

Winter 2011



PIPELINE

It's What's Inside That Counts



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA SCIENCE TEACHING AND STUDENT SERVICES

The University of Minnesota Science Teaching and Student Services building (STSS) rises five stories tall and offers a wide view of downtown Minneapolis and the West Bank over the Mississippi River. The 100,000 square-foot building features state-of-the-art interactive learning classrooms, numerous student services offices including One Stop Student Services, veterans services and career services. Construction of the STSS building lasted 18 months and was preceded by demolition of the existing Science Classroom building.

STSS is connected to central heating and cooling infrastructure provided by the University of Minnesota. The building is heated by utilizing high pressure steam provided by the deep steam tunnel system. Chilled water is supplied to the building by a central campus chilled water system. The building's Direct Digital Temperature Control System is connected to the University BSAC system for remote monitoring and alarming.

LEED Gold and B3 certification was an integral part of the building's design and construction. Energy saving strategies such as under floor air distribution, heat recovery on outside air and low water consumption plumbing fixtures were used to help achieve the LEED goals. The building used an enhanced commissioning process to ensure that systems operate as they were designed and intended.

To take advantage of the view of the river, the entire west exposure of the building is a glass curtain wall and the floor plate is open to all five floors. Hot water fin tube radiation was installed in a combination of manufactured and MMC custom fabricated enclosures which provides heat to all five levels of the west exposure.

One very unique feature of the building is the connection to the sanitary sewer. During construction, MMC discovered that the existing 6-inch sanitary sewer that served the building was corroded and failing. The original sanitary sewer was installed in a drop shaft and was routed 60 feet vertical before turning horizontal adjacent to the deep steam tunnel. MMC worked with the project team and arrived at a solution to install a new schedule that included 40 welded stainless steel pipes inside the existing vertical line. MMC fabricated custom stainless steel sanitary fittings at the base of the drop prior to connecting to the existing horizontal line.

On August 24th, 2010, STSS celebrated its Grand Opening. Today, you can find the STSS building filled with many students as they pursue their careers.




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MMC FUN FACTS

 Please join us in welcoming the following new hires to MMC:

Assistant Project Managers:

*Mike Murphy
Brent Thompson
Stephanie Olson
Nate Stevenson
Christopher Szczeck*

Service Project Manager:

Jon Richards


Project Engineer:


Justin DeMars

Sheet Metal CAD-BIM

Coordinator:

Nick Fabio

 Congratulations to Scott Forde on his promotion to Chief Estimator.

 Follow us on Twitter and Facebook!

 Thanks to everyone for making our 2011 Open House a huge success! Check out photos on Facebook.



PROJECT PRIDE

MMC assists with removal of 44,000 cubic yards of snow for Vikings to play at TCF Stadium

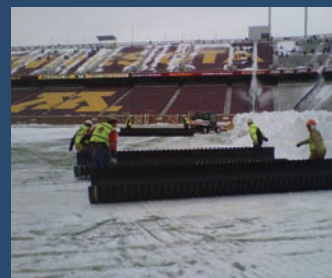
It all started on an ordinary Wednesday morning. MMC was contacted at 10:15 am with a rather unique and seemingly impossible request. We were asked to provide 800 feet of 36" pipe to be used as snow chutes in effort to clear snow from TCF Stadium. Snow needed to be removed from the field and grandstands in time for the Monday Night Vikings Football Game on December 20th. The request took us a little by surprise (not only are 36" pipes a very uncommon pipe size, but we were asked to have these chutes ready for pickup by 5 am the next morning). Knowing we had the talent and resources to "tackle" this job, we accepted and immediately got to work on locating the piping supply.

Five local pipe suppliers were contacted in search of any plastic materials that would fit the bill. Within two hours, we had located a potential material type available from a couple of distribution centers in Fairmont and Hibbing (thanks to Valley Rich and HD Waterworks). Shortly after locating the supply, we had mobilized four different trucking arrangements of piping to our fabrication shop for processing.

The first load was received by approximately 6:00 pm and immediately, seven MMC employees including Zach Duwenhoeffer, Larry Steuve, Steve Walter, Joe Ramerth, Rich Svidron, Sam Husnik, and Chad Nelson went to work on creating the chutes. Each pipe needed to be cut in half, rope handles needed to be attached to each chute and joining brackets needed to be fabricated. The extraordinary efforts of these guys paid off and within 2 hours the first batch of chutes was loaded onto a truck to be delivered to the site at 5 am the next morning as requested.

The group continued to work until midnight to have the rest of the chutes ready to be picked up by 6 am the next morning. Two more MMC employees (Nick Shroeder and Brian Byykonnen) were added to the production crew the next morning to make the 6 am cutoff possible.

MMC Construction Executive Chad Nelson orchestrated the project efforts in order to meet the demands of the request but states the project could not have been a success without the extraordinary efforts of the whole team. He had this to say about the endeavor, "This experience was a tremendous display of MMC's 'can do' attitude. Our legacy of responsiveness puts us in a position to be called upon for some pretty unique solutions to some pretty intense situations. I was extremely impressed by all of the individuals involved, who not only demonstrated creative technical talent, but also immediately made the necessary professional and personal schedule adjustments to make this happen. It makes me think of a quote that Henrik Impola used down at Target Field. I believe it was from Winston Churchill. It goes something like this, 'It's not enough that we do our best; sometimes you must do what's required.' Last week MMC eagerly and competently did what was required to help our customer."



HEAR IT FROM OUR CUSTOMERS

"In the customer services line of business which we both work in, the challenges can be quite extreme and the personalities, very challenging. Your employees are diverse and are centered on integrity and compliance second to none. Humility, respect and fulfillment are other successful traits your business brings to the table which are obvious in everything your group from MMC does here. We are very fortunate to have people of your caliber working here for us. You should know that your efforts do show and your dedication does show. We see it in everything you do here."

Rolf Peterson, Fire Chief at Flint Hills Resources

MARK'S MESSAGE

Cost is important—especially in today's world.

However, in this industry price is much more than the initial quote or bid:



Project initial first cost

- + Change orders during construction
- + Owner's implementation cost
- + Owner's maintenance cost
- + Owner's training cost
- + Project schedule delivery timeframe cost
- + Improper original budget cost
- + Time spent negotiating change orders
- + Owner's time spent solving contractor problems cost
- = **Total cost to owner**

The total best value is not always the lowest first cost. Here at MMC, we believe in providing the "total best value" for our customers.

The following is an example of MMC providing its customers with the total best value.

A customer requested a quote to replace their steam boiler. MMC reviewed the existing equipment and gave the owner two options. The first was a quote for another steam boiler. The other was a quote for a hot water boiler. With the proposals, MMC provided operating and maintenance cost information for both options. After review, the owner opted for the hot water boiler. Even though the initial cost was higher, the maintenance costs were significantly lower for the hot water boiler. MMC provided all the information so the owner could make an informed decision which lowered their total cost.

MMC is and always will be the best total value mechanical contractor.

SAFETY FIRST

Ladders are a common tool used on almost every jobsite. When used properly, they can be very useful and help accomplish a task safely. If used improperly they can lead to unsafe working conditions or even serious injuries. Unfortunately, the misuse and abuse of ladders is one of the leading causes of accidents and falls at the work place. We should look at a ladder just like any other tool on the jobsite and take the proper precautions when using them. Here are just a few things we should take into account when pretasking the use of ladders on the jobsite:

- Determine whether a ladder is the proper tool for the task.
 - Could the task be done safer with a scaffold or lift?
- Make sure we have selected the proper ladder for the task.
 - Do we need an extension or step ladder?
 - Are there any weight limits to be concerned about?
- Has the ladder been inspected lately?
 - Are there any damaged rungs or rails?
 - Are the anti-slip feet missing or damaged?
- Is the ladder set up properly?
 - Step ladder fully opened.
 - Extension ladder at proper angle 4 : 1.
 - If using for access, does it extend at least 3 feet above the access point?
 - Is the base of ladder on firm level surface?
 - Is the top of extension ladder secured?
- Are the workers properly trained on ladder safety?
 - Proper ladder selection.
 - How to inspect ladders.
 - Proper ladder set-up.
 - Proper use (3 point contact, don't carry materials while climbing, don't over reach stay within the ladder rail, etc.).

If we just follow these few rules of ladder safety it can go a long way in helping prevent ladder accidents at the work place. The next time you are at the jobsite look around at the ladder usage. If you see ladder hazard let someone know. We all can do our part in changing the safety culture at the workplace.

COMMUNITY MATTERS

For over ten years, MMC has had the tradition of participating in the Toys for Tots Program. In early November, we place a donation box in the front lobby for office employees to make a toy donation. We also hold a raffle during our field employee holiday party where proceeds go towards purchasing toys. It has always been a huge success here at MMC and this year was no exception. We were able to donate over \$1,400 worth of toys! We felt good seeing the expressions on the volunteers' faces when bringing in all of the bags of toys.

Thanks to all who participated this year and we look forward to continuing our tradition for years to follow.



MMC PROJECT RUNWAY

CONSTRUCTION

The Construction team continues to grow as this winter brings in many new projects such as UnitedHealth Group Data Centers, OSI and Gundersen Lutheran Hospital. Over the last several months, MMC has hired seven new assistant project managers (APMs). MMC is committed to train and develop future project managers from within our organization. In late January, we will be starting our “APM Academy” continuing education program to provide industry specific training for all APMs.

SERVICE

The MMC Service Department has been on-site at the Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend Refinery since February of 2003 providing HVAC, plumbing, facilities maintenance and construction services. Currently there are 11 full-time field personnel with additional manpower brought in for projects as needed. Crafts represented are pipefitters, plumbers, sheet metal workers, carpenters and laborers. Our pipefitter service technicians perform service and maintenance on over 800 pieces of HVAC equipment. Plumbing services include annual RPZ and safety shower testing. Our carpenters perform office build-outs and other facilities maintenance services. The Pine Bend Refinery in Rosemount is a producer of transportation fuels and asphalt and has a crude oil processing capacity of about 350,000 barrels per day.

BIM

The MMC BIM team has been feverishly “modeling” through the winter on many projects which include UnitedHealth Group Data Center(s)—one on the north metro and one in the south metro, UnitedHealth Group Data Park East, St. Cloud Hospital, Gustavus Adolphus Academic Building, Wells Fargo Data Center Addition, Mall of America Hotel, Minneapolis Public Office Building, University of Minnesota Folwell Hall, OSI and soon to start Gundersen Lutheran Hospital in Lacrosse, Wisconsin. We also recently welcomed Nick Fabio to the BIM team and we’re all looking forward to great year.

GO GREEN

Creating and sustaining a green building is becoming more important than ever. Continuing to use energy efficiently is a large part of sustaining a green building. It takes a conscious effort by both building operators and occupants to reduce energy consumption. The ability for these groups of people to conveniently monitor how much energy a building is consuming promotes energy awareness which provides a set of metrics to better understand how and when this energy is being consumed. An energy dashboard is a great way to keep all building occupants aware of energy consumption.

An energy dashboard may be a touch screen monitor in the lobby of the building used to display energy; real-time values, graphs, trend data and other building information. Watching this data over time will allow for experimentation with temperature setpoints, time schedules and other building operations to fine tune the way a building is operated. The goal of these practices is to create a more energy efficient building and often results in a more comfortable, user-friendly building.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Brad Landsman
Sheet Metal Shop Foreman

Brad has been with MMC since July of 1984. Brad manages the sheet metal trade in the fabrication shop.

Where did you grow up?

South Minneapolis and Mound

What is your favorite TV show?

Deadliest Catch

What is the one single food that you would never give up? Chicken

What is your worst pet peeve?

Poorly designed roadways

Where is your favorite place to eat lunch?

Kentucky Fried Chicken

What is the best advice you ever received?

My high school metal shop teacher suggested I look at sheet metal trades.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I am a TV junkie and I enjoy reading.

Do you have any advice for our customers?

The bitterness of poor quality remains long after the sweetness of a low price.

What are you most afraid of?

Heights

What is your favorite movie?

Wizard of Oz

What is your most missed memory?

Carefree summer days in the late 60s.

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