

SUMMER 2019

# OFF THE WALL WC&C

An Industry Publication by the Wall Ceiling & Carpentry Industries of New York, Inc.

## Major Step Forward in Completing the World Trade Center Campus — page 16

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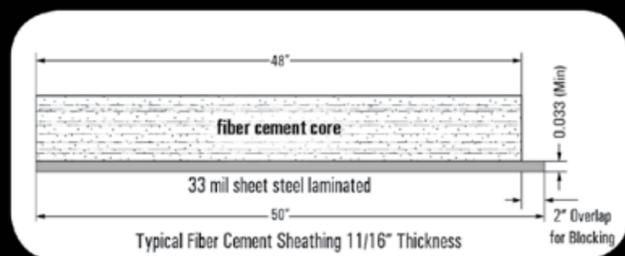


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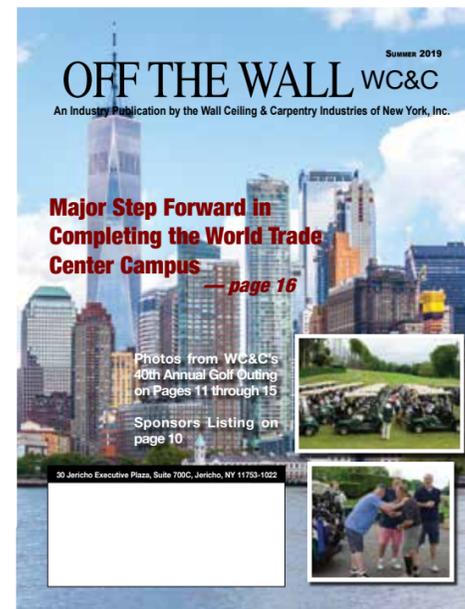
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**Off The Wall**  
**Summer 2019**



**Features**

- 4** **Should Prefabrication Be Important To Us?**  
– From the Executive Director, John DeLollis
- 6** **We Have a Deal**  
– From the President, Michael Weber
- 10** **Golf Outing Sponsors Listing**
- 11-15** **40th Annual WC&C Golf Outing Photos**

**Articles**

- 16** **Request for Proposals Issued for WTC Site 5**  
Governor Andrew M. Cuomo has announced the request for proposals to develop World Trade Center Site 5, one of the last two remaining undeveloped World Trade Center parcels, is now open
- 18** **How Can New Technologies Make Construction Safer?**  
Construction remains one of the most dangerous careers in the United States.
- 19** **Commercial Construction Index Shows Surge in New Business Confidence**  
Results from the Q2 2019 USG Corporation + U.S. Chamber of Commerce Commercial Construction Index (Index) indicate that more than half of contractors are highly confident that the market will provide sufficient new business opportunities in the next 12 months.
- 20** **First of Four New Delta Concourses at LaGuardia to Open This Fall**  
The spacious new 105,000-square-foot concourse will feature floor-to-ceiling views of Citi Field and Flushing Bay

**Departments**

- 8** **Rosen – It's the Law!**
- 24** **Product News**
- 31** **OSHA/Safety**



*From the  
Executive Director  
John DeLollis*

## Should Prefabrication Be Important To Us?

Those who will be attending AWCI's Industry Executives' Conference and Committee Meetings in Hawaii this September not only are offered an exotic, activity-filled venue, they have a broad selection of important discussion topics in which to participate. Among these is a Prefabrication Business Forum.

Prefabrication, or modular construction, is being debated more and more as developers, designers, and builders look to save time and money in New York City's ever-expanding commercial market. A number of articles, including a McKinsey study, outlining advantages and disadvantages on this subject have recently been published. Some companies have tried prefabrication and failed. Forest City Ratner, a major player, gave up its modular arm in 2016 allowing it to be acquired by FullStack Modular. FullStack is now in the process of building a new, fully affordable housing development in East New York in partnership with New York's Department of Housing Preservation and Development; an alliance that will be watched carefully as the project progresses. Some proponents see this as a solution to the city's affordable housing crisis.

Prefabrication has been around for a long time but only recently the advent of new technologies and new construction modeling is making the potential of cost and time saving a positive reality.

Although not affecting us here in large scale, the lack of skilled workers across the country makes this a topic that bears watching. Most likely, there will be a number of companies represented at AWCI's Prefabrication Business Forum generating many thoughts and ideas.

Even if you can't make it to AWCI's event, modularization is an important and interesting subject for us to discuss right here in New York City where the union, nonunion question is impacted by this topic. I highly recommend you join this discussion if you go to Hawaii.

By the way, for those who are going to Hawaii, don't forget your association (WC&C) is a proud sponsor of the AWCI Foundation Golf Tournament.

I hope you can make it. — John

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*From the  
President  
Michael Weber*

## We Have a Deal

After numerous meetings over the past two years, we have finally come to an agreement for a five year term with the New York City District Council of Carpenters. It's not uncommon as you grind through negotiations, communication on both sides can get extremely tense. With that being said the passion and commitment by all parties involved to strike a deal was clearly evident. I applaud the leadership at the New York City District Council of Carpenters for taking bold steps to help mitigate the loss of market share. Only time will tell whether we succeeded with this unprecedented agreement. Due to the multitude of compensation options available to our membership, I strongly urge our members to review the new Collective Bargaining Agreement in detail so you may take advantage of the options available in various sectors of the market, ie: residential, hospitality and commercial as some examples.

I would like to welcome Jeffrey Anikstein, Vice President of Cord Contracting to the WC&C Board. His value and perspective during the negotiations was well received and look forward to working with Jeff as our newest board member.

I would also like to congratulate Nancy Brinkerhoff, AWCI's first female president. I am looking forward to the new and innovative ideas she will bring to the organization.

Stay cool and enjoy the rest of the summer. —Michael Weber

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# It's The Law

By Mark A. Rosen

Mark A. Rosen is legal counsel to the Association of Wall-Ceiling & Carpentry Industries of New York, Inc. He is a partner in the firm of McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP. Mark practices in the areas of construction and contract law, public contract law, arbitration, surety, and general commercial litigation. He can be reached at [mrosen@mdmc-law.com](mailto:mrosen@mdmc-law.com).

## NLRB Seeks To Restrain Use Of Inflatable Rats

The National Labor Relations Board (“NLRB”) sought a temporary restraining order against Laborers Local 79 barring protests against certain construction projects on Staten Island, including the use of inflatables, such as an inflatable rat.

The case began when Local 79 erected multiple large inflatable rats adjacent to the entrance of a Shop Rite store owned by a businessman that recently constructed a new development with non-union contractors.

The NLRB’s actions reflect a new, aggressive approach under the

Trump Administration. They have pursued multiple cases involving inflatable rats and other creatures and have been seeking a reinterpretation of federal labor laws that in certain cases would classify the use of inflatables as “unlawful coercion” of businesses that do not directly employ protesting workers.

## New York Enacts Equal Pay And Salary History Laws

New York has enacted two bills that seek to address pay gaps in the workplace – an equal pay bill and a salary history bill.

The Equal Pay Law expands

protection, not only to sex-based pay disparities, but also pay disparities based on any characteristic protected by the state’s Human Rights Law. All employees, regardless of their age, race, creed, color, national

origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, sex, disability, predisposing genetic characteristics, familial status, marital status or domestic violence victim status, must be paid the same.

The law also lowers the burden of proof to establish a claim. Under existing law, an employee has to show that she is being paid less than a comparative employee for “equal work.” Under the new law, the employee only has to show that he or she and the comparative worker perform “substantially similar work.”

Traditional defenses to pay equity claims, such as seniority, application of a merit system or bona fide job-related factors, such as education, experience, geography or training, can still be used.

The new law takes effect October 8, 2019.

The Salary History Bill prohibits employers from asking applicants, or current employees seeking promotion, about their salary histories. Under this new law, an employer cannot: rely on the salary history of an applicant in deciding whether to extend an employment offer; rely on the salary history of an applicant or current employee in determining salary; seek, request or require an applicant or current employee to reveal their salary history for interview, employment or promotion purposes; seek, request or require salary history information from a current or former employer except to confirm salary history when voluntarily provided; retaliate against an applicant or current employee for refusing to provide salary history information; or take adverse action against an applicant or current employee based on salary history.

An applicant or current employee can voluntarily reveal their salary history, provided it is without any coercion or prompting, to verify his or her salary history for purposes of negotiating salary.

This new law takes effect January 6, 2020.. •

## Port Authority Issues RFI for JFK Airport



The Port Authority is exploring possible uses for the 14-acre site atop a new Ground Transportation Center (GTC) that will be built in the center of John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK or the Airport). Known as JFK Central, this area could become a mix of commercial development and vibrant, large-scale public space that serves as a central convening area for passengers and airport employees alike. JFK Central represents a unique opportunity for developers and designers to create a new, highly visible New York landmark that is instantly identifiable as part of the new JFK.

Information on this Request for Information is available at the Port Authority website ([panynj.gov](http://panynj.gov)). Response due date is September 6th.

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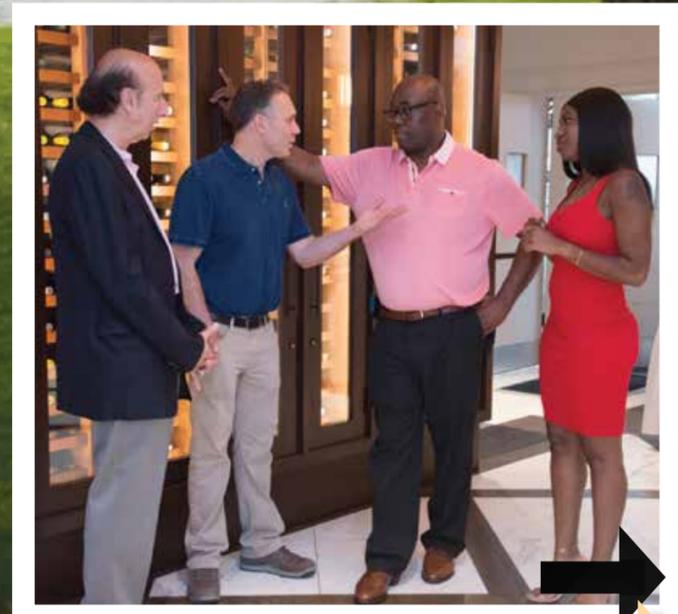
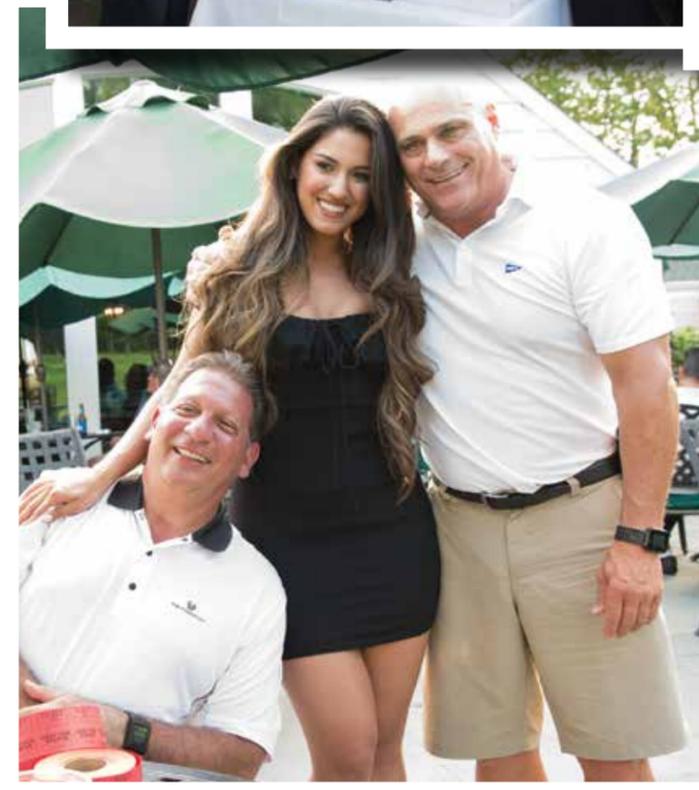
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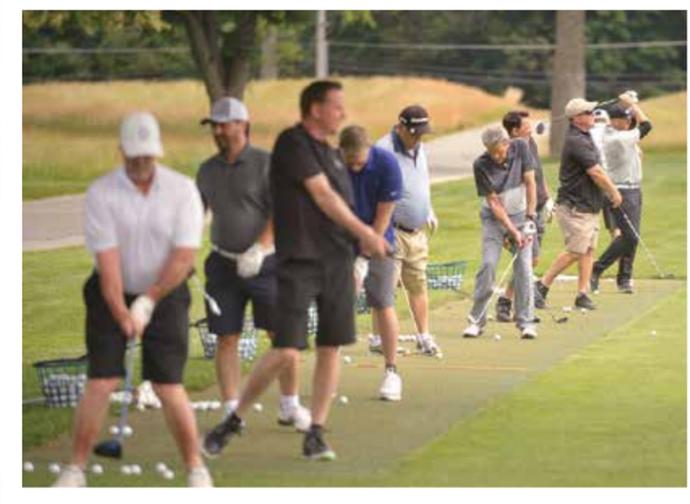
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## Request for Proposals Issued for WTC Site 5, a Major Step Forward in Completing the World Trade Center Campus

**G**OVERNOR ANDREW M. CUOMO HAS ANNOUNCED the [request for proposals](#) to develop World Trade Center Site 5, one of the last two remaining undeveloped World Trade Center parcels, is now open. Located directly south of Liberty Park, the 33,000 square foot lot in the heart of the Financial District is accessible from more than a dozen subway lines and the PATH train system, making it an exceptional opportunity for new development in Lower Manhattan. This announcement furthers Governor Cuomo's efforts to strengthen New York's economy and continue Lower Manhattan's recovery from the September 11 attacks.

The site was previously home to the Deutsche Bank

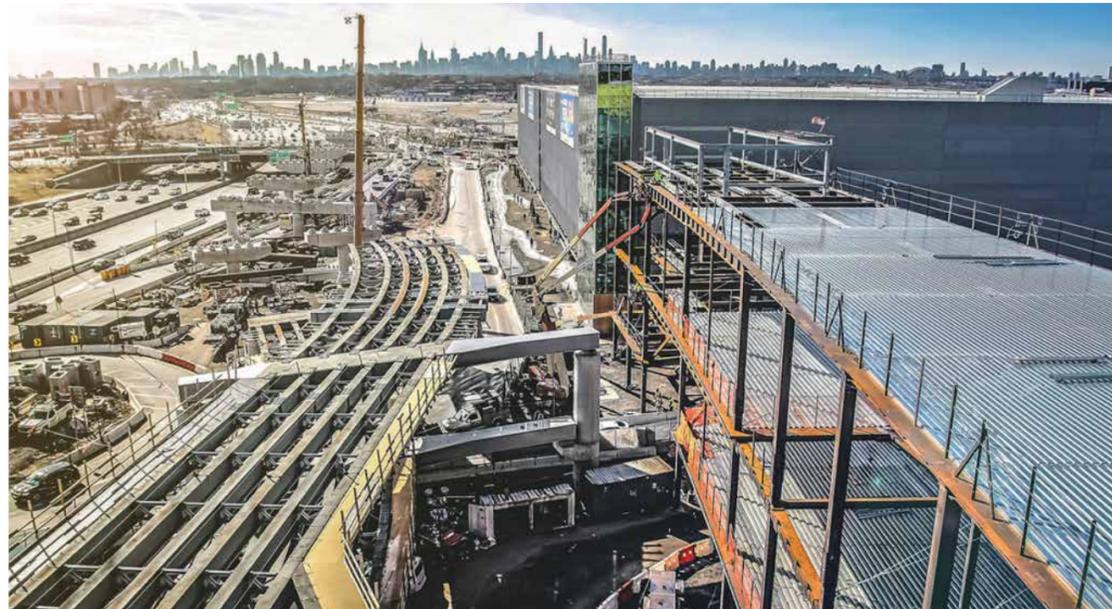
Building, which was extensively damaged in the World Trade Center attack. The Lower Manhattan Development Corporation (LMDC), a subsidiary of Empire State Development, purchased the site in 2004 and completed deconstruction, abatement and excavation in 2011 - work which was funded by a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grant. LMDC and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey are jointly issuing the Site 5 Request for Proposals (RFP), seeking a development team to lease or purchase and redevelop the site with a commercial or mixed-use project. The RFP calls for proposals of a development up to 1.345 million zoning square feet and 900 feet in height, with a submission

deadline of September 20, 2019.

The General Project Plan (GPP) governing the World Trade Center Site originally envisioned a commercial office building on the parcel. Reflecting a recent influx of office space into the neighborhood and the need for housing in the community, the RFP entertains both commercial and mixed-use proposals - with the possibility of modifying the GPP if needed. Any project proposing residential use must include onsite affordable units that comply with New York City's Mandatory Inclusionary Housing program.

The release of the RFP culminates a year when the Port

Authority saw the completion of major projects and the jump-start of long-stalled construction work on others at the World Trade Center site. A year ago this month, Tower 3 opened and is over 50 percent leased. Shortly after Tower 3 opened, the Port Authority opened Dey Street and Cortlandt Way to pedestrian traffic to greatly improve access to the site - the first time these streets have been opened since the original World Trade Center was built in the 1970s. Meanwhile, Tower 4 is fully leased and One World Trade Center is 83 percent leased. The Tower 2 site, which is controlled by Silverstein properties, is scheduled to become a future commercial office tower, with its construction hinging on future market demand for an anchor tenant. •



A view of the under-construction LaGuardia project where Skanska is testing out an array of new technologies. (Courtesy Skanska)

## How Can New Technologies Make Construction Safer?

By DREW ZEIBA • The Architect's Newspaper  
With Permission

Construction remains one of the most dangerous careers in the United States. To stop accidents before they happen, construction companies are turning to emerging technologies to improve workplace safety—from virtual reality, drone photography, IoT-connected tools, and machine learning. That said, some solutions come with the looming specter of workplace surveillance in the name of safety, with all of the Black Mirror-esque possibilities.

The Boston-based construction company Suffolk has turned to artificial intelligence to try and make construction safer. Suffolk has been collaborating with computer vision company Smartvid.io to create a digital watchdog of sorts that uses a deep-learning algorithm and workplace images to flag dangerous situations and workers engaging in hazardous behavior, like failing to wear safety equipment or working too close to machinery. Suffolk's even managed to get some of their smaller competitors to join them in data sharing, a mutually beneficial arrangement since machine

learning systems require so much example data; something that's harder for smaller operations to gather. Suffolk hopes to use this decade's worth of aggregated information, as well as scheduling data, reports, and info from IoT sensors to create predictive algorithms that will help prevent injuries and accidents before they happen and increase productivity.

Newer startups are also entering the AEC AI fray, including three supported by URBAN-X. The bi-coastal Versatile Natures is billing itself as the "world's first onsite data-provider," aiming to transform construction sites with sensors that allow managers to proactively make decisions. Buildstream is embedding equipment and construction machinery to make them communicative, and, by focusing on people instead, Contextere is claiming that their use of the IoT will connect different members of the workforce.

At the Florida-based firm Haskell, instead of just using surveillance on the job site, they're ad-

ressing the problem before construction workers even get into the field. While videos and quizzes are one way to train employees, Haskell saw the potential for interactive technologies to really boost employee training in a safe context, using virtual reality.

In the search for VR systems that might suit their needs, Haskell discovered no extant solutions were well-suited to the particulars of construction. Along with their venture capital spinoff, Dysruptek, they partnered with software engineering and game design students at Kennesaw State University in Georgia to develop the Hazard Elimination/Risk Oversight program, or HERO, relying on software like Revit and Unity. The video game-like program places users into a job site, derived from images taken by drone and 360-degree cameras at a Florida wastewater treatment plant that Haskell built, and evaluates a trainee's performance and ability to follow safety protocols in an ever-changing environment.

At the Skanska USA, where 360-degree photography, laser scanning, drones, and even virtual reality are becoming increasingly commonplace, employees are realizing the potentials of these new technologies not just for improved efficiency and accuracy in design and construction, but for overall job site safety. Albert Zulps, Skanska's Regional Director, Virtual Design and Construction, says that the tech goes beyond BIM and design uses, and actively helps avoid accidents.

"Having models and being able to plan virtually and communicate is really important," Zulps explained, noting that in AEC industries, BIM and models are now pretty much universally trusted, but the increased accuracy of capture technologies is making them even more accurate—adapting them to not just predictions, but the realities of the site. "For safety, you can use those models to really clearly plan your daily tasks. You build virtually before you actually build, and then foresee some of the things you might not have if you didn't have that luxury." Like Suffolk, Skanska has partnered with Smartvid.io to help them process data. As technology continues to evolve, the ever-growing construction industry will hopefully be not just more cost-efficient, but safer overall.

## Commercial Construction Index Shows Surge in New Business Confidence

Results from the Q2 2019 USG Corporation + U.S. Chamber of Commerce Commercial Construction Index (Index) indicate that more than half of contractors are highly confident that the market will provide sufficient new business opportunities in the next 12 months.

Overall, the Q2 composite score of 74—up two points from 72 in Q1—shows a vibrant commercial construction sector, although contractors' revenue expectations slightly decreased.

More than half of contractors (52%) are highly confident about the ability of the market to provide new business opportunities in the next 12 months, an 11% increase over last quarter's findings. The backlog ratio—comparing contractors' average current backlog of projects to the ideal amount of work companies would like to take on—reached 82, the highest since the CCI launched in 2017. Hiring expectations also recovered between Q1 and Q2 2019, with most contractors (60%) anticipating employing more people in the next six months.

Additional data further shows the positive state of the industry, with 60% of contractors reporting confidence that revenue will remain stable. They also expect access to capital to continue, with 66% believing access to financing will get easier or remain the same over the next six months.

"The second quarter findings suggest that the construction industry remains strong, optimistic, and focused on the future," said Neil Bradley, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Executive Vice President and Chief Policy Officer. "To sustain this momentum, we need durable, bipartisan policy solutions from Washington that promote trade, improve our immigration system, and better prepare America's workforce for 21st century jobs."

For the third time since the launch of the Index in 2017, this quarter's survey explored sustainability practices in construction. The findings show that the average share of green projects for contractors is declining. This finding is interesting, since other industry studies reveal no slowdown in the number of green construction projects. One explanation may be that the majority of green work is becoming more concentrated among a smaller group of specialized companies. The study shows that green projects are done more frequently by large contractors.

The research was developed with Dodge Data & Analytics (DD&A), the leading provider of insights and data for the construction industry, by surveying commercial and institutional contractors.

# First of Four New Delta Concourses at LaGuardia on Schedule to Open This Fall



Renderings courtesy Gov. Cuomo's Office

The first of four concourses that will comprise Delta's new state-of-the-art terminal at LaGuardia Airport is on track to open this fall, a major milestone in the \$8 billion construction of a whole new LaGuardia Airport. The spacious new 105,000-square-foot concourse will feature floor-to-ceiling views of Citi Field and Flushing Bay, gates that can accommodate a wide range of aircraft, and dining options from favorite New York chefs and eateries

The opening of Delta's first new gates represents another

step forward in the multi-phase construction plan - announced by Governor Cuomo in 2015 - to enable LaGuardia Airport to remain fully operational while the entire airport undergoes this complete redevelopment. When complete, LaGuardia - which services 30 million passengers each year - will be the nation's first entirely new airport in 25 years. Under the Governor's plan, old facilities are being demolished only as new facilities are completed, ensuring the airport never loses capacity. To date, Delta's construction features 2,000 tons of steel, more than 50,000 cubic yards of concrete, and

more than 40 miles of piping, cabling and other infrastructure

The new airport will comprise \$8 billion in new facilities, including the \$4 billion Terminal B redevelopment which will replace the outdated terminal which opened more than 50 years ago. Terminal B's first 18-gate new concourse opened last December featuring floor-to-ceiling windows, an indoor park with benches and landscaping, and modern restrooms.

Delta's \$4 billion construction project at Terminals C and D began in 2017 and upon completion, Delta will replace



Renderings Showcase Light-Filled, Environmentally Sustainable Concourse Offering Views of Citi Field and Flushing Bay and Arrivals/Departures Facility Scheduled to Open in 2021

the two outmoded terminals with one combined, state-of-the-art Terminal C. Delta is privately financing 80 percent of the redevelopment's costs, with the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey committing the

remainder.

Governor Cuomo set a goal of increasing the number of LaGuardia Airport contracts with certified minority and women-owned businesses (MWBE) to

30%, the highest such goal in the nation. Delta has made meeting this goal a priority and 35% of contracts to date are currently with MWBEs. •

## Skanska To Construct New Entrance To Pennsylvania Station

Skanska USA has signed a contract with Vornado Realty Trust to construct an additional entrance to New York City's historic Pennsylvania Station (Penn Station). This contract is worth \$119 million which will be included in US order bookings for the second quarter of 2019.

The new "East Entrance," located on the corner of 33rd Street and Seventh Avenue, will feature a four-story, clear glass canopy that shelters new escalators, a staircase, and an elevator connecting passengers to the Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) and subway corridors below. Skanska's contract also includes street-level excavation to accommodate the new entrance. This entrance represents a significant step forward in modernizing Penn Station into a vibrant transportation hub.

Since 2017, Skanska has been working to complete



a transformation of the James A. Farley Post Office Building into Moynihan Train Hall. In 2016, Skanska completed the expansion of Penn Station's West End Concourse, which will connect to the new Moynihan Train Hall once construction is completed. Together, these two projects will ease Penn Station's congestion and improve the passenger experience for its 650,000 daily commuters with brand-new facilities.

Construction is ongoing and will continue through 2020.

## AIA's Latest Consensus Construction Forecast Predicts Growth.

Spending on nonresidential building construction is expected to increase almost four percent this year and more than two percent in 2020, according to a new consensus forecast from The American Institute of Architects (AIA).

Continued volatility has not impacted construction spending as the projections by the AIA Consensus Construction Forecast Panel—consisting of leading economic forecasters—are largely unchanged from where they stood at the beginning of the year. While some individual construction sectors are projected to see declines over the next 18 months, the consensus projects overall building construction activity will continue to expand.

"The outlook showing nonresidential construction activity continuing to expand

reflects the underlying strength of the economy, even this late in the business cycle," said AIA Chief Economist Kermit Baker, Hon. AIA, PhD. "However, there are several potential threats to continued healthy growth in the broader economy as well as in the construction industry that would point to slower economic growth in future quarters."

Consensus		Actual	Forecast	
		\$	% Change	
		2018	2019	2020
Dodge Data & Analytics	Nonresidential Total	-	3.8	2.4
IHS Economics	Commercial Total	-	2.5	1.1
	Office	-	6.9	2.2
Moody's Economy.com	Retail & Other Commercial	-	-0.8	0.3
	Hotel	-	3.6	0.5
FMI	Industrial Total	-	6.4	3.3
ConstructConnect	Institutional Total	-	4.9	3.7
	Health	-	2.7	3.7
Associated Builders and Contractors	Education	-	6.1	4.4
	Religious	-	-4.5	-2.8
Wells Fargo Securities	Public Safety	-	8.2	5.9
Markstein Advisors	Amusement & Recreation	-	4.4	1.0



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## M18™ RADIUS™ Site Light/Charger w/ ONE-KEY™ New from Milwaukee

The brightest cordless light on the site. Milwaukee's new M18™ RADIUS™ Site Light/Charger with ONE-KEY™ sets a new standard for cordless lights. Capable of running off of one or two battery packs, The RADIUS™ Site/Light Charger with ONE-KEY™ delivers full workspace coverage with 9,000 lumens for maximum 360° coverage.



Adjustable output levels gives the user the ability to light the site for up to 14 hours off of one full discharge. The 2150-20 features an integrated two-bay sequential charger, creating more space on the job site and improving productivity. Additionally, plug-in and daisy-chaining capability allows users to connect up to 6 lights off of a single circuit. ONE-KEY™ provides users the capability to digitally interact with the light allowing users to CUSTOMIZE light settings, TRACK on or offsite, and MANAGE tool inventories.

A unique, stackable design makes the RADIUS™ Site Light /Charger easy to transport and store in all work spaces. Built to thrive in the toughest conditions, the 2150 features a high impact polycarbonate lens, and IP54 ingress protection against dust and water. Consistent with all M12 and M18 cordless lights, the RADIUS™ SITE LIGHT/CHARGER is backed by a 5-yr tool warranty and limited lifetime LED warranty. Focused on improving productivity for professionals in the trades, MILWAUKEE® offers more than 125 performance-driven solutions that are fully compatible with the M18™ family — the fastest growing 18V cordless system on the market.

**MILWAUKEE**  
milwaukeetool.com

## Bosch's New GCL100-80C 12 V Max Connected Cross-Line Laser with Plumb Points

The Bosch GCL100-80C 12 V Max Connected Cross-Line Laser with Plumb Points delivers all-in-one versatility, with highly visible lines and points. They provide horizontal level, vertical alignment and plumb point transfer applications.



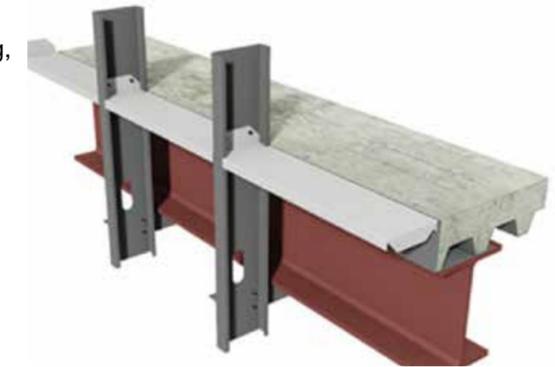
The tool features Bosch-exclusive VisiMax™ technology, which monitors tool temperature and power consumption to deliver the brightest line for the job.. The laser features Bosch 12 V Max Lithium-ion power for extended laser runtime during complex or all day layout jobs, provides a visible range of 100 Ft. and can work with an optional Bosch laser receiver to extend that range to 165 Ft. The Smart Pendulum System self-levels up to ±4°, indicates out-of-level condition and locks for safe tool transport. The manual mode locks lines for use at any angle. The laser comes with the RM 2 Magnetic Rotating Mount that rotates 360°, has a micro-fine adjustment knob and includes a ceiling grid clip.

**BOSCH TOOLS**  
boschtools.com

## 33Mil, 43Mil Or 54Mil Fire Blocking System New From ClarkDietrich

ClarkDietrich's Fire Blocking is specifically designed to meet the requirement of horizontal fire blocking inside the wall system and between floor levels. Fire Blocking system simply installs by twisting into stud flanges and screwing into stud webs. The one piece preformed assembly eliminates cutting, notching and attaching clips.

- Installs quickly and easily without clips
- Available for 16" and 24" stud spacing
- Three available widths
- Available in 33mil (20ga), 43mil (18ga) or 54mil (16ga)
- Pre-notched for use on structural studs



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## New ACOUSTIBuilt™ Seamless Ceilings from Armstrong Look Like Drywall, Perform Like an Acoustical Ceiling

Armstrong Ceiling Solutions has introduced ACOUSTIBuilt™ Seamless Acoustical Ceilings, a new ceiling system that provides the look of drywall but performs like an acoustical ceiling.

Finished ACOUSTIBuilt panels offer a smooth, non-directional, monolithic visual to meet the needs of architects, designers, and owners who desire the seamless appearance of a drywall ceiling but also require effective acoustical performance in a space.

The new ceiling is part of the Armstrong® Total Acoustics® portfolio, offering the ideal combination of sound absorption and sound blocking in one panel. The installed system achieves a Noise Reduction Coefficient (NRC) of up to 0.70, indicating it absorbs up to 70% of the sound that strikes it, and also has an extremely high Ceiling Attenuation Class (CAC) up to 48, indicating its ability to ensure speech privacy by preventing sound from entering adjacent spaces.

ACOUSTIBuilt ceiling systems are part of the Armstrong Ceilings Sustain® portfolio and meet the most stringent sustainability compliance standards in the industry today, including LEED® v4, Living Building Challenge<sup>SM</sup>, and the WELL Building Standard<sup>TM</sup>.

ACOUSTIBuilt ceiling systems are easier to install than acoustical plaster and at a lower cost. Panel installation is quick and easy using Armstrong Drywall Grid. Finishing methods are similar to those of traditional drywall ceilings.

To obtain additional information on ACOUSTIBuilt Seamless Acoustical Ceilings, visit [armstrongceilings.com/acoustibuilt](http://armstrongceilings.com/acoustibuilt).

ARMSTRONG CEILINGS  
[armstrongceilings.com](http://armstrongceilings.com)

## Intelligent Technology + Design Coatings Program From Sto Corp.

Sto Corp. introduces its Intelligent Technology + Design (iQ)<sup>TM</sup> coatings program to the North American market. This program, also referred to as Sto iQ Technology<sup>TM</sup>, offers a family of high-performance coatings that deliver improved functionality through innovatively optimized product properties—or simply put, more intelligent technology.

“With iQ Technology, our focus is on the functionality and added value our coatings bring to the building owner and long-term investor,” said Amanda Poole, associate product manager for Coatings for Sto Corp. “iQ Technology combines functionality with design to offer more than the basic aesthetic features of a coating, rather, they incorporate scientific principles from nature to provide functionality that protects against environmental stimuli that degrade the performance of the coating.”

The initial introduction of the program includes three coatings, StoColor® Lotusan®, StoColor® Climasan® (pictured), and the soon to come StoColor® Dryonic®. StoColor Lotusan uses biomimicry to create an exterior coating with the super-hydrophobic properties of the Lotus Leaf. Water that hits the surface forms into droplets and flows off, taking dirt particles that have landed on the surface with it, leaving the surface clean and dry. StoColor Climasan is an indoor coating that attracts harmful substances and odorous gas molecules that are suspended in the ambient air. When exposed to a light source, a catalyst in the coating reacts, breaking down the pollutants and neutralizing the odors, resulting in clean, fresh indoor air.

StoColor Dryonic exterior coating diverts fog, rain and condensation away in a targeted manner due to its microtextured surface, ensuring a clean and dry façade, which impedes growth of algae and fungi. The shell of the African fog-basking beetle, covered in countless mi-

croscopic bumps, was the inspiration for the operating principle of this new biomimetic coating.

Six factors that impact the exterior of a building include mechanical (such as hail on the outside and swelling on the inside, as well as building movement), air pollution, biological (mildew, fungal growth), water, temperature,



and light (UV, visible light, infrared). Sto's iQ Technology coatings address these key issues and help to deliver optimized coatings properties to achieve both functionality and aesthetic design.

STO CORP.  
[www.stocorp.com/iq-technology](http://www.stocorp.com/iq-technology)

## Simpson Strong-Tie New Quik Drive® Drywall Tool

Redesigned with the Installer in Mind: Light, Sturdy and More Consistent

The Quik Drive PRODW is the newly improved auto-feed screw driving attachment for installing drywall, DensGlass® and other sheathing to wood or CFS. The new PRODW drywall tool has been redesigned to be lighter in weight and more ergonomic, with additional improvements to the collated screw-feed mechanism. The PRODW tool's lighter weight results in less user fatigue.

SIMPSON STRONG-TIE  
[strongtie.com](http://strongtie.com)

# Product News

## National Gypsum's New Gold Bond® SoundBreak XP™ Ceiling™ Board

Gold Bond® Brand SoundBreak XP™ Ceiling™ Board consists of two pieces of high-density, mold-, mildew- and moisture-resistant gypsum board, with a specially designed PURPLE® paper, laminated together with a sound-damping, viscoelastic polymer. This acoustically enhanced, fire-resistant gypsum core is encased in heavy paper that is 100-percent recycled on both sides and offers superior abrasion, mold, mildew and moisture resistance.

Apply to floor-ceiling assemblies where airborne sound transmission and structurally transmitted sound are a concern, and high Sound Transmission Class (STC) and Impact Insulation Class (IIC) values are desired. Use 3/4" (19.1 mm) SoundBreak XP Ceiling Board to provide a 1-hour fire-rating in specific UL floor-ceiling designs. For speed of installation, GridMarX® guide marks are printed on the paper surface.

Provides high Sound Transmission Class (STC) and Impact Insulation Class (IIC) values per an independent third-party acoustical laboratory using ASTM E90 test procedures.

In specific floor-ceiling assemblies, provides both STC and IIC ratings above 60.

Superior sound damping solution that finishes easily and decorates in the same manner as standard gypsum board.

Resists the growth of mold per ASTM D3273 with a score of 10, the best possible score.

Resists the growth of mold per ASTM G21 with a score of 0, the best possible score.

Installs like traditional gypsum board.

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# Product News

## New Aegis Metal Framing Floor Trusses



Aegis Metal Framing announces Ultra-Span® Floor Trusses. The construction industry already knows the benefits of Aegis roof trusses, it only made sense for Aegis to create a floor program.

Ultra-Span Floor Trusses are non-combustible, lightweight and available from a minimum depth of 12". The trusses are fabricated to exact dimensions to eliminate waste, and fully engineered designs assure fast construction. Ultra-Span Floor Trusses are compatible with a range of bearing materials and conditions, have UL-rated assemblies, IIC and STC sound ratings and can be configured in custom designs that include loading conditions specific to your project.

**AEGIS METAL FRAMING**  
[www.aegismetallframing.com](http://www.aegismetallframing.com)

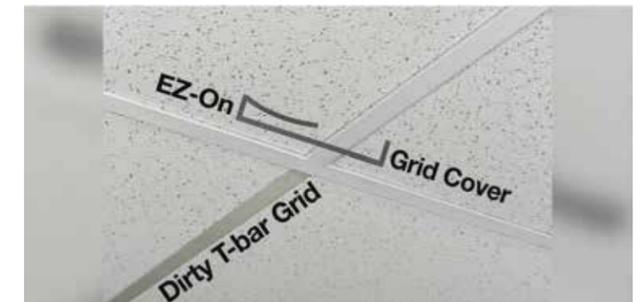
## Cellume EZ-On Grid Covers

EZ-On™ Grid Covers are the new, easy-to-install solution for suspended ceiling T-bar grids that have become stained, damaged or yellowed with age. Made by the manufacturer of Cellume ceiling panels, EZ-On Grid Covers are snap-on vinyl strips that cover existing T-bar grids with a brilliant white surface, rejuvenating the appearance of the ceiling system. They make old grids look better than new, and present a surface that is durable and easy to maintain. Metal T-bar ceiling grids are durable, but their painted finish is not. The enamel paint discolors over time. It may get damaged during maintenance and can even rust. A grid that is still completely functional may look terrible.

ence and can even rust. A grid that is still completely functional may look terrible.

EZ-On Grid Covers can update a tired ceiling at a fraction of the time and cost it would take to paint or replace the grids. The system has only 2 components—1 to cover grid members, the other for perimeter angles—and installs rapidly on virtually all grids with 15/16" (1" nominal) flanges.

The vinyl strips slide over the T-bar and snap into place easily. No pre-cleaning is needed, no adhesives are applied, and no tools or special training are needed. A 400-sq. ft. room could be done by one person in about



an hour, without removing panels.

Made from 100% recyclable rigid vinyl in a cool-white, semi-gloss surface, EZ-On grid covers require no maintenance and are easy to clean with soap and water. Impervious to moisture, they resist mold growth and are non-yellowing.

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## Product News

### TraxPin®'s GT38Li & GT60Li Gas Powered Pin Nailers From Aerosmith

#### Track to Concrete / Steel Nail Guns

Aerosmith Fastening's new GT38Li (90J) and GT60Li (105J) Gas Track Pinners are quality, high performance gas powered tools that allow tracking to concrete, block or steel. The GT38Li and GT60Li, which uses TraxPin® fasteners, will also improve your efficiency with less loading time and 8,000 shots per fully charged battery.

#### Benefits:

- Simply less downtime using Aerosmith®'s durable, reliable, cordless tools
- Quality applications assured with 'finger-tip' depth of drive adjustment meaning fewer call backs
- Powerful!...Handle applications from steel track to wood bottom plates or furring strips

- Lowers gas costs; reduced down time
- Lithium ion technology for long life and fast charge times mean less downtime
- Applications include construction fastening, industrial and specialty applications, and siding, with materials such as plywood, OSB (Oriented Strand Board) and tracking to steel and concrete.
- Simply Faster... Simply Better



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## DOL Provides Compliance Assistance Resources to Find and Fix Workplace Hazards

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has developed compliance assistance resources to help employers find and fix workplace hazards before they cause injury or illness.

Workplace injuries and illnesses are preventable when employers implement a proactive, systematic process for identifying and correcting hazards. OSHA is working with industry stakeholders to provide informative compliance assistance resources.

OSHA's [Safe + Sound campaign webpage](#) has resources and activities for finding and fixing hazards. OSHA's [Recommended Practices for Safety and Health Programs](#) identifies key actions for [hazard identification and assessment](#) and [hazard prevention and control](#).

A [fact sheet](#) guides employers through the process of using an OSHA 300 log to identify workplace hazards, and prevent injuries and illnesses.

A guide for [managers](#) and [safety officers](#) provides tips for conducting safety walk-arounds to identify hazards in the workplace and communicate with workers about hazards in their jobs.

OSHA's [On-Site Consultation Program](#) provides valuable services for job creators that are separate from enforcement. Job creators who implement workplace improvements can reduce lost time due to injuries and illnesses, improve employee morale, increase productivity, and lower workers' compensation insurance premiums..

OCI – housed within the Department of Labor's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy – fosters a compliance assistance culture within the Department designed to complement its ongoing enforcement efforts. This Office focuses on helping enforcement agencies more effectively use online resources to deliver information and compliance assistance to help the American people. In August 2018, OCI launched [Worker.gov](#) and [Employer.gov](#) to provide information about workers' rights and the responsibilities of job creators toward their workers. •

## Hurricane Preparedness and Response

Hurricanes are a form of tropical cyclones that are capable of causing devastating damage to communities. Hurricanes are storm systems with circulating air and sustained wind speeds of 74 miles per hour or higher. The strongest hurricanes can have wind speeds exceeding 155 miles per hour. Areas on the Atlantic Coast, near the Gulf of Mexico, as well as parts of the Southwestern United States are vulnerable to hurricanes. The Atlantic hurricane season lasts from June to November and peaks between August and October. The Eastern Pacific hurricane season begins mid May and also ends in November. This page provides information on hurricane warnings, hazards that hurricanes cause, and precautions that workers and employers should take after a hurricane has occurred.

The Preparedness page outlines the warnings and watches used for hurricanes, including the five categories used to rate the strength of a hurricane. The page also contains information on creating evacuation plans and supply kits.

The Response/Recovery page features a link to OSHA's Hurricane eMatrix, which features information on hazard

exposures and risk assessments for hurricane response and recovery work. The information in the matrix is organized based on the types of activities performed so that it is easy for workers to identify the precautions they should take based on the tasks they will be performing.

OSHA and NOAA are working together on a public education effort aimed at improving the way people prepare for and respond to severe weather. This page is designed to help businesses and their workers prepare for hurricanes, and to provide information about hazards that workers may face during and after a hurricane.

#### EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITIES

Each employer is responsible for the safety and health of its workers and for providing a safe and healthful workplace for its workers. Employers are required to protect workers from the anticipated hazards associated with the response and recovery operations that workers are likely to conduct. For additional information on Workers' Rights, Employer Responsibilities, and other services OSHA offers, visit OSHA's [Employers Page](#), [Workers Page](#) and [Publications](#). •

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