

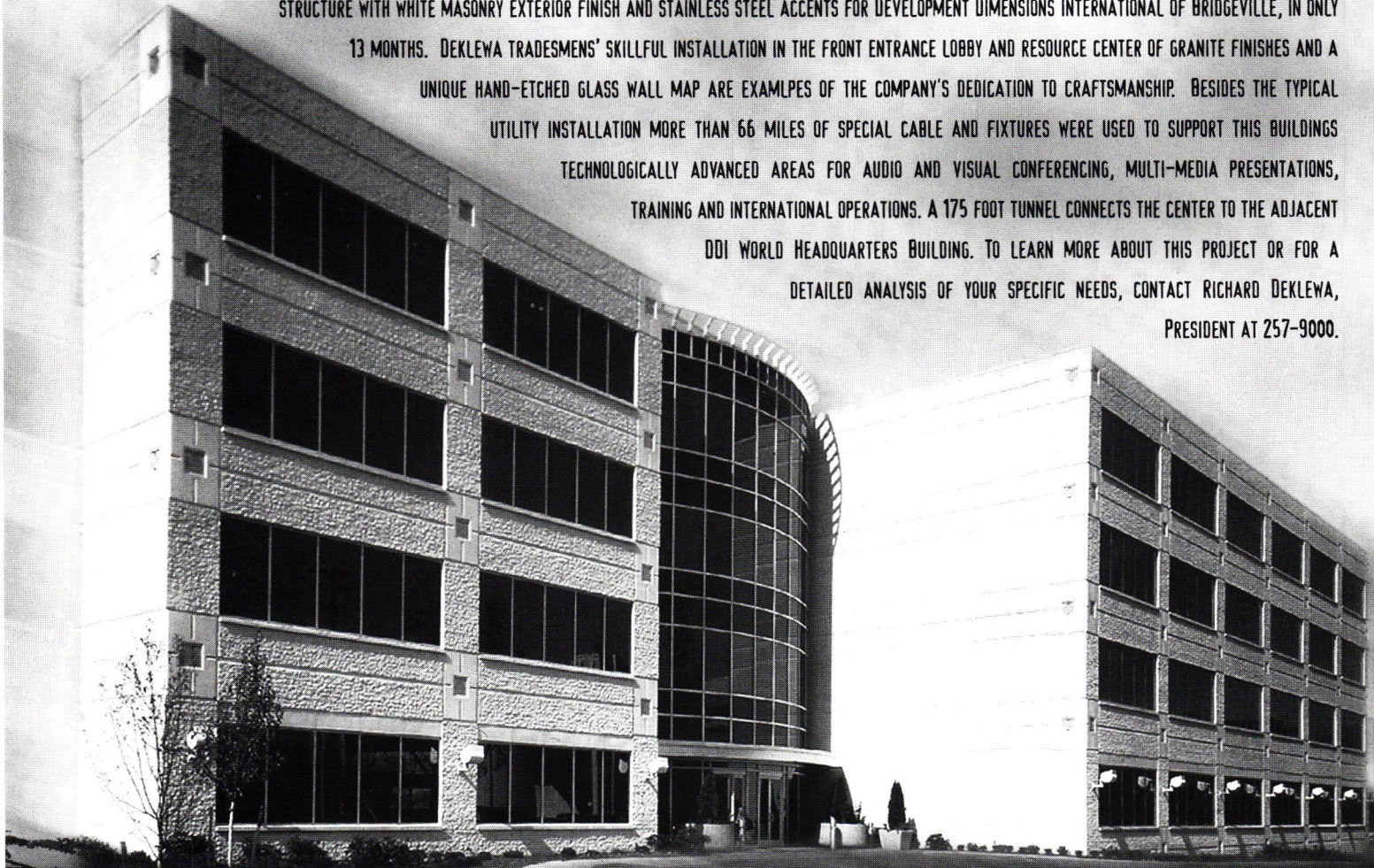
C O L U M N S





DEKLEWA DEVELOPS A NEW DIMENSION

THE RECENT COMPLETION BY JOHN DEKLEWA & SONS, INC. OF THE NEW CENTER FOR ADVANCED LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT TECHNOLOGY SIGNALS ANOTHER MILESTONE IN THE CONSTRUCTION FIRM'S LONG HISTORY OF PROJECTS FOR HIGH PROFILE CLIENTS. DEKLEWA CONTRACTORS ERECTED THIS "STATE OF THE ART" FOUR STORY STEEL FRAME STRUCTURE WITH WHITE MASONRY EXTERIOR FINISH AND STAINLESS STEEL ACCENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT DIMENSIONS INTERNATIONAL OF BRIDGEVILLE, IN ONLY 13 MONTHS. DEKLEWA TRADESMEN'S SKILLFUL INSTALLATION IN THE FRONT ENTRANCE LOBBY AND RESOURCE CENTER OF GRANITE FINISHES AND A UNIQUE HAND-ETCHED GLASS WALL MAP ARE EXAMPLES OF THE COMPANY'S DEDICATION TO CRAFTSMANSHIP. BESIDES THE TYPICAL UTILITY INSTALLATION MORE THAN 66 MILES OF SPECIAL CABLE AND FIXTURES WERE USED TO SUPPORT THIS BUILDING'S TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED AREAS FOR AUDIO AND VISUAL CONFERENCING, MULTI-MEDIA PRESENTATIONS, TRAINING AND INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS. A 175 FOOT TUNNEL CONNECTS THE CENTER TO THE ADJACENT DOI WORLD HEADQUARTERS BUILDING. TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS PROJECT OR FOR A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF YOUR SPECIFIC NEEDS, CONTACT RICHARD DEKLEWA, PRESIDENT AT 257-9000.



Project Architect: Johnson/Schmidt & Associates

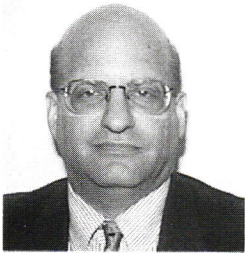
JOHN DEKLEWA & SONS, INC.

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GENERAL CONTRACTORS BUILDING SUCCESS

It's Been A Very Good Year

by Al Cuteri, AIA



During this year, you have witnessed a sea change of public awareness of AIA and architects.

Most firms have been busy, very busy!

The local demand for architects has exhausted the local supply. Many firms are importing architects while exporting services around the country and around the world. In my 18 years in the profession, this is my first experience of such a prolonged business growth cycle. In the past 24 months, we have seen firms working at full capacity, non-stop, resulting in the rise of base-line salaries of architects and demonstrating that we should be well compensated for our services. What this has meant to our professional organization has been both positive and negative.

The surge in business activity for architects has assisted us in maintaining membership levels that we have worked hard to achieve. The success of many firms has made them more generous in providing financial support and participating in events and programs. This outpouring of support has strengthened our bottom line as we continue to derive a majority of our operating funds from non-dues revenue sources. The downside has been a drop in volunteerism of our membership for AIA activities. This has placed an undue burden on a handful of professionals and support staff at AIA Pittsburgh. This is not a complaint, but something we need to recognize. AIA Pittsburgh is a professional association that must be supported through active involvement in the programs and efforts of the Chapter. With the tremendous strides we have made, I hope more members will become actively involved.

During this year, you have witnessed a sea change of public awareness of AIA and architects. Our involvement in the selection process of the Convention Center expansion has lead to an international design competition, sending the message that design has value.

The revamping of the annual design awards was a tremendous success that we will build on each year. The projects submitted reflected the tremendous talent that rests with local firms here in Pittsburgh. Jury chair Maurice Jennings, AIA and juror Tim DeNoble, AIA both expressed their joy at the quality of all of the submissions as well as their fascination with Pittsburgh.

Even AIA national is catching on to our message. One of the cover stories in the November issue of our national magazine was *Good Design is Good Business*, our slogan for 1998 and beyond. National also spotlighted Pittsburgh's participation in Vice President Al Gore's Schools Initiative program that was broadcast nationwide this summer.

Through the creative efforts of our executive director, we have been able to enhance our service area to include Northwest and Middle Chapters this coming year. This new relationship will help strengthen our organization and our political effectiveness.

My experience as AIA president this year has been exceptional. I have been enriched and (I hope) given something back to the profession and our chapter. I look forward to the coming years as AIA Pittsburgh grows and changes to enhance our profession.

It was a very good year!

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On the cover: 2009 Carson Street designed by Integrated Architectural Services.