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HARRIS HORIZONS

WINTER / 07

PLUMBING / PROCESS PIPING / HVAC / REFRIGERATION / CONTROLS / ELECTRICAL / SERVICE

a new phase

For the U of M's Kolthoff Hall

Central fume exhaust at Kolthoff.

In order to meet new code requirements, a building wide renovation is currently taking place at the University of Minnesota's Kolthoff Hall. This 35-year-old building is located in the Historic Mall District of the Minneapolis Campus and houses more than half of the chemistry lab space for the University. This six-story, 155,000 sq ft. building contains research and teaching labs for the Chemistry Department and because building codes have evolved since the building was constructed in 1970, the labs have to be updated to avoid potential hazards.

Since the building will remain occupied during construction, the project will consist of four phases taking place over a 20-month period. More than 500 students and staff use Kolthoff on a 24/7 basis so disruption avoidance played a key role in the project planning.

Small renovations have taken place throughout the years, but none as extensive as this. RSP Architects provided the overall design for the project that will involve improvement to the mechanical systems, installation of both replacement and new fume hoods, upgrades to the buildings electrical system, bringing the facility into full code compliance, transforming existing teaching laboratory space into research labs, complete retrofitting of other existing teaching and research labs, and making improvements to existing corridors and public space in the building.

The general contractor, MA Mortenson, selected Harris to provide the mechanical portion of the project. We also provided mechanical design assistance to Sebesta Blomberg Engineers and started construction in August of 2006.

Since the project is being done in phases, installation planning and coordination were critical to the schedule. To begin, our piping prefabrication team, led by Steve Semanko, provided 3-D modeling of the individual labs and prefabricated modular sections of gas and water services to lab benches and fume hoods. Steve's team worked closely with Plumbing General Foreman, Steve Shaw and Fab Shop Foreman, Mike Hedquist to complete the fabrication and installation drawings for the project. Our Sheet Metal General Foreman, Mike Kendle worked closely with Nick Fabio in our CAD Sheet Metal shop to design and model lab ductwork and fume exhaust systems to integrate with piping installation.

Soon Phase I was underway and the demolition of the labs on floors 1 & 2 took place. Once the labs were cleared out, we began the installation of the plumbing, piping, sheet metal and fume hoods according to the mechanical designs. To accommodate the fume exhaust from each lab, we installed a 112,500 CFM centralized stainless steel fume exhaust system infrastructure. This system allows the connection of individual lab fume hood

exhausts by phase of the project and has a provision for a future heat recovery expansion.

Since some of the work was repeated in each lab, we prefabricated many of the systems in our in-house pre-fab shop. Once the pieces were completed, they were shipped to the site and installed, saving time on the project.

Phase I was completed in late November and the labs, support space, offices and conference rooms were ready for use. Students and faculty moved from their old labs to the new, making way for Phase II of the project. Demolition has started on the vacated labs and the mechanical work continues. With the extensive planning and coordination on everyone's part, this project is moving along smoothly and is on-track to be completed in 2008.

who's involved: Harris Mechanical

- Owner: **University of Minnesota**
- General Contractor: **MA Mortenson**
- Senior Project Manager: **Jim Magrew**
- Sheet Metal General Foreman: **Mike Kendle**
- Sheet Metal Foremen: **Roger Curran, Walt Mester**
- Plumbing General Foreman: **Steve Shaw**
- Plumbing Foreman: **Kelly Massine**
- Pipefitter General Foreman: **Bob Harthaus**



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

When you buy a new car what happens? Other than making the worst investment you will make in your life, you go to the dealer and either pick one off the lot, or order one for delivery. Unless you order a Ford Ranger, chances are pretty good that the car you ordered is produced a long ways away, maybe even halfway around the world.

Why is it the manufacturer doesn't ship all the parts to your garage, and then have the various trades people come out to your house to assemble it, paint it, and get it ready to drive? It's obvious, isn't it? No one could afford a car assembled in such an inefficient manner. In a factory there is a controlled environment, with the best available tools, all of the parts are readily available, and everyone who needs to work together is there at the same time.

So why is it that in the construction industry we feel it is more efficient to ship every part to the field to fabricate and install? There's a very simple reason. Because that's the way we've always done it. Because of that history we allow all sorts of excuses that, when analyzed objectively, don't hold water. We convince ourselves that "we can do it faster in the field."

We've done an excellent job through the years of promoting fabrication of large bore welded and grooved piping, but there are so many other opportunities. Plumbing waste, vent, water and underground, typical assemblies for heating and cooling, hangers, assemblies of multiple pieces of duct and fittings - the opportunities are almost endless.

Certainly we could reach a point where we "over-fabricated," and began to lose productivity, but we are so far from that point that I am willing to take the risk.

Through 2007 we will be changing our paradigms. We will move more hours from the field to our fabrication facilities where our people can be more productive, safer, and work in an environment that produces a better quality product. At the same time fabrication will give us better control over the project schedule, allowing us to smooth the peaks and valleys on a job.

I've said this before, but remember "Fighting change is like holding your breath, if you succeed, you die." I look forward to working with all of you on changing our perception from "what can we fab?" to "what can't we!"

ZEROING IN ON SAFETY

Every year Harris holds an annual safety poster contest for the children and relatives of our employees. The children depict through drawings and words how to practice safety. We had many wonderful entries this year and would like to congratulate the winners.

Ages 4 & Under:

1st Place - Sydney Pagel (granddaughter of Marigene Karnick)
2nd Place - Taylor Hanna (daughter of Matt Hanna)

Ages 5 & 6:

1st Place - Jessica Nelson (daughter of Cory Nelson)
2nd Place - Josh Muller (son of Eric Muller)
3rd Place - Ethan Kjellberg (grandson of Robert Kjellberg)

Ages 7 & 8:

1st Place - Grant Kjellberg (grandson of Robert Kjellberg)
2nd Place - Cody Rapp (grandson of Anita Rapp)
3rd Place (Tie) - Dominic Decker (Roy Decker)
Tatum Huntress (daughter of Scott Huntress)

Ages 9 & 10:

1st Place - Josiah Rohne (grandson of Mark Olson)
2nd Place - Nick Weninger (son of Martin Weninger)
3rd Place - Emily Johnson (daughter of Doug Johnson)

Ages 11 & 12:

1st Place - Jessica Ortiz (Mario Ortiz)



"Always turn off the power before working with electricity."
- Grant Kjellberg

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Jackie Averill

Accounts Receivable Coordinator

Jackie is a numbers person. She loves compiling spreadsheets for time and materials, equipment rentals and job expenses. This makes her well suited for her job as the Accounts Receivable Coordinator for Harris. Jackie started here 9 1/2 years ago as an Accounts Payable Coordinator and worked in the banking industry prior to that. Her skills with numbers and accuracy have served her well in her career and she enjoys the challenges her job brings her everyday.



Jackie Averill - Accounts Receivable Coordinator

Jackie works with our Project Managers on their monthly billings. Since there are several types of billings and many projects each month, coordination is a must. "It can be challenging at times, but I enjoy the satisfaction of seeing all my hard work completed and sent to the customer at the end of the month," says Jackie.

Jackie enjoys the flexibility of working for Harris as well as the people she works with. "Not every day is the same and that makes it easy to come to work in the morning," she says, "It provides a challenge for me and I like that." When she's not busy with numbers, Jackie likes to go walking, boating and taking warm-weather vacations with her husband Terry.

SECOND STORY

ALDI Foods Distribution Center - HiMEC

Faribault, Minnesota
by Kelly Johnson, Administrative Assistant

ALDI USA is an international retailer that offers a limited variety of high quality, private label products at the lowest possible prices. In 1948 the first ALDI store opened in the small town of Essen, Germany. The company grew steadily during the 1960's as they developed the limited assortment concept by using private labels and offering only a limited supply of each item. In 1976, ALDI introduced the limited assortment initiative to the United States and the first US stores were opened in Southeastern Iowa. Currently, ALDI operates over 800 stores in 26 states from Kansas to the East Coast. Along with the United States, ALDI also has operations in Europe and Australia.

By using private labels and only offering a limited supply of each item, customers experience cost savings of up to 50% without relying on weekly sales or the use of coupons. There are no hidden fees in the cost of their products, but there is a small fee charged for plastic or paper bags if you don't bring in your own. Recycling is encouraged.

Scheduled for completion in July 2007, ALDI is constructing a 475,000 square foot warehouse distribution center in Faribault, Minnesota. That's

Kemps Ice Cream Plant - HiMEC

Rochester, MN
by Kelly Johnson, Administrative Assistant

For the fifth year in a row, HiMEC has participated in the annual shutdown to upgrade and improve the existing conveyor systems at Kemps Ice Cream Plant in Rochester, Minnesota. This year's shutdown consisted of removing existing conveyor systems and installing new spiral conveyors.

In the last five years, HiMEC's design and fabrication team have made a number of improvements to both equipment and operations at this plant, improving both efficiency and production capacities.

A close relationship with our customer has allowed us open communication with the production, sanitation and maintenance staff,

eleven acres under one roof! The office space will occupy roughly 20,000 square feet with approximately 75,000 square feet dedicated to cooler/freezer space. Due to the size of the project there will be a total of 144 dock doors!

HiMEC is installing the Plumbing, Piping and Sheet Metal work for this project including 4,500 lineal feet of Co-Ray-Vac radiant heaters. HiMEC is utilizing electric golf carts for indoor use to move material and manpower. The mechanical work for the project is valued at \$2.8 million.

The general contractor, Bovis Lend Lease, is located in Charlotte, NC. A big thank you goes out to Project Manager - Brian Lisovskis, Project Superintendent - Paul Salsman and Sheet Metal Foreman - Darin Breza.

allowing the team to develop the best possible equipment for this process.

It has been rewarding to work with the team at the Kemps Ice Cream Plant. We appreciate their valuable information and input.

A heartfelt thank you to the entire specialty shop for all the work you've done over the last five years.

HiMEC is installing the Plumbing, Piping and Sheet Metal for the 475,000 sq ft. ALDI Project.



HiMEC installed spirals and conveyor systems in the Kemps Packaging Room.



LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS

HARRIS MECHANICAL

Harris Mechanical has been chosen to be the prime process contractor for the **Otter Tail Ag Project**. Ground was broken on October 27, 2006 for this 55 million gallon ethanol plant in Fergus Falls, MN. The Principal-In-Charge is Rob Latta and the Co-Project Managers are Rich Greenland and Mark Slagle. ● Harris Mechanical is providing the HVAC, plumbing, piping, fire protection and temperature controls for the **U of M Plant Growth BL-3 Containment Facility**. This is a new building located on the St. Paul Campus that will contain two greenhouses, labs, a growth room and various other spaces. The general contractor is Knutson and the project is scheduled for a Fall 2007 completion. Howard Jokinen is the Project Manager, Bob Banik is the Plumbing General Foreman, Ed Saros is the Pipefitter General Foreman and Rob Waldo is the Sheet Metal General Foreman.

HARRIS SPECIAL PROJECTS

Special Projects will be providing the mechanical piping and equipment for the **Thompson West Data Center Expansion Project** in Eagan, MN. This project involves the installation of computer room cooling units, drycoolers, air handling equipment and piping. Harris is working as a mechanical subcontractor for Opus Northwest on the project. Mike McCauley is the Project Manager, Dan Regan is the Pipefitter General Foreman and Ken Schulke is the Sheet Metal Foreman. ● Special Projects is working with Dew Corporation on the **Willingers Renovation Project** in Northfield, MN. This design/build project involves plumbing and HVAC upgrades to the clubhouse, pro shop and banquet facilities. Mike Biebl is the Harris Project Manager, Dave Moyer is the Plumbing Foreman and Kevin Jones is the Sheet Metal Foreman. ● Special Projects will be providing design/plumbing and HVAC for the new **Thomasville Furniture Store** in Woodbury, MN. This project involves building shell and tenant finish for a stand-alone building in the Woodbury Lakes retail development. Engelsma Construction is the General Contractor. Mike McCauley is the Project Manager, Rob Waldo is the Sheet Metal General Foreman, Tom Schweitzer is the Plumbing Foreman and Trent Brod is the Pipefitter Foreman. ● Special Projects is upgrading the hot water boiler system at the **JLT/Comcast Building** in St. Paul, MN. This project involves installation of three (3) high efficiency boilers. The new boilers will provide significant cost reductions in the form of utility rebates and lower energy costs, which collectively helped justify the project. Harris is working directly for the building owner, JLT Group. Chuck Schmaltz is the Project Manager and Dan Regan is the Pipefitter General Foreman.

HARRIS CONTROLS

Controls is providing the Temperature Controls System for MAC at the new **Humphrey Airport** parking ramp in Minneapolis, MN. Sam Newman is the Project Manager. ● Controls is also installing new gas detection systems in multiple buildings on the **MAC Campus** in Minneapolis, MN. Sam Newman is the Project Manager. ● Controls is renovating the controls system at the **Sheraton Hotel** in Bloomington, MN. Glen Dahn is the Project Manager.

HARRIS SERVICE

Service has signed maintenance agreements with the **Hmong American Center** in St. Paul, MN, **Camp Parks** in Dublin, CA, **Fort Devens** in Ayer, MA, **Cobalt Condominiums** in Minneapolis, MN, **Reflections** in Bloomington, MN, **Court West** in St. Paul, MN, **Memorial Blood Centers** in St. Paul, MN and **Hudson Hospital** in Hudson, WI. ● Service has signed Bundled Energy Solutions for the **Columbia Heights Business Center** in Columbia Heights, MN, **Village Green** in St. Louis Park, MN and **Court West** in St. Paul, MN.



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Check out our websites at www.hmcc.com and www.himec.com!

HARRIS/HIMEC HAPPENINGS...

- Congratulations to **Marc Frank** (Harris Project Manager) and **Allison Plathe** who were married at Harriet Island in St. Paul, MN on October 7, 2006!
- **Doug Stewart** (son of **Randy Stewart**, Harris Senior Vice President) and **Colleen Mackley** were married on October 7, 2006 at St. Mary's Church in White Bear Lake, MN. Congratulations to the Stewart Family!
- Congratulations to **Marcus** (HiMEC Sheet Metal Journeyman) and **Caroline Vitse** who were married on October 21, 2006 in Queensbury, NY!
- **Jerome** (HiMEC Service Technician) and **Tina Halfman** are proud parents of a baby boy. Rylin Mikah arrived on October 9, 2006, weighing 6 lbs 11 ounces and measuring 19 3/4 inches. Tina is the daughter of **Joe** (HiMEC Service Department Manager) and **Michelle Beckel**. Congratulations to the Halfman and Beckel Family!
- Congratulations to **Josh** (HiMEC Pipefitter/Plumber) and **Bobbi Jo Neuman** on the birth of their daughter, Elizebeth Brienne. Elizebeth was born on November 16, 2006, weighing 4 lbs 13 ounces. She was welcomed home by her very excited sister, Madeline Kaylyn.
- **Chuck Leach** (Harris Purchasing Manager) welcomed his fourth grandchild on December 9, 2006. Elias Brian was born to Dr. Jeffrey and Jasmine Leach, weighing 9 lbs 4 ounces. Congratulations to the Leach Family!
- **Mark** (HiMEC Sheet Metal Journeyman) and **Julie McCoy** adopted 2 yr. old Emma Mikie on December 21, 2006. Congratulations to the McCoy Family!
- Congratulations to **Steve Lutz** (Harris Director of Engineering), who completed his Masters of Science in Project Management from St. Mary's University on December 15, 2006. Steve was also promoted to Director of Engineering in November. Way to go Steve!
- **Jessica Matelsky** was promoted to Accountant in December. Jessica will be working with Barb Bloom on all aspects of financial reporting for Harris Companies. **Destry Reopelle** has been promoted to Engineer for the Controls Department, **Nick Cierzan** has joined Controls as a Controls Tech and **Scott Killian** has moved to Estimating. Congratulations to all on their new positions within Harris!
- Congratulations to **Michelle Kuss** (Harris Service) on reaching Linc Gold Level Sales status. Michelle will be recognized at the Linc Continuing Education Conference in Atlanta, GA in January.
- We would like to welcome these new employees: **Mike Piper** - Maintenance Sales Representative (Harris Service), **Adam Haus** - Pipe Fabrication Drafter (Harris), **Eric Thompson** - Pipe Fabrication Drafter (Harris), **Melissa Sack** - Cad Operator (Harris), **Mike Nordin** - Warehouse/Tool Coordinator (Harris), **Marc Frank** - Project Manager (Harris Special Projects), **Don Ahlschlager** - Project Engineer (Harris).
- The Adopt-A-Family program provides gifts and hope to clients of Olmsted County that are not assisted by other community programs such as the Salvation Army or Christmas Anonymous. Last year the Rochester Community purchased gifts for 535 families, which included over 1,200 individuals. These "families" may include single parent families, refugees, individuals residing in group-homes, families in transition and single individuals. HiMEC is a proud supporter of this program and has been involved since 1989. During those seventeen years our employees have generously contributed close to \$35,000. Thank you for your continued dedication to this worthy program!
- HiMEC enthusiastically participated in this years Salvation Army's Bell-Ringing Program on December 11, 2006. We occupied the space outside of the Barlow Plaza Hy-Vee. Wearing santa hats, employees worked in twosomes and helped raise money for the cause. Thanks to everyone for their participation!

Please contact **Tricia Mathews** with announcements: (Phone) 651-602-6621, (E-mail) tmathews@hmcc.com.