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POWERFUL STAR GAZER FINDS ITS FOOTING

TEAM OVERCOMES SEISMIC, WIND DESIGN CHALLENGES ON GIANT MAGELLAN TELESCOPE AS THEY PREPARE TO BUILD MASSIVE ROTATING ENCLOSURE ON REMOTE CHILEAN MOUNTAINTOP (P. 24)

“We have also just launched Advance Scheduling for CMs, a new course that covers the CM’s role in time management, how to develop a master schedule, schedule review best practices, earned value analysis, time impact review and evaluation methods, mitigating time impacts, claim prevention/avoidance and time-related overhead and liquidated damages. CMAA also offers the Time Management Guidelines publication that can enhance your expertise and offer valuable insights to manage the time component of construction programs and projects effectively.”

With goals in sight, create a budget, because costs vary for CM/PM software. Many have different levels of access and implementation tied to costs. Ensuring your budget includes the highest level of access gives your company room to grow. And pick a company that is going to partner with you. Technology is ever-evolving and needs to be managed by people who know the backend of the platform. ♦

Start to Finish: The Power of a Turnkey Process in Site Development

Brent Scarbrough & Co. (BSC), a heavy civil site contractor, manages every aspect of site development. By handling all stages of the process, BSC provides a comprehensive solution, ensuring seamless coordination and execution for its clients.

Located in Newnan, Ga., with a presence throughout the Southeast, BSC’s services include erosion control, demolition, clearing, grading, underground utilities, storm, sewer and water. BSC also has a portable rock crushing division and horizontal boring division. Its services expand into most markets, such as commercial, industrial, aviation, renewable energy, higher education, multi-use, data centers, healthcare, multifamily and residential. With a turnkey approach and handling most work internally, BSC ensures consistent results.

Project managers use critical path method (CPM) for scheduling and to manage complex projects. CPM allows the team to identify tasks that must occur to complete a project successfully. Of all these tasks, time management is the most crucial aspect of a project, and BSC prides itself on finishing projects on time and within budget.

Next year, BSC will celebrate its 40th anniversary. The first 39 years laid the foundation for ongoing success, growth and exceptional customer service. Discover more about the 100% employee-owned company at brent.us. ♦



Crossing the Alternative Delivery Border

The award-winning Otay Mesa Land Port of Entry (LPOE) Modernization and Expansion project in San Diego for the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) exemplifies how even challenging projects can benefit from alternative delivery, explains Hill International Inc. Senior Director of Projects Luis Espinosa.

Espinosa, who led the Hill team’s Construction Manager as Agent (CMA) support for GSA, says, “Otay Mesa is the second-busiest commercial crossing on the U.S.-Mexico border. And GSA chose to employ design-build delivery to help the crossing’s many tenant agencies meet their missions while minimizing impacts to operations.”

The project involved multiple interfacing components, including a new 36,000-sq-ft Commercial Annex Building, major renovations to the Main Pedestrian Building, a new 16,000-sq-ft U.S. Department of Agriculture plant inspection station, a new 13,000-sq-ft hazardous material inspection and containment facility and a new 76,000-sq-ft parking structure.

Espinosa explains: “As CMA, a key part of our role was leveraging our expertise with design-build delivery. To support the design-builder in such a complex, security-intensive and scope-heavy environment, we implemented a tracking log to manage all open issues. The log contributed to

success in many ways, especially in managing the schedule.” During COVID-19, for example, the team made certain the sites remained accessible and that personnel were cleared to work. Ultimately, the team’s efforts entirely mitigated COVID-19’s schedule impact.

“Alternative delivery offers owners many potential benefits,” Espinosa concludes. “What this project shows is that, with the right partners, even the most complex projects can realize those benefits.” ♦



In recognition of the team’s success, the Otay Mesa LPOE project received Engineering News-Record California’s 2024 Award of Merit-Government/Public Building.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF HILL INTERNATIONAL

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Hill International is built on nearly 50 years of program, project, and construction management and advisory experience. Since the inception of our company, Hill has focused exclusively on managing owner risk. We provide our clients with the actionable intelligence they need to make informed decisions, identify risks, and address challenges before they can impact progress.



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