2010 ABC ARKANSAS EXCELLENCE IN CONTRUCTION AWARDS

CCI OF ARKANSAS SPECIALTY CONTRACTOR

ABA TELECOMMUNICTIONS IMPROVEMENTS

CONTRACTED SCOPE

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ABA, Arkansas Building Authority, Telecommunications Improvements project consisted of work on 4 floors and the basement for several different Arkansas state divisions including ADEC, ADFA, AOC, ASL and ASTA.

It included a Cat6 voice and data system and including installation of 50micron laser optimized fiber cable. This project started in September of 2009 and was completed in May of 2010. Upon completion, the complete system was given a 25-year system warranty from AMP NetConnect.

Type of Construction ---------- Remodel
Size of Project ---------- 4 floors
Contract Value ---------- $223K
Length of Project ---------- 9 months
Self Performed %---------- 100%

Systems Installed:

- Data
- Voice
- Fiber Optic
- Coax Cabling
- Rapid Run products

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PROJECT NARRATIVE

Why is this project Special?

The property originally owned by Capitol Properties, used to be the old Dillard's building that is located at 900 W. Capitol in Downtown Little Rock. The building consists of 4 stories above ground and 1 story below ground with concrete/brick makeup that had been vacant since 2003. It was completely gutted and designed for one tenant to move into the building. During the duration of this project, ABA leased from Capitol Properties. It was later that ABA decided to purchase the building.

Once ABA leased out the 132,000 spare foot space, the building would then be split off to hold 5 different state agencies. The first and second floors and most of the basement now hold offices for the Arkansas State Library. The remaining of the building holds offices for Arkansas Development & Finance Authority, Arkansas Economic Development Commission, Arkansas Science & Technology Authority and the Court Information System.

With CCI being an AMP Certified Installer, the systems that CCI installed over the course of the 9 months, would have to meet the material and installation requirements to meet the testing specifications of the manufacturer. This is important to the customer as it warranties their installation of materials for a 25 year period.

During this project, CCI installed over 1,300 Category 6 Station Cables, (54) 50micron laser optimized Multimode Fiber strands and a 200pair phone trunk. The building now holds a total of five Network TRs (Telecommunication Rooms) and One EF/D-mark (Entrance Facility D-mark).

While working in directly with the ABA, CCI also attended production meetings with the general contractors of Gilmore Doyle and the electrical contractor Nabco. Working around other trades, CCI also had to meet the tenant move in dates, which were all set at different times. This project wrapped up in March, 2010.

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PROJECT NARRATIVE continued

Innovative Programs

Although not innovative or new, the fiber installed was OM3 fiber, meaning Laser Optimized Multimode Fiber. This fiber was terminated with fusion splicing and tested with a Corning OTDR (Optical Time-Domain Reflectometer). The OTDR certified the performance of the new fiber optic links for CCI, and allowed a detailed reporting to the customer of their new installed system.

Rapid Run products, a fairly new type of modular audio/video cabling components, were also installed. These components are designed to evolve with the components of any installation and are more flexible with the ever-changing technology demands.

Special Obstacles

Several obstacles were encountered during the installation of the new systems.

One obstacle included adjusting each tenant space to fit their specific needs and work with them on their specified drop locations and communication closet designs. In addition, each tenant provided their own equipment racks and management.

The design of the building includes an open ceiling design in most areas. This made it more challenging for cabling installation going to the modular furniture on three of the floors. With a limited amount of chase way locations, CCI had to penetrate the floor in multiple locations to keep the cabling runs with the required standards of the manufacturer. Making it additionally difficult, the cable tray/flex tray was 95% installed by another trade, and with it not being installed in an ideal fashion, installation of the bulky amount of cables was challenging.

Material tracking was very crucial for this system. As to have it AMP certified, all material quantities and part numbers must be tracked for the manufacturers' requirements.

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PROJECT SAFETY

Our Communications department does an outstanding job in staying safe all the time. We are proud to say that during the duration of this project, no injuries were reported.

Unfortunately, due to unrelated pressing deadlines, CCI was unable to apply for a STEP award this year. However, there have been great strides in the Safety Program at CCI. This includes modifying and extensively extending our safety manual, requiring that all new personnel receive video safety training equal to their skill levels when hired, and assembling a full safety committee.

We are excited about the improvements we made during the 2010 year to our safety program.

- Table of Contents from our new Safety Manual enclosed.

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SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

- AMP 25 Year Certification
- Example Floor Plan with the many jack locations required on just that one of four floors!
- Photo of Challenging FlexTray installation by others. i.e. installed right up against the ductwork.

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AQC CONTRACTOR

Unfortunately, CCI OF ARKANSAS is not a current AQC Contractor at this time.

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MERIT SHOP

This project was 100% completed by Merit Shop contractors as this was 100% self-performed!

Suppliers Included:

- Graybar (misc materials)
- Rexel Davies (major materials)

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ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

The Communications department of CCI is what I started my business on 16 years ago; however, it does not get near as much spotlight since we started electrical contracting in 1998. Therefore, I am excited to submit a project for an EIC award and thank the committee for its recognition and to my employees for their dedicated efforts!

~

Tony Lee, President