks prior to school starting, mold was discovered in three different two-story classroom wings which was part of the original high school built in 1984. All exterior walls had to be demolished from the interior drywall through the exterior masonry. The drywall, insu-

lation, new windows, and new brick all went up and school started on time withOut a hitch.

Phase Two, which totaled \$12 Million, brought it's own set of challenges. Unlike Phase One this phase had a portion that required new construction while school was in session. A new wrestling building and ROTC building were constructed while maintaining a strict safety zone to protect students. During the construction of these buildings, extreme planning and scheduling was going on behind the scenes, because like Phase One, an extremely tight and busy summer schedule was planned.

Before school ended, the renovations of the main building started with a renovation to the athletic area which required a focused and tight timeline to make sure long lead items would arrive at precisely the right time. Once school was out, the tightly scheduled timeline began. The renovations to the remainder of the school (4 pipe chilled water system HVAC, ceiling, fire sprinkler/alarm systems, painting and flooring) including 300,000 sq. ft. of classroom space, fine arts, and athletics were completed in under three months.

Because of the willingness of all team members including ACLP personnel, the Owner, the Architect, the Engineers and the Subcontractors to work whatever hours necessary, the project was a tremendous success and was brought in:

- ⊗ on time
- ⊗ within budget and
- ⊗ with a satisfied Owner.