

ArchitectColorado

A publication of The American Institute of Architects Colorado Component

www.aiacolorado.org // Summer 2012



FOSTERING A SPIRIT
OF COLLABORATION

Environmentally Responsible



Manufacturer of *Premium* concrete paving stones & walls.



B **BORGERT**
PRODUCTS, INC.
EST. 1923

... just better

Visit our new Colorado location at: 5170 Kalamath Street • Denver, CO, 80221
For a dealer near you 303-783-3864 | www.borgertproducts.com

NCAR Wyoming Supercomputing Center

Owner: NCAR Architect: H+L Architecture Engineer: Martin/Martin Contractor: Saunders Construction Inc.



NCAR Wyoming Supercomputing Center, located in Cheyenne, is a world class center for high performance scientific computing in the atmospheric and related geosciences. Architectural precast insulated panels offered energy efficiency, long term durability and were key to getting the building enclosed quickly.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN PRESTRESS

5801 Pecos St Denver, CO 80221 * Sales@RMPprestress.com * 303/480-1111

Contents

Features

Teamwork Makes Green Work	8
Breaking Ground, Building a Future.....	13
Winning Competitions Through Collaboration.....	16
Blending In and Standing Out	19
A Natural Fit.....	22

Departments

Emerging Professionals' Update.....	7
On the Boards	25

On the Cover:
The Jackson Hole Airport Terminal, located on the grounds of Grand Teton National Park, establishes a dialogue between the interior and the exterior and acknowledges the rich Western heritage of the Jackson, Wyo., area.

Protect Your Projects – One Contract at a Time.

AIA Documents-on-Demand®

The Contracts You Need – Whenever You Need Them

Draft your contracts with the insight and experience of the industry's brightest legal minds – in a quick, compact format. AIA Documents-on-Demand enables PC and MAC users to select individual documents from the AIA's most popular contracts and fill them out electronically with an easy-to-use, web-based service. Enjoy the peace of mind that comes with using the most widely accepted and time-tested documents in the industry.

AIA Contract Documents® | aia.org/contractdocs
THE INDUSTRY STANDARD.



- **Choose from over 70 of AIA's most popular forms and contracts**
Easy-to-use, web-based tool is accessible any time, from anywhere.
- **Purchase only the documents you need**
Ideal for firms with limited budgets and smaller projects.
- **Compatible with both Mac & PC platforms**
Save time with reliable, easy-to-complete electronic documents*.
- **Focus more on the project, less on the contract**
Widely accepted and balanced fairly for all parties involved – get off to a smart start with AIA Documents-on-Demand.

For more information visit documentsondemand.aia.org.

*While a customer can complete the document electronically, there is limited editing capability, and the document is meant to be shared in hard copy.



Bosch geothermal heat pumps are a highly efficient, cost effective solution for homeowners or businesses looking to save money on annual heating and cooling costs.

Benefits and Savings

- Save up 70% on your Heating Bill
- Payback Could be as Short as 5-7 Years
- 30% Federal Tax Credit
- Local Utility Savings
- Lower Operating Cost
- Environmentally Friendly
- Flexible, Comfort, Reliable



ENERGY STAR Most Efficient

Bosch TA Series Geothermal Heat Pump has been awarded ENERGY STAR® ME -the only complete geothermal line in the industry to meet such criteria.

(303) 993-2645
www.bluevalleyenergy.com



CERAMICHE CERDISA CHALET
bianco (white) | rovere (oak) | ciliegio (cherry)

Ciliegio



Bianco



Ciliegio



Rovere

Chalet— it's only natural.

This exclusive Italian tile is an absolute match for the natural character and texture of rustic wood, but with the peerless performance of premier porcelain. Whether indoors or out, **Chalet** will have everyone stopping in their tracks... and lingering a little longer to appreciate its tactile allure. Only from CAPCO.



1.800.727.2272
capcotile.com

Colorado's largest locally-based tile and stone distributor.

Denver · Boulder · Colorado Springs · Fort Collins · Avon/Vail ·
Carbondale/Aspen · Grand Junction · Silverthorne

For the best results, CAPCO recommends the use of professional design and installation.



THE WEIDT GROUP®

35
YEARS

Energy Analysis for
Building Decision MakersSM



ENERGY DESIGN ASSISTANCE
ADVANCED ENERGY SOFTWARE
BENCHMARKING AND VERIFICATION

TWGI.COM

1521 15TH ST SUITE 100 DENVER

Collaboration



Swigert-McAuliffe International School

Denver, Colorado

Design/Build Team:

GEJOHNSON + **AndersonMasonDale**
CONSTRUCTION COMPANY Architects

- Integrated Team Approach
- 18 Months from Award of D/B Contract to Completion
- Conflicts Eliminated Using BIM
- Under Budget, Ahead of Schedule
- Cost Savings Returned to DPS

GEJOHNSON
CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

Denver | Colorado Springs | Jackson
www.gejohnson.com

CONTRACTOR OF CHOICESM

AIA Colorado
303 E. 17th Ave., Ste. 110
Denver, CO 80203
T 303.446.2266
F 303.446.0066
www.aiacolorado.org

Editorial Staff

Managing Editor
Alaina Gonzales
Publisher
Innovative Publishing Ink
Editor
Deanna Strange
Graphic Designer
Matt Wood
Sales Representative
Kelly Arvin
Production Manager
Shannon Patterson
Copy Editor
Michael Adkins

Staff

Executive Director
Sonia Riggs, Hon. AIA, CAE, ext. 117
sonia@aiacolorado.org
Director of Local Chapters
Pomelia "Pomie" Bowers, ext. 115
pomelia@aiacolorado.org
Director of Programs & Sponsorship
AIA 2013 Convention Manager
Nicolle Thompson, ext. 111
nicolle@aiacolorado.org
Membership & Communication Manager
Alaina Gonzales, ext. 116
alaina@aiacolorado.org
Programs & Continuing Education Manager
Jenna Cather, ext. 112
jenna@aiacolorado.org
Office Manager/Executive Assistant
Emily Ewing, ext. 114
emily@aiacolorado.org
Membership & Communication Coordinator
Brittany Karstrand, ext. 113
brittany@aiacolorado.org
Programs Coordinator
Jeremy DePasquale, ext. 103
jeremy@aiacolorado.org
Receptionist
Robert Purper, ext. 110
robert@aiacolorado.org

2012 Board of Directors

President
Ernest Joyner, AIA
President-Elect
Mike Wisneski, AIA
Past-President
Steven Schonberger, AIA
Treasurer
Gail Pelsue, AIA
Treasurer-Elect
Angela Van Do, AIA
Secretary
Kevin Eronymous, AIA
Director, AIA Denver
Ralph Hellman, AIA
Director, AIA Colorado North
Justin C. Larson, AIA
Director, AIA Colorado South
Adam Thesing, AIA
Director, AIA Colorado West
Jim Jose, AIA
Associate Director
Chuck Shifflett, Assoc. AIA
Associate Director-Elect
Cynthia Fishman, Assoc. AIA

Professional Affiliate Director
John Pittman, PA
Office of the State Architect Director
Larry Friedberg, AIA
University Director
Taisto Makela
Student Director
Stephen Cole, AIAS
Government Affairs Director
D.A. Bertram, Esq., FAIA
SDA Liaison
Ruth Nester, CDFA
Ex-Officio
Sonia Riggs, Hon. AIA, CAE

AIA Colorado, the voice of the profession of architecture, inspires and supports its members as leaders to improve and sustain the quality of the built environment. We promote the value of the profession and provide resources and education for members.

Advertising

Contact Kelly Arvin, Innovative Publishing Ink, 502.423.7272 or karvin@ipipub.com.

Subscriptions

\$30 for one year. Contact AIA Colorado at 800.628.5598.

The opinions expressed in this publication or the representations made by advertisers, including copyrights and warranties, are not those of the editorial staff or the board of directors of AIA Colorado or Innovative Publishing Ink. Copyright 2012 by AIA Colorado.

All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is strictly prohibited.

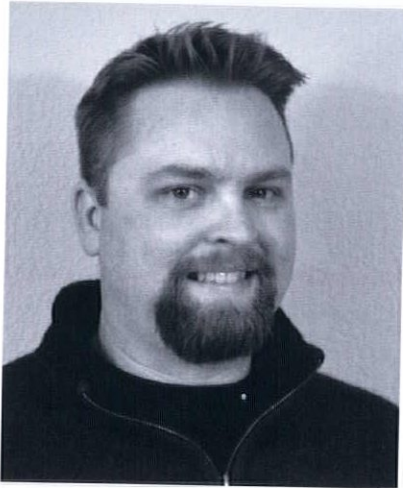
Architect Colorado is produced on paper that has recycled content and printed with green inks that do not contain solvents and are VOC-free. Alcohol substitutes are used. Our printer has eliminated the use of film and film processing and uses waste recovery programs and EPA-licensed handlers.

Corporate Sponsors

Platinum
CAD-I, Inc.
ESC Thul
initial.AEC
JVA, Inc.
Gold
BCER Engineering Inc.
GE Johnson Construction Company
Ken's Reproductions, LLP
Martin/Martin Consulting Engineers
Silver
Ellipse Group, LLC
KL&A, Inc.
Rocky Mountain Prestress
Bronze
ccrd partners
Fransen Pittman General Contractors
Group14 Engineering, Inc.
Kiewit Building Group
MKK Consulting Engineers, Inc.
The Gallegos Corporation
The RMH Group, Inc.
Thornton Thomasetti, Inc.
Van Gilder Insurance Corporation

Collaboration Leads to Innovation

by Stephen Cole, AIAS, AIAS UC-Denver, 2011-2012 Chapter President



Our profession has evolved dramatically in recent years, and the idea of teamwork is even more of a necessity these days. It is no longer just a buzzword. This issue of *Architect Colorado* focuses on *collaboration*. The idea of the singular architect tucked away in a sunlight-drenched corner office producing great works of art and architecture is a fantasy now, if it hasn't always been. The nature of business and architecture now demands much more and requires us to have a skill set that extends beyond our own desks. Collaboration is more than just teamwork. It is leveraging the power of teams strategically to accomplish a much greater goal. We have the ability as designers to look at problems from a broader perspective and

look for ways to move projects forward. Many of the projects featured in this issue could have only been accomplished with the strategic efforts of many talented people working together.

As architecture students and interns, we are very close to the technology that is enabling today's marketplace to work together more effectively. We are skilled with BIM, cloud computing, social networking and many other assets that allow us to be strong collaborators. Tools like BIM and cloud computing allow virtual team collaboration. Global offices, connected with teleconferencing and cloud servers, allow firms to literally work around the clock. Offices that aren't using integrated project delivery and BIM are already behind, and those that are just starting to use it are still catching up. It can take time for an established firm to transition from known methods and techniques of project delivery to more innovative and integrated versions. BIM will also have an impact on the entire life cycle of the facility, allowing architects to get a better handle on the feedback loop that comes with designing buildings. A virtual model can be used to track and manage building systems and provide information on day-to-day energy use, for example. This valuable information can better inform us and our teams as we design the next project.

The people with whom we interact socially can also feed into collaborative opportunities. Professional networking sites like LinkedIn allow us to quickly and meaningfully create strong contacts for potential projects. Information-sharing among these networks can create a more fluid and engaging business environment. Personal relationships are still key, but social networking can facilitate and strengthen the ones we already have.

Today's studio classes are engaging architecture students more meaningfully. Projects are moving from the iconic art museum to more altruistic work, design-build programs and community outreach initiatives. We use Skype to illustrate our ideas to someone on the other side of the world. By increasing our reach as students, we increase the limits of our academic collaborative ability. We connect, work and *learn* on a global playing field.

I hope that, as you read this issue, you will be inspired by the collaborative work within, and I hope that it will influence your current and upcoming projects. Whether you are a student or a principal, I challenge you to take the leap into pursuing more innovative and collaborative opportunities on any scale. I look forward to hearing your thoughts and continuing to serve the members of AIA Colorado for years to come.



Teamwork Makes Green Work

Kent Denver School Dining Hall and Event Facility Showcases the Power of Partnerships

by Michael Adkins

Collaboration is a necessity in the world of architecture. Owners, contractors, subcontractors and architects all have to work together to complete the project at hand, and the success of the project often depends on how well these individuals work as a team.

Photography by Ron Pollard Photography



Kent Denver School Dining Hall and Event Facility

Architect: Semple Brown Design

General Contractor: CMC Group, Inc.

Location: Englewood, Colo.

Budget: \$4.5 million

Scope: 21,000 square feet (structure); 6 acres (site work)

Sustainability: LEED Platinum-certified (first school dining facility to earn the highest LEED certification)

Owner: Kent Denver School

The proof is in the results — and the Kent Denver School Dining Hall and Event Facility is the end result of what Bryan Schmidt, AIA, principal and vice president of Denver-based Semple Brown Design, called “the most collaborative effort

through 12th grades in Englewood, Colo. The owner’s representative; Semple Brown Design; and CMC Group, Inc., located in Denver, had successfully worked together to complete two prior projects on the

The dining hall and event facility was designed from January through June in 2010, constructed immediately and opened to the school in February 2011 — a process that took just 14 months. The 21,000-square-foot project included 14,000 square feet of new construction and 7,000 square feet of renovation in the facility’s former space, as well as requiring intensive site work on the 6-acre building site.

The completed dining hall and event facility, which features an orchard that yields fruit used to prepare meals for the students, an interior “green wall” for growing herbs, a salad bar and numerous other amenities, is extremely

“We had to trust one another to get the job done. In projects without that level of trust, there’s that tendency to second-guess each other, but that wasn’t the case here.” — Bryan Schmidt, AIA

between a design team, client and contractor I’ve ever been a part of.”

Kent Denver School is a private educational facility serving sixth

school’s campus. So, when the school decided that it was time to upgrade its dining hall, bringing this team back together was the logical choice.





popular with students, faculty members, staff members and members of the community. In addition, the dining hall earned LEED Platinum certification from the U.S. Green Building Council — the first school dining hall to earn the agency's highest rating for sustainabil-

"The students and faculty members use this facility so much because they love it so much," he continued. "That's the ultimate goal. Often, I look back on projects and see what I wish I would have done differently. This one's different. It's been really well embraced by

"The sum of all those parts coming together for this project was really something special. Through this amazing spirit of collaboration, we came together and handled whatever came our way." — Bryan Schmidt, AIA

ity. "The dining hall is a living example of sustainability," Schmidt said. "The school embraces sustainability and lives what they say about it, and they integrate the notion of sustainability into the school's curriculum."

All of the team members relied on their trust in and familiarity with one another throughout the process, Schmidt noted. "We really built on our relationships," he said. "We had to trust one another to get the job done. In projects without that level of trust, there's that tendency to second-guess each other, but that wasn't the case here."

Schmidt stated that he is proud of how well the facility has been integrated into the school's campus and of the hard work everyone involved put in to get the job done. "The sum of all those parts coming together for this project was really something special," he pointed out. "Through this amazing spirit of collaboration, we came together and handled whatever came our way.

the end users, and that's all because of the integral roles played by us, the owner and the contractor throughout the project." ●



K2AUDIO
CONSULTANTS IN
AUDIO VIDEO & ACOUSTICS

EXPERTS IN
AUDIO
VIDEO
ACOUSTICS
DSP PROGRAMMING
CONTROL
NETWORKING

www.k2audio.com

CMC

Another successful project
for Kent Denver School

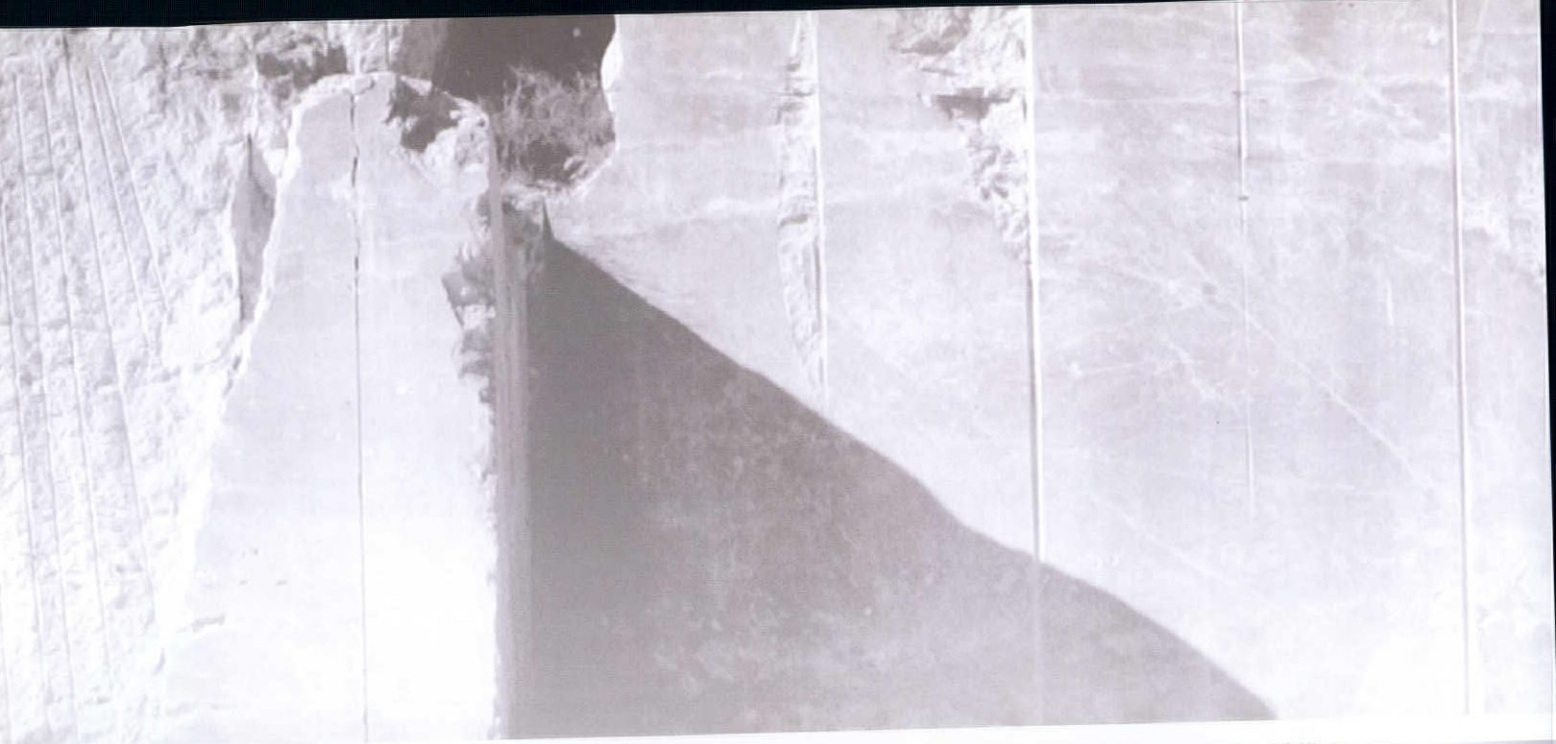
Craig R. Benes
President

303.741.4500 www.cmc-group.com

design-build + general contractors

To advertise in future
issues of *Architect Colorado*,
please contact Kelly Arvin at
502.423.7272 or
karvin@ipipub.com.

innovativepublishingink
www.ipipub.com



UNIQUE SURFACING PRODUCTS FROM A RELIABLE SOURCE

From the outstanding performance of quartz to the beauty of granite and the ingenuity of recycled surfacing, Cosentino is a world-wide leader in the manufacturing and distribution of surfacing materials. Our internationally recognized brands are strong, unique and locally available to you.



COUNTERTOPS | VANITY TOPS | FLOORS | WALLS | MOSAICS



COSENTINO



NATURAL QUARTZ



NATURAL GRANITE



RECYCLED SURFACES



SEMI PRECIOUS STONES



NATURAL STONE



NATURAL MARBLE

Cosentino Center - Denver
303-777-4400 | 577 Osage Denver, CO. 80204

Breaking Ground, Building a Future

BurkettDesign's New Building for the American University of Afghanistan Has the Capacity to Change the Course of History

by Sarah Goldblatt, AIA



Renderings courtesy of BurkettDesign, Inc.

Architects worldwide are engaging in design projects with a social purpose. These efforts, recently classified as the “humanitarian design movement,” dispense with the preconceived political and utopian ideals that early Modernists espoused to combat social ills. Instead, these architects are seeking design solutions relevant to the communities they serve with the objective of improving the human condition. With the seemingly constant threat of catastrophic weather, environmental disasters, terror attacks and unremitting social inequity, there is no shortage of opportunities to heal and repair.

Projects in the U.S. Gulf Coast, Haiti, Africa and Japan dominate the news. But Denver-based BurkettDesign has found itself doing work in an equally devastated locale: Afghanistan. Here is a country known to most Americans only through news accounts of war and terrorism — and not typically on the radar of a small woman-owned architecture firm in Colorado. Indeed, those doing work there describe it as turbulent, but also as a place undergoing a transformative rebirth. According to American University of Afghanistan (AUAF) President Dr. Michael Smith, restoring Afghanistan's "intellectual capital" is central to this metamorphosis, and the AUAF — the only private, not-for-profit, independent university in the country — is making strides to make this objective a reality. Central to AUAF's mission is providing Afghan women with access to higher education and advancing their role in society. Currently, the school has more than 800 full-time students enrolled, with 21 percent of them women.

In 2011, AUAF did a global search for a woman-owned architectural firm, with experience doing work in the region, to design its new \$5 million International Center for Afghan Women's Economic Development in Kabul. BurkettDesign was selected in fall 2011 and began work on the 59,000-square-foot building that will bring together the services provided by the U.S./Afghan Women's Council, various nongovernmental organizations committed to women's issues in Afghanistan, the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women Initiative and the university's professional development programs devoted to women's empowerment. When completed in October 2012, there will be classrooms,



View toward the International Center for Afghan Women's Economic Development and entry plaza from the main campus entry

office and meeting space, videoconferencing facilities, a radio station and a 200-seat auditorium — all of which will support the work of these programs and provide a safe, collaborative environment for students and teachers.

Amy Burkett, AIA, LEED AP, president and owner of BurkettDesign, and her in-house team, comprised of Kitty Yuen,

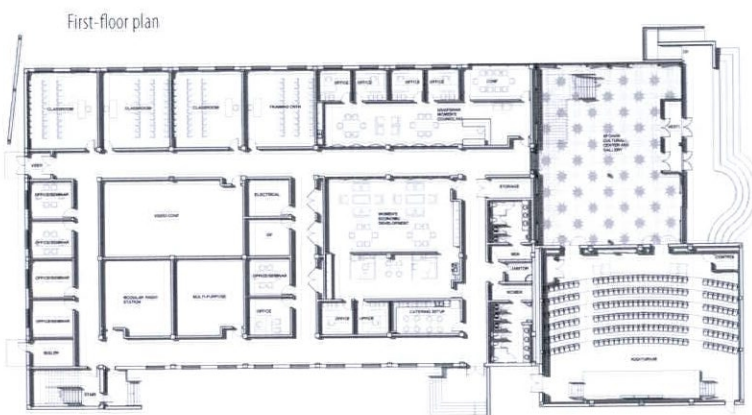
also traveled to Kabul on multiple occasions to hold meetings with students and women's entrepreneurial forums to confirm their needs and aspirations for the building. She summarized the resulting design as one that "looks forward to the future, with a reflection of the past."

Planned as the cornerstone of a new AUAF campus, the architects employed

"The process of the design, engineering and construction of this building is indicative of its intended use. We are all very excited to be part of this undertaking." — Lucy Hunter, P.E.

AIA, LEED AP; and Ben Niamthet, did not imagine exporting their Western design approach to a place layered with religious and cultural complexity. To inform its perspective, the design team did extensive research on Islamic architecture, and traditional building methods and materials, and it even looked to 17th-century Afghan poetry for inspiration. Burkett has

strong geometric forms in their design to represent the strength and power of Afghan women. These shapes are pervasive in Islamic culture, but here they are translated into a modern vocabulary to emphasize the potential of Afghan women. For example, the design incorporates a steel screen wall with a traditional organic motif to be fabricated by local artisans — a subtle reference to the emblematic veil worn by women. The screen wall is lifted up and over the building and serves to visually shift the building's axis, signaling the main campus entry at one end, while acknowledging the bombed-out Darul Aman Palace that looms in the landscape in the opposite direction. To complement the refined exterior palette of glass and plaster, the auditorium is clad in a distinct white Heart marble. This volume defines the cascading entry plaza, creating a strong sense of arrival and communicating the building's message that all are welcome.



**American University of Afghanistan, Kabul –
International Center for Afghan Women’s
Economic Development**

Architect: BurkettDesign, Inc.

Location: Kabul, Afghanistan

Client/Owner: American University of Afghanistan

Collaborating Organization: Friends of the American University of Afghanistan

Scope: 59,000 square feet

Purpose: Educate, develop and train Afghan women

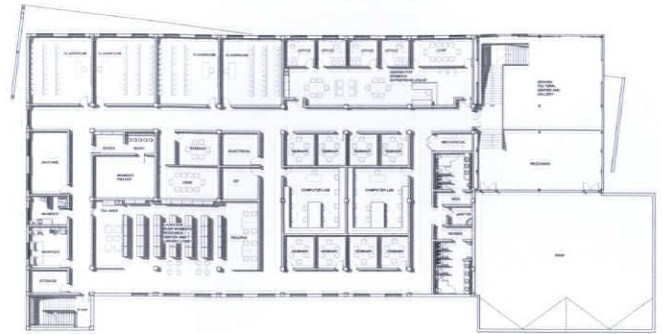
Design/Build Construction Company: Technologists, Inc., Kabul, Afghanistan

Consultants: Berger Group

Cost: \$5 million

Construction Completion Date: Late fall 2012

“The building has the potential to change the country and change the world. It has that much potential power within it.” — Amy Burkett, AIA, LEED AP



Second-floor plan

One may wonder just how welcome a woman-owned firm is in the design of a facility intended to redefine the future of women in a culture where they have historically been marginalized. In fact, the involvement of female professionals is central to the success of the project. “We have women from opposite sides of the planet working together in every aspect of this project,” explained Kabul-based Lucy Hunter, P.E., director of the Design Division of Technologists, Inc., who orchestrates daily cross-continent

coordination between BurkettDesign and her 26-member design-build team comprised of Afghan engineers, architects, surveyors and many local woman-owned construction companies. “The process of the design, engineering and construction of this building is indicative of its intended use,” Hunter noted, adding, “We are all very excited to be part of this undertaking.”

This collaborative design process is symbolic of a building that will have the capacity to connect women from across the country, empower Afghanistan’s next

business leaders and create a new economic reality for women and their families.

Burkett’s team members and their Kabul-based counterparts recognize the significance of their professional contributions and the potency of the design solution to effect change in a country where, 10 years ago, girls were banned from any education and the roles of women were restricted outside the home. “The building has the potential to change the country and change the world,” Burkett said. “It has that much potential power within it.” ●



View of the International Center for Afghan Women’s Economic Development from the proposed central quad of the new AUAF campus

Winning Competitions Through Collaboration

RNL and Ambient Energy Reunite to Complete a Multi-Building Design

by *Deanna Strange*





Taking a risk can create a make-or-break situation for any company. But when RNL and Ambient Energy decided to take a chance on a project they had yet to earn, they risked wasting man-hours and resources without a guarantee for a project. However, what may have seemed like a risk to outsiders was backed by the rich history of collaboration between RNL and Ambient Energy — a fact that made them confident in their decision.

RNL and Ambient Energy joined forces to complete a concept for a design/build competition for the Denver Department of Public Works Central Platte Campus. The project, a multiple-building complex, would have facilities for the traffic division, maintenance, and street and waste management. Located on a former brownfield, the campus required recovery planning in order to make the site feasible.

“We had six to eight weeks to develop the concept and price it out,” explained Dick G. Shiffer, AIA, LEED AP, senior principal with RNL. “That time was a very collaborative effort. We had a long-established working relationship with Ambient Energy, so it was natural to call them and get them on the team.”

Ambient Energy was able to determine the LEED point requirements RNL



“The city is very interested in sustainability. Once we got into sustainability, it really drove our architectural design.” — Dick G. Shiffer, AIA, LEED AP

With such a large-scale project, RNL went beyond design requirements for the competition and called in Ambient Energy in order to offer the best concept possible.



needed in order to achieve a LEED Gold certification. “We did some early phase modeling to determine how many credits would be possible,” said Renee Azerbegi, president of Ambient Energy and AIA Colorado Professional Affiliate member. “This was total at-risk work, but we knew if we wanted to price the building, we had to do early modeling.”

Shiffer added the importance of LEED to the project, “The city is very interested in sustainability,” Shiffer stated, pointing to the Greenprint Denver movement, which focuses on energy, waste reduction, transportation and more. “Once we got into sustainability, it really drove our architectural design.”

One of the most important elements of sustainability considered was the roofing. The shop warehouse and fleet maintenance buildings were designed to take advantage of natural light. “They didn’t have the best orientation, so we used a saw-tooth roof to bring in more daylight,” Azerbegi explained. “The daylighting is working well, and they can reduce electric energy.” Aiding the saw-tooth roof are the white walls that reflect natural light and photovoltaic panels. In addition, the site includes high-performance cooling; automatic-close overhead doors, which help reduce heat loss; and recycled water for the car wash.



Denver Department of Public Works Central Platte Campus

Architect: RNL

Consultant: Ambient Energy

General Contractor: Pinkard Construction

Location: Denver

Scope: 18 acres

Sustainability: LEED Gold certification

Function: Traffic division

Owner: Denver Department of Public Works

The team also worked together to tackle the challenge of how to “landscape” the former brownfield. Due to contamination, irrigation and landscaping could not be employed on the site, so RNL took a different approach to

The risk Ambient Energy and RNL took paid off, and they were awarded the Central Platte Campus. “We did a lot of spec reviews throughout design to make sure it was still on track and to make sure it was still deliverable,” Azerbegi pointed

think we could have done it without collaboration,” he stated, recalling the weekly meetings that all parties participated in. “The sustainability was driving the design, and we had to make sure we were meeting the requirements. Ambient Energy was continually informing us on the process and what we needed to reach our goal, so we would not have been able to do it without Ambient Energy.”

The success of this project can be accredited to an existing trust between the two companies. “We did our first LEED Platinum vehicle maintenance facility in the country with [RNL],” Azerbegi said about TRANSP0’s maintenance and operations facility in South Bend, Ind. Other projects have been completed together in California, Colorado and Wyoming. “It was a great team to work with, and we would love to work with them again,” she said. ●

“We hardscaped with polished rocks and different-colored tumbled glass, the creative solution was pretty cool. We wouldn’t have had such a creative solution if we hadn’t have had that challenge to work with.” — Dick G. Shiffer, AIA, LEED AP

the front lawn. “We hardscaped with polished rocks and different-colored tumbled glass,” Shiffer said, adding that any greenery had to be potted and requires watering to be done by hand. “The creative solution was pretty cool. We wouldn’t have had such a creative solution if we hadn’t have had that challenge to work with.”

out. “We would go to the construction site to make sure the contractors were doing what they needed to do for LEED requirements on site as well.”

Shiffer cited the close relationship and constant contact between the owner, the architects, the general contractor and the consultants as the contributing factor for success. “I don’t



Blending In and Standing Out

OtterBox Headquarters Exemplifies Environmental Synergy

by Alexandria Lopez



Photography by Raul J. Garcia

OtterBox is Exhibit A for those looking to prove the adage “Good things come in small packages.” Founded in 1998, OtterBox is a leader in producing protective casing for today’s technology. When this forward-thinking company decided to build its headquarters in Old Town Fort Collins, Colo., OtterBox called on The Architects’ Studio to help fulfill its vision.



Curt Richardson, founder and CEO of OtterBox, and his wife, Nancy, had collaborated with The Architects' Studio for several years prior to construction. "In that period of time, they grew extraordinarily, reaching 360 percent growth," explained Don Bundy, AIA, The Architects' Studio. "When we started looking in 2005, we were estimating 100 people very liberally, with projected growth," added Nancy Richardson, president of OtterCares, the charitable arm of OtterBox. "When we opened the doors [in July 2011], we had less than 200 people. Now, we've got 250 people in the building; we are at capacity."

OtterBox's exponential growth wasn't the only challenge for the project team. The building's compact site — including existing construction — as well as the location's natural foliage also required the team to think outside the box. "We didn't want to lose any of the trees on the property," Richardson explained. "So you have to ask, 'How do you fit the building on this property, maximize the square footage and save the trees?'"

In order to capitalize on the building's usable space, The Architects' Studio designed a split-level structure, reusing a portion of the site's existing construction to encompass six levels into the final project. "The existing building was not aesthetically acceptable, but it was a well-built structure, and, from a sustainability point of view, we didn't want to waste it," Bundy said.

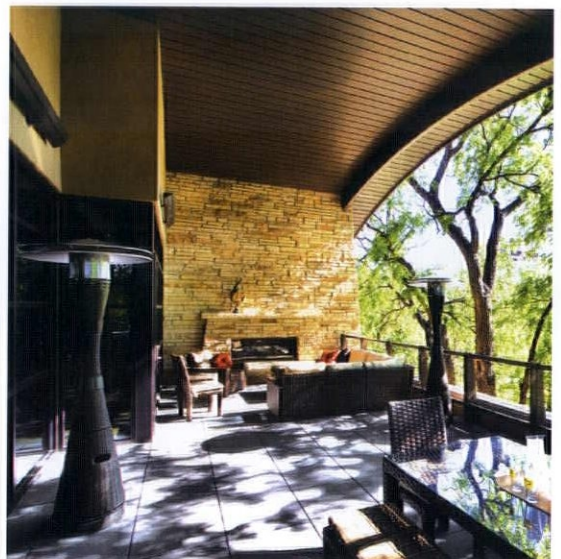
The project team also strived to blend the new construction into its existing surroundings. Located on the edge of Fort Collins' commercial development, the OtterBox headquarters serves as a visual transition

between single-family historical homes and multi-story commercial properties. "We wanted to be good neighbors to everyone around us, so certainly the design of the building played a very important role in that," Richardson explained. The building incorporates materials prevalent in the residences surrounding it — including brick, native sandstone and stucco — and uses a two-story façade, setting the third story back on all sides to diminish its mass. "We worked really hard to preserve the mature street landscape and, most of the year, when the trees are leafed out, the building recedes behind the trees from the point of view of the street," Bundy remarked.

Although the building is located in a historical area, it still represents the company's culture. "OtterBox operates in a technology marketplace, so we were tasked with putting that on display while still accommodating the surrounding buildings," explained Jeffrey Errett, Associate AIA, The Architects' Studio. To that end, the completed project includes amenities such as an interior slide, a bike storage and maintenance room, multiple coffee bars, and outdoor barbecue areas outfitted for year-round use. "The whole building really responds to who we are as a company," Richardson said. "We wanted a cutting-edge, creative building, and The Architects' Studio nailed it 100 percent. It just reflects OtterBox all the way around."

A project of this scope required a true team effort from all sides. "There were so many different people involved," Errett recalled. "The project recently received the City of Fort Collins Urban Design Award, and the stage was full of people who had been involved in the project. I was amazed throughout the process that everyone really had a sense of ownership in what they were doing and a desire to do things right."

"I had at least 12 major team players who were involved constantly from the beginning of design until the end of construction, all dedicated to a quality end product," Bundy added, noting that Oglesby Design and



OtterBox Headquarters

Owner: OtterBox

Architect: The Architects' Studio

Interior Design: Oglesby Design

Developer: Everitt-MacMillan Commercial, LLC

Civil Engineer: Northern Engineering

Landscape Architect: russell + mills studios

Structural Engineer: RNF Consultants

Mechanical Engineer: Integrated Mechanical, LLC

Electrical Engineer: Adonai Professional Services

Sculpture: Anthony Terrazas

General Contractor: Brinkman Construction

Location: Fort Collins, Colo.

Scope: 44,740 square feet, excluding parking

Sustainability: Currently seeking LEED certification

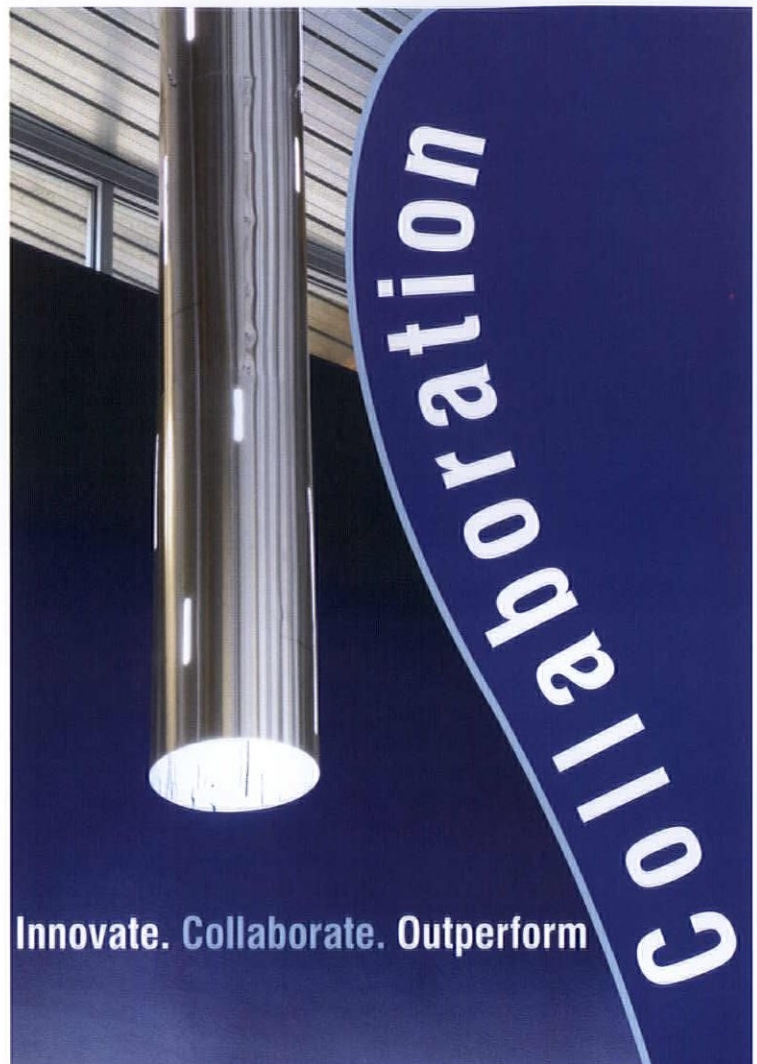
Function: Corporate headquarters for OtterBox



Brinkman Construction played particularly important roles throughout the project.

The collaboration required to design and build OtterBox's headquarters in a previously established environment reaped dividends in the form of a final product that thrilled the client and a mutual relationship of respect and appreciation. "It was our dream team," Richardson remarked. "It really reflected OtterBox because we work as a very collaborative team, and that's integral to the way we handle our company. At the end of the day, the ultimate goal was more than accomplished in meeting and far exceeding our expectations of what it could be."

"We'd call Nancy a dream client in a lot of ways," Errett reciprocated. "OtterBox was willing to embrace this collaborative process and let it play out. It was a very rewarding project." ●



Innovate. Collaborate. Outperform

ap Adolfson
& Peterson
Construction

We are experts in more
than construction.

Our proven partnering process establishes
collaboration from the earliest
stages of a project.

And our aim is to become a trusted advisor
who **truly understands what you do.**

797 Ventura Street Aurora CO 80011 | 303.363.7101 | www.a-p.com

A Natural Fit

Jackson Hole Airport Terminal Combines Mountain Architecture
and Environmental Awareness

by Michael Adkins



Photography courtesy of Gensler

Many architectural designs are all about standing out and making a bold statement against the backdrop of their settings. But, for the team charged with expanding and renovating Jackson Hole Airport, the concept of fitting in — of truly being a part of the landscape, instead of being apart — was key.



Jackson Hole Airport is located outside the city limits of Jackson, Wyo., on the grounds of Grand Teton National Park. It is the only airport in a national park in the United States.

Although it serves a very small town — the population of Jackson was just 9,577 at the time of the 2010 U.S. census — Jackson Hole Airport is the largest airport in Wyoming and has about 300,000 enplanements per year. This reflects its status as a tourist hub

Jackson Hole Airport

Architect: Gensler

Associate Architect: Carney Logan Burke Architects

Project Management: Kadmas, Lee & Jackson

Baggage-System Consultant: BNP Associates, Inc.

Mechanical, Engineering and Plumbing Systems:
Swanson Rink

Structural Engineer: Martin/Martin, Inc.

Civil Work: Jacobs

Location: Grand Teton National Park, Jackson, Wyo.

Budget: \$30.6 million

Scope: 92,000 square feet

Sustainability: LEED Silver-certified



for the town of Jackson, Grand Teton National Park and nearby Yellowstone National Park, according to Brent Mather, AIA, design director of Denver-based architectural firm Gensler, who oversaw the airport's renovation. "Throughout the United States, airport enplanements have been decreasing as airports have dropped the number of flights, but Jackson Hole Airport's have gone up because of the strong tourism in the area," Mather explained.

Construction work for the terminal began in June 2009 and was completed in December 2010. The renovation nearly doubled the size of the previous terminal without any additional impact on the site. This was accomplished by reusing 80 percent of the existing terminal's structure and reclaiming a portion of the airport's parking lot. The expansion includes a new ticket hall, a rental-car area and a baggage-screening building.

"We were very sensitive to the environment. We wanted the building to be an understated element in the presence of these very, very powerful mountains. We weren't trying to do a statement building — it was always about how it fit in and collaborated with its environment." — Brent Mather, AIA

Because the pristine natural setting is a major reason for this tourism, the major concepts behind the design of Jackson Hole Airport's new terminal were establishing a dialogue between the interior and exterior and acknowledging the rich Western heritage





of the area. “We were very sensitive to the environment,” Mather said. “We wanted the building to be an understated element in the presence of these very, very powerful mountains. We weren’t trying to do a statement building — it was always about how it fit in and collaborated with its environment.” As part of this collaboration with the environment, the Jackson Hole Airport design placed a high emphasis on sustainability, earning a LEED Silver certification from the U.S. Green Building Council in the process.

The use of exposed structural elements and a wood framework throughout Jackson Hole Airport provides a strong link to the facility’s natural setting in the American West. This was made possible by the area’s high-quality materials, Mather said. “That afforded us the ability to create something specific to Jackson Hole, as opposed to most airports throughout the country, which are steel and glass and are less specific to their communities,” he pointed out. “Stylistically, the client wanted something grounded in the spirit of the Jackson area but representative of the future, which is what we delivered.”

“Stylistically, the client wanted something grounded in the spirit of the Jackson area but representative of the future, which is what we delivered.” — Brent Mather, AIA

The new Jackson Hole Airport is better equipped to meet the demands of the future while still serving as an accurate reflection of the community it serves — an achievement that was made possible through the shared vision of everyone involved, Mather said. “Getting everyone on board and working toward a common goal made it possible for us to create an aesthetically pleasing final product that also works well,” he stated. “This project became much more than the sum of its parts, and it’s because it had the support of its community and a team of people who worked really well together to make it happen.” ●



The Odyssey School

Project Location: Denver

Architect: Anne Weber-Williams, AIA; Jennifer Song Koeppel, AIA; and Jennifer Jursnick, Bennett Wagner & Grody Architects, PC (Denver)

Project Size: 64,250 square feet

Budget: Approximately \$10.4 million

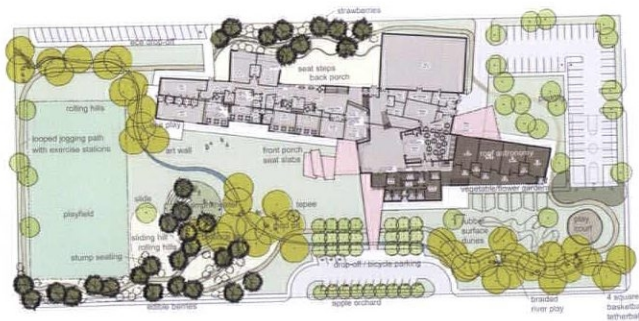
Expected Start and Completion: Due to funding constraints, construction dates are unknown

As part of the Colorado Department of Education's Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) Grant Application for the Odyssey School, a Denver public K-8 charter school, the design team prepared conceptual plans for doubling the program on a new site. The design reflects the unique "experiential learning community" of the school, where much of students' time is spent on project-based learning, with strong connections to the natural environment.

The challenge of the project was on how to provide a highly collaborative environment and incorporate the natural environment within the facility. The design team worked with the school's directors, teachers, school board members and parents to create a facility that breaks free of traditional school models, providing an environment conducive to curiosity, self-discovery and achievement — equally valuing the built and natural environments.

Nature became the inspiration for the building concept, beginning with the idea of shifting planes along a faultline with a river running through it. The "river," or hallway, is a series of informal spaces offering support for the various modalities of learning. The "river" is the connection between classrooms, with "eddies" and "caves" for smaller group interaction and "campfire circles" in support of socializing within a larger community.

The school landscape is designed to be a teaching tool, an exploratory environment and a place to play. The site will encourage teachers and students to engage with the landscape and to connect with nature, with the atmosphere and with the community.



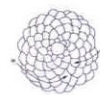
Forest Home Pinecone Cabins

Project Location: Forest Falls, Calif.

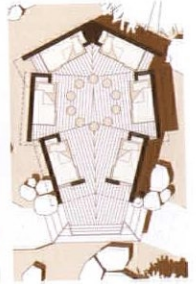
Architect: E. Randal Johnson, AIA, 4240 Architecture Inc. (Denver)

Project Size: 350 square feet each

Expected Start and Completion: Unknown; currently in fundraising



SMALL and TIGHT
BIG and LOOSE



A children's camp in the mountains east of Los Angeles commissioned 4240 Architecture to replace its tired teepees with new lodging. Inspiration was found in the surrounding Coulter pine forest. At 350 square feet and completely off-grid, each pinecone cabin provides shelter and community for groups of eight campers and their counselors. The planned geometry offers each child both prospect and refuge; kids have solid walls at their backs and views of the forest at their feet. The plan swells around its midsection to provide space for a 10-person circle gathering. Using pinecones as design inspiration, the tops of these cabins are closed and watertight, while the walls become progressively more open moving toward the ground, providing protection from rain and wind, while allowing natural ventilation and views. The entire cabin is clad in cedar shingles that grow from small and tight at the roof to big and loose toward the ground. Simple construction of FSC-certified lumber and plywood is left exposed on the cabin's interior, while cedar shingles create the diamond pattern of the exterior, again, reminiscent of pinecones. The cabins have been designed to maximize construction efficiency and minimize material waste; each cabin is comprised of six identical wall and bunk modules, which are factory-fabricated to reduce material waste and transported for quick and easy on-site assembly by the campers themselves.

On the Boards

Boulder Jewish Community Center

Project Location: Boulder, Colo.

Architect: Rebecca Spears, AIA, LEED AP; Gopal Shrestha, AIA, LEED AP; and George Brelig, AIA, RB+B Architects, Inc. (Fort Collins, Colo.)

Project Size: 53,302 square feet

Budget: \$14 million

Design Start Date: June 2011

Planned Design Completion Date: September 2012

Planned Construction Start Date: November 2012

Planned Construction Completion Date: December 2013

The new Boulder Jewish Community Center (Boulder JCC) has been in the planning stages for the last 10 years. As the first building to populate the Boulder Jewish Commons at the southeast corner of Arapahoe Road and Cherryvale Road



in Boulder, it will embody the timeless quality planned for architecture in that development with the use of local natural materials, simple forms and qualities of solidity, permanence and integrity found in Jewish tradition (*summarized from Barrett Studio's Design Patterns, Standards and Guidelines*).

The new 53,000-square-foot facility, while grounded in the past, is a contemporary interpretation of today's sustainable design. Intending to be LEED-certified, the Boulder JCC will be a community center open to everyone. The entry courtyard, with its signature massive stone wall, brings together all visitors and will be a protected space used for small gatherings or large events. The early childhood center is in one half of the building, while the other half houses a community hall with glorious views of the Flatirons, a fitness center, a Jewish library and classrooms that serve a varied audience from babies to seniors.

Advertisers Index

Adolfson & Peterson Construction	21	IMAGINiT Technologies	27
www.a-p.com		www.imaginit.com	
Blue Valley Energy	5	K2 Audio	11
www.bluevalleyenergy.com		www.k2audio.com	
Borgert Products, Inc.	2	Kiewit Building Group	27
www.borgertproducts.com		www.kiewit.com	
CAPCO	5	Rocky Mountain Prestress	3
www.capcotile.com		www.RMPprestress.com	
CMC Group	11	Stresscon	28
www.cmc-group.com		www.stresscon.com	
Cosentino	12	The Weidt Group	5
www.cosentinousa.com		www.twgi.com	
GE Johnson	6		
www.gejohnson.com			



Jobs Done Well.

Kiewit Building Group is hard at work on sustainable projects throughout the country. To date, Kiewit companies have put in place nearly 4 million square feet of LEED projects valued at over \$1 Billion. Locally, we are proud to have served as contractors for the new Toyota Elephant Passage exhibit set to open this year at the Denver Zoo—and currently seeking LEED® Platinum certification. We eagerly await the opportunity to include your project in this growing category of green success.



Kiewit Building Group
7200 S Alton Way, Suite A-300 • Englewood, CO 80112 • (303) 930-9000 • kbgcolorado@kiewit.com

kiewit.com

**With tools and expertise like this,
the sky's the limit.**

Autodesk
Silver Partner
Architecture, Engineering & Construction

Best-in-class training
More than 85 technical experts
Specialists in 8 different industries

Get a free copy of IMAGINiT Utilities for Revit Lite or try Scan to BIM™ for 30 days for free. Take your BIM strategy beyond the everyday with tools that ease your workflow and help automate the manual tasks that eat up time. With everything from change case to creating a more accurate as-built, we've got tools to help. And if you need to update your Revit skills, we can help with that too.

IMAGINiT
TECHNOLOGIES
A RAND Worldwide Company

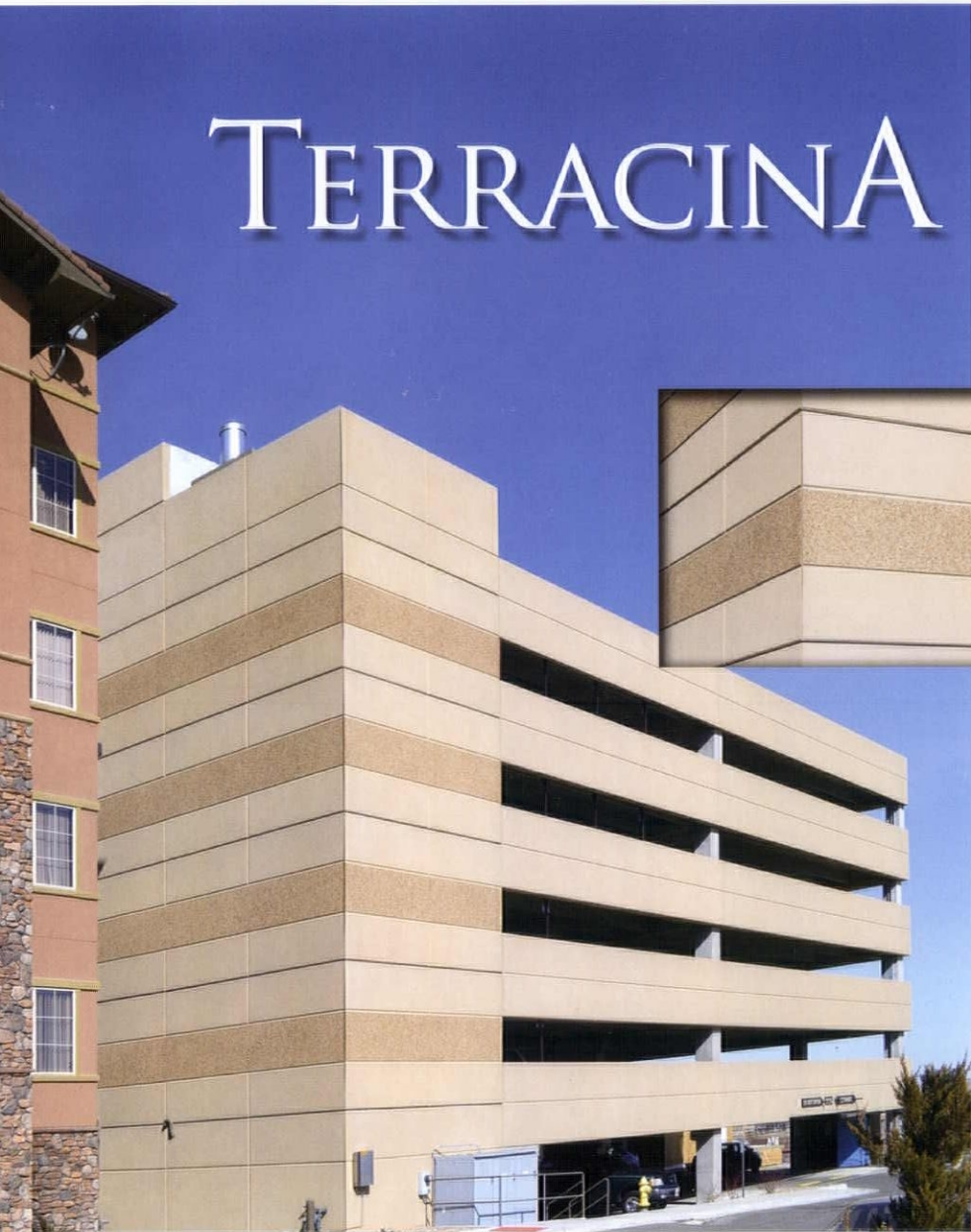
Find out more at imagineit.com or call our
Denver office at 303.796.0204

AIA Colorado
303 E. 17th Ave., Ste. 110
Denver, CO 80203

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
Paid
CHAMPAIGN, IL
Permit No. 100

TERRACINA

in Broomfield, Colorado



This multi-family parking structure is a total precast system with an architectural, load bearing, exterior façade.



EnCon Companies is proud to provide regional design and manufacturing offices throughout the United States.

For additional information, please visit www.enconunited.com

EnCon Colorado

8600 Welby Road
Denver, CO 80229
303-287-4312
303-287-4284 – Fax

EnCon Utah

101 South Industrial Loop Road
Tooele, UT 84074
435-843-4230
435-843-4239 – Fax

EnCon Northwest

1615 SE 6th Avenue
Camas, WA 98607
360-834-3459
360-834-1940 – Fax

EnCon Washington

5415 189th Street E
Puyallup, WA 98375
253-846-2774
253-846-9628 – Fax



STRESSCON

Architectural and Structural Precast Concrete
An **EnCon** Company

Stresscon Corporation
3210 Astrozon Boulevard
Colorado Springs, CO 80910
719-390-5041 • Fax 719-390-5564
www.stresscon.com