

# Derrick Digest

SPRING 2008

## A Special Ribbon Cutting

Just before Christmas, Derrick Custom Homes and its subcontractors and vendors looked on as John and Katie Kriesel cut the ribbon to their new handicap accessible home in Cottage Grove, Minn. John's story has been told in the Twin Cities media this past year; on December 2, 2006, his army vehicle hit a roadside bomb in Iraq while he was serving our country. As a result, John lost both his legs and sustained



John Kriesel gets ready to christen his new home as his wife, Katie, and their two sons look on.

numerous other injuries from which he has spent this past year recovering.

We were given the opportunity to show our support

for our troops by building a new dream home for the Kriesels that would meet John's needs. Because of the outpouring of support from our employees, subcontractors, vendors and many other volunteers, John and Katie were able to move into their new home just in time for Christmas—at one-third the cost that the home would normally be!

It was truly a wonderful opportunity to help one of our war veterans, as he has given up much to serve us. Thank you, John and Katie, we hope that you are enjoying your new home.



Mike Mikla (left) is presented with his 30-year service plaque by Tom Derrick, vice president of field operations, at our annual Christmas party.

## Derrick Companies Announces Employee Service Awards

To have the reputation of a premier construction firm, you must have loyal and experienced employees. At our annual Christmas party in December, Derrick Companies presented service awards to the following employees:

- Mike Mikla — 30 years
- Jerry Boblit — 20 years
- Dale Durand — 20 years
- Kel Kjellberg — 20 years
- Todd Amundson — 10 years
- Todd Cone — 10 years
- Reggie Schleusner — 10 years

As we begin our 2008 construction season, we want to say thank you to all our employees for their efforts that ensure we will meet or exceed our clients' expectations.

**Project Spotlight**

# Air Motion Systems Building Green With Derrick's Help

Air Motion Systems (AMS) has chosen Derrick Commercial Contracting to work with its architect, Elliot Architects, Hudson, Wis., to build its new corporate headquarters in River Falls, Wis. AMS is the leading North American manufacturer of high performance ultraviolet (UV) systems for the printing industry and will be relocating from its current location in Arvada, Colo.



*A rendering of the new corporate headquarters for Air Motion Systems, which will be a LEED-certified green building.*

The new facility will be approximately 33,000 square feet and is located on a six-acre site in Whitetail Ridge Corporate Park in River Falls. The site and building will accommodate another 30,000 square feet of space in the future. In light of the fact that our client takes pride in having an environmentally-safe manufacturing process, we

are attempting to earn Silver level LEED certification for the building.

Steve Metcalf, president and CEO of AMS, told our president, Bill Derrick, that he chose Derrick because of our well-documented construction process, our attention to cutting edge technology and our knowledge and commitment to the green building process. In addition, this project has a very tight construction schedule and he realized we had the team resources available to meet his time frame.

The exterior of this building will be comprised of precast concrete, architectural metal panels and glass, and will use highly energy efficient mechanical and electrical systems. Construction is currently scheduled to be completed by mid to late summer.

## Mark Mitchell Joins The Derrick Team

Derrick Companies is proud to announce that Mark Mitchell has joined our professional team as the new project development representative for Derrick Commercial Contracting. Mark's primary responsibility is to seek out and work with potential clients as they consider their future building needs. Mark is a landscape



*Mark Mitchell*

architect, and most recently was involved in golf course design and development in the upper Midwest. We are excited about having Mark on the team and the benefits he will offer our clients.

Mark and his family live in Hudson and are active members of the community. We hope that you will have an opportunity to meet Mark and welcome him to our team.

## Derrick Companies Insurance Rates Drop Again

One of the many benefits of using our company for your building needs is that we have one of the safest track records in the industry. Our Experience Modification Rate (an insurance industry measurement of a company's safety record) has decreased once again and now stands at an amazingly low .59! This means that our safety performance is 41% better than the industry average. Our clients benefit by having a well run and safe project, as well as lower costs for workers' compensation and liability insurance. We would like to thank our safety committee and our consultants at RJF Agencies and Western National Insurance for all they do to help us keep our projects safe and more cost-competitive.



**DERRICK**  
COMPANIES

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