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### SPONSORS

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### CHAPTER OFFICERS

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## Mount Carmel Municipal Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant SBR Tank#1 Repair



## 2014 ICRI Baltimore Washington Chapter Outstanding Repair Project Winner

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## THE AGGREGATE INSIDE

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Mount Carmel Municipal Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant SBR Tank#1 Repair

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# ICRI MISSION STATEMENT

*The mission of the International Concrete Repair Institute is to be a leading resource for education and information to improve the quality of repair, restoration, and protection of concrete and other structures in accordance with consensus criteria.*

*ICRI is an organization composed of Engineers, Consultants, Contractors, Manufacturers and other Material Suppliers, Property Managers and Owners all working together for the betterment of the industry and of all involved. Providing an open forum to speak about our work, new technologies and methods, exchange ideas. Creating and following standards to produce the best results for all involved.*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear ICRI-BW Chapter Members,

After many years of involvement in ICRI in various capacities, it is my turn to step up to the plate and help serve the Chapter as Board President. I look forward to this year and the opportunity to maintain some of the traditional functions and goals that we strive toward annually but also hope to add some "wrinkles" that have either

not been previously attempted or have inadvertently gone to the wayside over the years.

Many thanks to the Board Members who have completed their terms and have expended their valuable time and effort to maintain the Baltimore-Washington Chapter's traditional role as a national forerunner. Some of these members continue to assist the board by sharing their experience and resources and keeping us pointed in the right direction. Members who are moving on include Past-President Mike Prizzi, Past Past-President Oscar Valenzuela, Cindy Garman and Sean Fisher. Their contributions were essential in meeting the Chapter's annual goals of promoting the repair industry and providing a source of education and training. Additionally, they helped insure the financial stability of the Chapter that allowed the opportunity for scholarships to be offered and instructional seminar and outings to be available for both the Membership and interested Visitors.

A hearty welcome to our new elected Board Members that include the "oldie but goodie" Neil Savitch, Justin Long and Charles Brienza, each of whom have already *willingly* volunteered to take on committee responsibilities to help continue the Chapter's success. The list of committees and respective chairs are as follows:

Finance  
Membership  
Facilities  
Programs  
Newsletter/Communication  
Nominating  
Education/Scholarship  
National  
Industry/Community Outreach  
Sponsorship  
Chapter History  
Awards  
Golf  
Technical Publications

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Chuck Brienza  
Kevin Kline  
Tom Ouska  
Neil Savitch  
Mike Prizzi  
Bob Radcliff  
Mike Prizzi  
Shannon Bentz  
Larry Burkhardt  
Shannon Bentz  
Justin Long  
Chuck Brienza  
Andrew Carr

The coming year presents challenges that will need to be addressed both locally and nationally. Having attended the most recent regional Roundtable, a common thread seems to be declining membership. Financially, our Chapter and the Organization are sound, thanks to continued sponsorship from Member Companies and successful events. However, the actual number of members is steadily declining. We hope to reverse this trend by reducing fees and costs for Members at local events and, with the help of National, making resources available at reduced costs and thereby making membership more attractive. Your participation in this endeavor will make a real difference.

This year the Board has pledged to have at least one social event. We are looking at ways to make this more affordable and enjoyable for anyone who wants to attend. Feel free to make suggestions. We have ideas that are being bantered about but, rest assured, THIS WILL HAPPEN.

Our first meeting this year is scheduled for February 12, 2015 and will be a joint dinner meeting with ACI at Maggiano's Little Italy in Tysons Corner. The scheduled speakers are Mark Tamaro, P.E., LEED AP, Senior Principal at Thornton Tomasetti and Chris Crilly, P.E., LEED AP BD+C, Associate at Thornton Tomasetti. The presentation will highlight some of the design challenges and provide insight on the top-down construction method used for the recently opened Marriott Marquis Hotel, Washington, DC. I hope to see many of you there.

Please check out the web site ([www.icribwchapter.org](http://www.icribwchapter.org)) on a regular basis for new postings and information. We will be more active this year on the web site to provide updates and resources and not so active in mass e-mail blast frequency (we have heard your voices). If you spend some time on the site, I believe you will discover that there is a lot more offered there than you realize. The National website likewise is packed with resources and I think that you will be pleasantly surprised with the new offerings for this year. You have to read it to know what's in it.

As always, please feel free to contact myself or any of the Board members with comments and suggestions. With your help, we can make this year a success and a benefit for everyone!

**Brian T. McCabe**

2015 ICRI-BW Chapter President  
Concrete Protection & Restoration, Inc.



# THE BALTIMORE/WASHINGTON, DC CHAPTER OF ICRI

**February 12, 2015**

## **Maggiano's Little Italy**

2001 International Drive

McLean, VA 22102

**703-356-9000**

Tysons Galleria



## **ICRI - ACI JOINT DINNER MEETING**



American Concrete Institute  
*Always advancing*

Advance Reservations by 02-05-15:	\$50
After 02-5-15 & Non Members:	\$60
4:00	Board Meeting
5:30	Social Hour
6:30	Dinner & Presentation

### ***"TOP-DOWN CONSTRUCTION AND ASSOCIATED DESIGN CHALLENGES"***

#### Our Featured Speakers

**Mark Tamaro and Chris Crilly**  
Thornton Tomasetti

**Mark Tamaro, P.E. LEED AP** is a Senior Principal of Thornton Tomasetti in the Washington, DC office, and has more than 20 years of experience in the design of new structures and the investigation and renovation of existing buildings. His experience includes federal design-build projects, many of which involved implementation of antiterrorism / force protection measures. Mr. Tamaro manages Thornton Tomasetti's Washington, DC, office.

**Chris Crilly, P.E., LEED AP BD+C** is an Associate of Thornton Tomasetti in the Washington, DC office, and is responsible for structural analysis and design, oversight of engineering and Building Information Modeling (BIM) staff efforts, coordination with architects and design team members, production of structural drawings, and construction administration.

#### Our Featured Presentation

**The recently-opened Marriott Marquis Hotel** is a 1.25 million square foot building on a relatively small (100,000 square foot) site. The hotel provides accommodations for the Washington Convention Center located across the street, to which it is connected by an underground walkway. With 1,175 rooms and 49 suites, it is currently the largest hotel in the city.

**Because of the District's limits on building heights**, the hotel featured seven below-grade levels extending to a depth of nearly 100 feet to accommodate meetings, events, parking, and other functions. The use of top-down construction helped expedite the project, which at 94 feet below ground is nearly as deep as it is tall. The extreme depth, together with severe space limitations and the need for large, column-free ballrooms below a 15-story hotel tower, compelled the structural engineering team to devise novel solutions to a number of design challenges.

**The presentation will highlight** some of the design challenges and provide insight on the top-down construction method used for the structure below ground.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS February 05, 2015 NO-SHOWS WILL BE BILLED**

Please email ([sbentz@desman.com](mailto:sbentz@desman.com)) or print this page and fax to **Shannon Bentz**, Secretary, at 703-893-4067 no later than February 05, 2015. Checks to ICRI BWC may be turned in at the meeting or mailed with your form to:

Shannon Bentz, Secretary  
ICRI BW Chapter  
c/o Desman Associates  
8000 Westpark Drive., Suite 610  
McLean, VA 22102

**You may also register and  
pay online at**

**[www.ICRIBWChapter.org](http://www.ICRIBWChapter.org)**

Name:	_____
Company:	_____
Telephone:	_____
Email:	_____
Number of Attendees:	_____ Payment: <input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> Online (Please include receipt)
Attendee Names:	_____
Attendee's Company:	_____



# OUTSTANDING REPAIR PROJECT WINNER

continued from page 1

## 2014 ICRI Baltimore Washington Chapter Outstanding Repair Project Award

### Part I

**Project Name:** Mount Carmel Municipal Authority  
Wastewater Treatment Plant  
SBR Tank#1 Repair

**Repair Contractor:** Concrete Protection and Restoration, Inc.  
2811 Lord Baltimore Drive  
Baltimore, MD 21244

**Owner:** Mount Carmel Municipal Authority  
137 West Fourth Street  
Mount Carmel, PA 17851

**Architect/Engineer:** Thornton Tomasetti, Inc  
1700 Market Street  
Suite 1750  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

**Material Supplier:** Central Building Supply Company- Concrete  
125 Bridge Avenue  
Sunbury, PA 17801

Dywidag Systems International- PT Hardware  
P.O. Box 92170  
Elk Grove, IL 60009

## 2014 ICRI Baltimore Washington Chapter Outstanding Repair Project Award

### Part II

1. Project Name: Mount Carmel Municipal Authority  
Wastewater Treatment Plant  
SBR Tank#1 Repair
2. Location: Mount Carmel, PA
3. Contract Amount: \$1,001,450.00
4. Project Duration: 8 months - May 2013 through January 2014

continued on page 5

### UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

- Feb 12, 2015 **ICRI-BWC—NCCACI Joint Meeting**  
*Top-Down Construction and Associated Design Challenges*  
Maggiano's Little Italy  
McLean, VA
- May 7, 2015 **ICRI-BWC 2nd Quarter Meeting**  
Location: TBA
- Sept 10, 2015 **ICRI-BWC 3rd Quarter Meeting**  
Location: TBA
- Oct 1, 2015 **ICRI-BWC Golf Tournament**  
Location: TBA
- Nov 5, 2015 **ICRI-BWC Awards Meeting**  
Location: TBA

### UPCOMING NATIONAL EVENTS

- Mar 25-27, 2015 **ICRI 2015 SPRING CONVENTION**  
*"High Rise Repairs"*  
Millennium Broadway Hotel  
New York, NY
- Oct 14-16, 2015 **ICRI 2015 FALL CONVENTION**  
Hilton Ft. Worth  
Ft. Worth, TX



# OUTSTANDING REPAIR PROJECT WINNER

continued from page 4

## **Abstract**

The Mount Carmel (Pa.) Municipal Authority (MCMA) Wastewater Treatment Plant serves Mount Carmel Borough, parts of Mount Carmel Township, and Cunningham Township in Columbia County. The plant was built in 1975 and consisted of a secondary contact stabilization designed for 1.5 mgd average daily flow and organic capacity of 2,500 pounds per day.

Based on state Department of Environmental Protection requirements, critical plant upgrades were required to replace the aging plant infrastructure. Work included mechanical upgrades along with the construction of the new SBR tanks. The total project utilizing \$18M in stimulus funds set aside specifically for project of this nature to fight unemployment and boost the stifling local economy. The stimulus funds were allocated to ensure that not only jobs be created immediately, but money would be used to create facilities that will serve Pennsylvania for decades to come.

In August 2010 the newly tooled wastewater treatment plant was put back on line. Successfully, the new treatment system provided the desired operational flexibility in terms of peak flows, effluent quality and nutrient capability at the Mount Carmel Wastewater Treatment Plant. However, in September 2011 the devastation of Hurricane Sandy took its toll on the newly refurbished plant. In addition to sewage overflows, flood waters from Sandy severely damaged the treatment plant SBR #1 tank.

Immediately upon discovery an extensive shoring system was designed and installed to stabilize the structure while the adjacent tanks, SBR #2 and SBR #3, stayed in operation. Repair sequencing was systematically designed to stabilize the structure while allowing the adjacent tanks to stay in full operation. Work was performed in a precise step by step process so as not to jeopardize the structural integrity of the post-tension foundation slab and walkway bridges.

This project was a perfect example of the importance of a Repair Contractor, Engineer, and Owner working together to provide a durable, economical, and quality repair. Through communication, innovation and strategic planning the project was a success from the beginning to the end. It was the commitment of the Contracting, Manufacturing, and Engineering team to furnish the Owner with accurate solutions to complex restoration problems by providing the highest technical support offered by a repair team. Dynamic design details and innovation demanded that the Engineer and Contractor deliver to the Owner a level of service and technical assistance that far exceeds industry standards.

## **Background**

The Mount Carmel (Pa.) Municipal Authority (MCMA) Wastewater Treatment Plant serves Mount Carmel Borough, parts of Mount Carmel Township, and Cunningham Township in Columbia County. The plant was built in 1975 and consisted of a secondary contact stabilization designed for 1.5 mgd average daily flow and organic capacity of 2,500 pounds per day.

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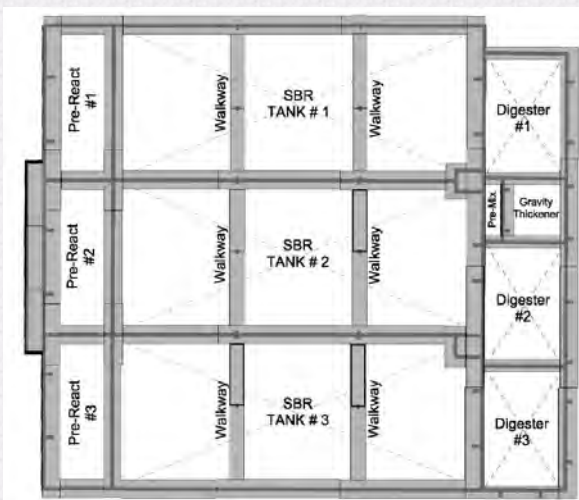
# OUTSTANDING REPAIR PROJECT WINNER

continued from page 5

Based on state Department of Environmental Protection requirements, the authority prepared a Special Study Act 537 Plan MCMA in cooperation with Mount Carmel Borough and Mount Carmel Township to address the ongoing issues and future planning, including:

- An aging plant infrastructure
- Hydraulic overloads
- Correction of the poor conditions
- Compliance with U.S. EPA and DEP CSO policies
- NPDES permit requirements
- Compliance with the Chesapeake Bay Strategy for nutrient removal
- Future growth in the service areas and surrounding community

The Act 537 Plan proposed upgrades at the aging treatment plant including the construction of an Intermittent Cycle Extended Aeration System (ICEAS) Sequencing Batch Reactor

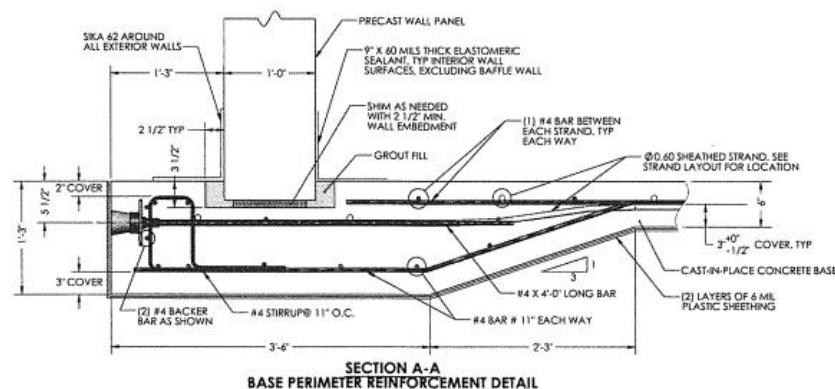


(SBR) tertiary treatment system to replace the existing contact stabilization process. This proposal called for construction of new SBR tanks to replace the existing deteriorated tanks.

Critical plant upgrades and construction of the new SBR tanks were performed utilizing \$18M in stimulus funds to fight unemployment and boost the stifling local economy. The stimulus funds were allocated not only to ensure that jobs would be created immediately, but also that money would be used to create facilities that will serve Pennsylvania for decades after the economic downturn is all but a memory.

The construction of the new SBR tanks consisted of the installation of a post-tensioned cast in place mat foundation slab with 21 foot high precast perimeter and separation walls. Precast walkways span the 3 separate SBR tanks. The combined footprint of the units measure 177' x 155' with the floor elevation of the SBR tanks positioned at 1024.94.

Upon completion of the upgrades and tank construction in August 2010 the startup and transition to the new ICEAS SBR system was carried out in 24 hours with no interruption of flow and with immediate effluent permit compliance. Since one reason for selection of the ICEAS SBR technology for the new treatment system was to handle higher daily peak flows due to the diversion of flows from combined sewer overflows to the wastewater treatment system,



continued on page 7



# OUTSTANDING REPAIR PROJECT WINNER

continued from page 6

peak daily flows were monitored along with the average daily flows. Successfully, the new ICEAS treatment system provided the desired operational flexibility in terms of peak flows, effluent quality and nutrient capability at the Mount Carmel Wastewater Treatment Plant.

In September, 2011 the devastation of Hurricane Sandy took its toll on the newly constructed SBR tanks. In addition to sewage overflows, flood waters from Sandy severely damaged the treatment plant. The treatment plant is bordered by the Shamokin Creek on the southeast side with the creek's floodplain positioned beneath the largest portion of the site. Furthermore, published geologic information maps indicate that the bedrock underlying the site is comprised of coal beds. Several of the coal beds are minable and together they make up the Western Anthracite Field. For years these coal beds have been extensively mined by deep methods throughout the Mount Carmel area.

Flood waters from Sandy's torrential downpours overflowed Shamokin Creek into the floodplain forcing the flood waters into an undetected abandoned deep mine located in close proximity to SBR Tank #1. The hydrostatic pressure exerted by the flooding mine forced the mat foundation of SBR Tank #1 to buckle resulting in a chain reaction when the forces were released by the post-tension system embedded in the slab. Overall resulting damage included slab buckling, foundation movements, foundation wall displacement, walkway displacement, and column structural damage.



## Repair Sequencing



Immediately upon discovery of the structural failure an extensive shoring system was designed and installed to stabilize the structure while the adjacent tanks, SBR #2 and SBR #3, stayed in operation. Temporary shoring consisted of the installation of a grid of wide flange beams to laterally brace the structure and prevent any further movement.

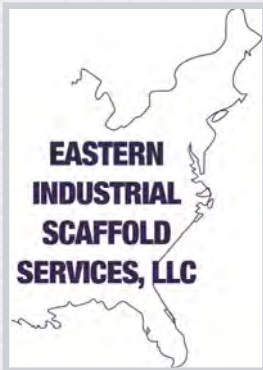


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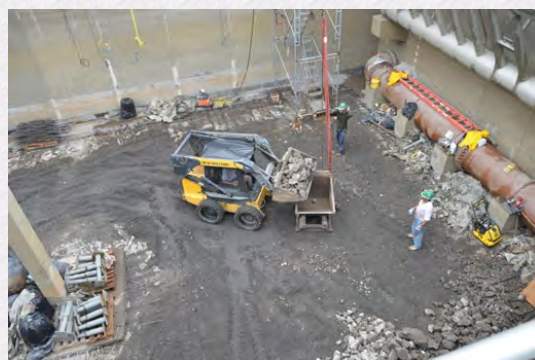
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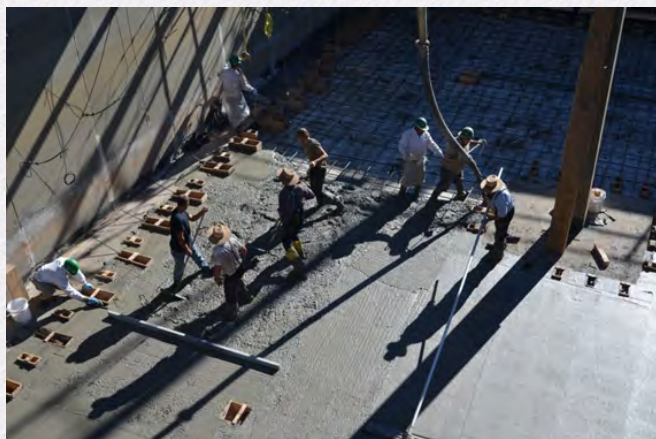
# OUTSTANDING REPAIR PROJECT WINNER

continued from page 7

12. Place, finish, and cure new foundation slab. Install block outs in the new slab so tendons can be stressed utilizing intermediate stressing anchors.
13. Once cured, re-stress foundation slab.
14. Patch block outs at stressing points.
15. Install shoring below SBR #1 tank walkways/bridges.
16. Locate post-tension tendons in the walkways using GPR and lock-off tendons to preserve stress in walkways over SBR #2 and #3 tanks.
17. Repair damage to walkways and support structures per ICRI guidelines.
18. Re-stress walkways once repair materials achieve the desired strength.
19. Backfill the north wall to original grade.
20. Install new diffuser supports.
21. Install protective coating/lining on foundation slab. Coating was extended 2 feet up all walls of the SBR #1 tank.
22. Install new diffusers.
23. Install pressure relief valves in SBR#1.
24. Empty contents of SBR #2 into SBR #1 and install pressure relief valves in SBR #2.
25. Empty contents of SBR #3 into SBR #2 and install pressure relief valves in SBR #3.



## Repair Challenges



The tank structure consisted of 3 SBR tanks, 3 Pre-react tanks, 3 digester tanks and a gravity thickener tank. The tank was constructed with pre-cast concrete wall panels and bridge sections installed on a cast-in-place and post tensioned foundation slab/footing. The pre-cast sections were set in place into receiving keyways and temporary bracing was installed. The precast sections have 1" conduit through each panel and 0.60 post tensioning strands are threaded through the wall and bridge components. Partial

tension is applied to the tendons, followed by grouting of the joints and full tensioning of the tendons. When performing repairs to this type of structure the stress on the tendons has to be maintained or temporary restraint measures have to be provided. The contractor elected to perform repairs to the damaged bridge structure continued on page 10

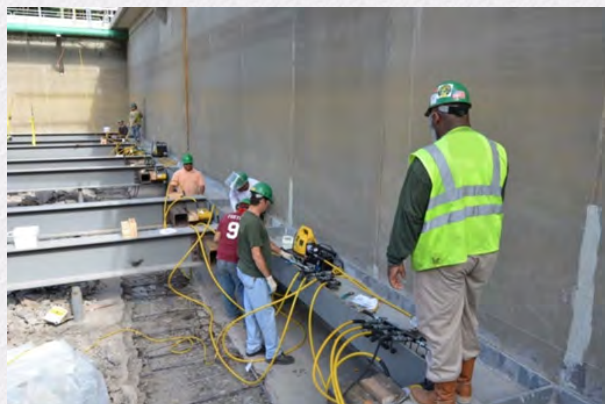


# OUTSTANDING REPAIR PROJECT WINNER

continued from page 9

Repair sequencing was systematically designed to stabilize the structure while allowing the adjacent tanks to stay in full operation. Work was performed in a precise step by step process so as not to jeopardize the structural integrity of the post-tension foundation slab and walkway bridges. Repairs consisted of the following steps:

1. Excavate along the north wall of SBR #1 tank to expose the existing foundation.
2. Provide extensive and complex shoring for the excavation and support of diffuser air handling pipe encountered during the excavation.
3. Repair the damage to the exposed footing without undermining the existing foundation.
4. Perform GPR to locate post tension slab tendons along the south, east, and west walls which separate SBR #1 tank from SBR #2 tank, Digester #1 tank, and Pre-React #1 tank.
5. Perform selective demolition with 15 lb jack hammers to expose post-tension tendons at locations determined by GPR.
6. Install post-tension tendon lock-offs to preserve or restore the stress in the foundation slab in the adjacent tanks.
7. Once lock-offs were installed, crews de-tensioned the tendons in both direction to allow demolition of foundation slab.
8. Install additional steel supports and hydraulically jack north foundation wall to re-align and plumb. Wall was bowed 4" into the tank at the center of the wall base. Remove temporary wide flange bracing.
9. Demolish and remove the entire foundation slab in SBR #1 tank including existing diffusers.
10. Compact subgrade and add fill as required.
11. Install new reinforcing steel and post-tension tendons by splicing to the existing de-tensioned tendons.



continued on page 11



# OUTSTANDING REPAIR PROJECT WINNER

continued from page 10

using a phased repair approach that maintained the stress on the tendons at all times.

Heavy structural steel bracing was installed to prevent further displacement of the tank wall and consequential damage that could render the wall "un-repairable". The shoring was constructed of vertical W18x86 compression struts spanning the width of the tank and horizontal W24x117# whalers that transferred the load from the "intact" interior wall to the "displaced" exterior wall. This temporary shoring structure was utilized to return the displaced wall and footing to its original position as follows:



- Structural tube steel "jacking brackets" were installed on both sides of each compression strut, approximately 6' from the displaced wall.
- 50 ton hydraulic jacks were installed between the "jacking brackets" and the W24 whalers.
- The w24 whaler was unbolted from the compression strut.
- A hydraulic pump and manifold system was utilized to provide evenly distributed forces, to return the wall and foundation to the original plumb position.

The extensive temporary shoring was then removed from the tank so that the post tensioned slab could be reconstructed and re-tensioned.

The re-positioning of the displaced wall required the removal and temporary stock piling of the soil adjacent to the wall. This task was complicated by the close proximity of the wall to the property line which dictated that the soil would have to be excavated, hauled off-site and brought back after the repairs were completed. A further complication was presented by two large aeration lines that had to remain in service and were at an unknown location adjacent to the wall that was to be repaired. The contractor located the lines and designed a unique method to temporarily support the aeration lines, restrain the soil and provide a safe working condition for the repairs.

Other highlighted challenges during construction include the following:

- Active plant, which was required to remain open and operational for the duration of the construction.
- Topography of the site due to previous mining operations.
- Access and conveying of material and equipment, everything had to be hoisted in and out of a below grade tank.
- Safety concern with working in a confined area as well as adjacent to active tanks filled with hundred of thousand gallons of wastewater.
- A distinguished critical path schedule dictated by a step by step process making the substantial completion date difficult to maintain when unforeseen conditions were encountered.

## Conclusion

This project was a perfect example of the importance of a Repair Contractor, Engineer, and Owner working together to provide a durable, economical, and quality repair. Through





continued on page 12



# OUTSTANDING REPAIR PROJECT WINNER

continued from page 11

communication, innovation and strategic planning the project was a success from the beginning to the end. It was the commitment of the Contracting, Manufacturing, and Engineering team to furnish the Owner with accurate solutions to complex restoration problems by providing the highest technical support offered by a repair team. Dynamic design details and innovation demanded that the Engineer and Contractor deliver to the Owner a level of service and technical assistance that far exceeds industry



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# SAFETY COLUMN

## RECORDKEEPING—OSHA 300 LOGS

*By David Caple, COHC, CEAS, Pinnacle Safety Network, LLC*

The time of year to post your OSHA 300 Log is coming up quickly. Improper reporting can result in fines and penalties up to \$7,000. This year employers are required to post their 2014 Log from February 1, 2015 through April 30, 2015. Requirements for completing the form work can be found on the OSHA.gov website. The regulations for recordkeeping are found in 29CFR1904. OSHA 300 Logs and additional supporting documents are available for download on their website, including directions on how to complete it. One helpful hint I'll share, when it comes to determining the recordability of a questionable injury, try the *OSHA Recordkeeping Advisor*. It is a wizard that asks you questions and at the end determines whether the injury must be recorded. The link to that page is <http://www.dol.gov/elaws/OSHARecordkeeping.htm>. For additional assistance, Maryland Occupational Safety and Health (MOSH) is offering a Free Seminar on February 10<sup>th</sup> at their Hunt Valley location from 8:30am to 12:30pm. You can register online at this website <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/>. Look for the training calendar under the Outreach tab at the top of the Home page. Although the training is beyond the initial posting date, MOSH will provide you with good, useful information. If you have any questions or require any additional information, contact a safety consultant.



**BUILDING TRUST**



**Randall Kratz**

District Manager  
MD, DC, & N. VA

410-336-3757

[kratz.randall@us.sika.com](mailto:kratz.randall@us.sika.com)

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## GETTING AROUND THE "PAY-IF-PAID" CLAUSE

By Kenneth K. Sorteberg, Esquire

Many construction subcontracts contain what is known as the "pay-if-paid" clause, which basically says the Subcontractor will not get paid, unless the General Contractor gets paid by the Owner. While the "pay-if-paid" clause is legal in most courts, Subcontractors on Maryland and Federal projects can get around this clause.

Private Projects Subject to a Mechanic's Lien. The Maryland Mechanic's Lien Statute protects Subcontractors working on private projects. This Statute allows Subcontractors to get paid, even though the subcontract contains a "pay-if-paid" clause, by filing for a mechanic's lien against an Owner. The Owner cannot rely upon this clause. In other words, the Owner still has to pay the Subcontractor, even though the General Contractor may be off the hook.

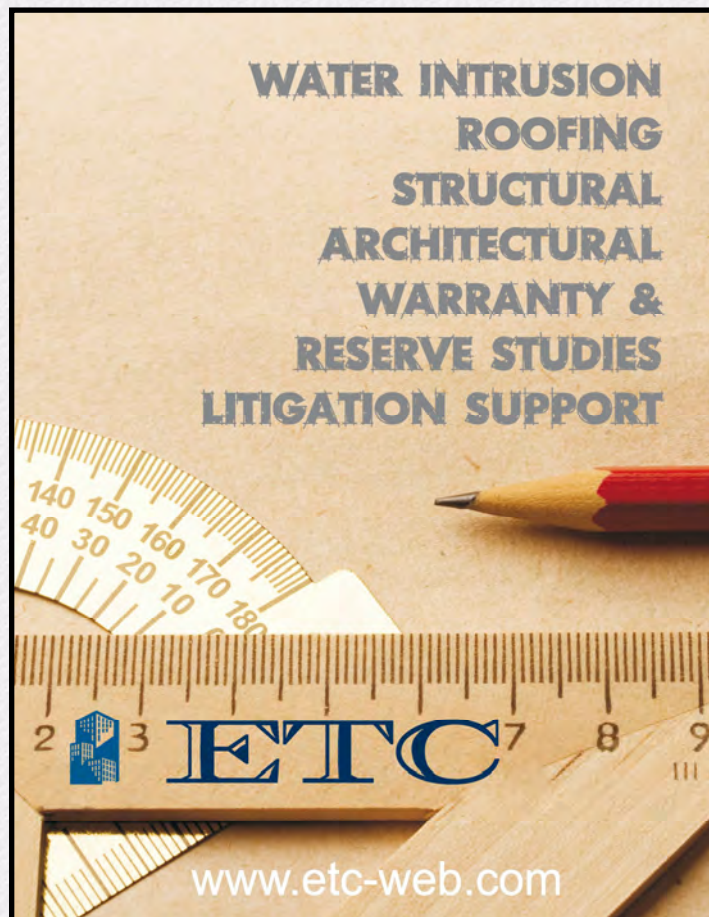
State and Local Government Projects. Maryland's Little Miller Act protects Subcontractors working on state and local public projects. This Act requires General Contractors to furnish payment bonds on projects exceeding \$100,000. This Act allows Subcontractors to get paid, even though the subcontract contains a "pay-if-paid" clause, by filing a payment bond claim against the bonding company (i.e., the Surety). The Surety cannot rely upon the "pay-if-paid" clause. In other words, the Surety still has to pay the Subcontractor, even though the General Contractor may be off the hook.

Federal Projects. The Federal Miller Act also requires General Contractors to provide payment bonds on certain projects. The Federal Appeals Court has ruled that while a Subcontractor can waive its Miller Act bond rights, the "pay-if-paid" clause alone does not create such a waiver. Based on this ruling, the Court concluded that the Surety had to pay the Subcontractor, even though the General Contractor may be off the hook.

The "catch" is that these Statutes and Acts all contain time limits for giving written notices and for filing lawsuits. Subcontractors should become familiar with these time limits and should comply with them in order to preserve their legal rights.

*Please feel free to contact Ken Sorteberg at [sorteberg@constructionlaw.com](mailto:sorteberg@constructionlaw.com) with any questions or suggestions for future Legal Columns. Mr. Sorteberg is a civil engineer and an attorney (licensed in MD and DC) who focuses his practice on construction law.*

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