J&M Brown Completes Comprehensive Renovation at Wentworth Institute of Technology’s Douglas D. Schumann Library

NECA contractor teams with Architect: Perkins + Will, Boston; EE: ARUP, Boston; GC: Consigli Construction, Boston

BOSTON, MA – In a three-month “summer slammer” project, J&M Brown Company, Inc. (JMB), of Jamaica Plain, MA, completed the comprehensive electrical, fire alarm, tel/data and security system renovations at the Wentworth Institute of Technology (WIT) main library – the Douglas D. Schumann Library, in August.

The multifaceted project scope included upgrading the 45,000 s/f facility’s electrical distribution system, which encompassed installation of all new electrical panels and the removal of old Federal Pacific panels; installation of new energy-efficient LED lighting; installation of a new fire alarm system; and the build-out of 12 conference rooms, inclusive of the installation of the backbone to new Audio Visual systems. The library’s comprehensive LED lighting package is integrated with an advanced networked Acuity lighting control system.

J&M Brown served as a single-source provider for the Wentworth library renovation, as the NECA contractor’s Electrical Division provided all electrical and fire alarm upgrades, and JMB’s low-voltage division, Spectrum Integrated Technologies, coordinated and installed the facility’s upgraded tel/data and security systems. To enhance the project’s efficiency and meet WIT’s requirement to have the project completed for the fall semester, during pre-construction J&M Brown provided extensive planning and CAD coordination for all lighting and conduit pathways.

J&M Brown managed an IBEW Local 103 field crew of 28 electricians at peak construction. The project was headed by JMB Project Manager Kimberly Estabrooks, GF Patrick O’Neil, and Foremen Larry Daley and Brian Dir. Spectrum IT Vice President Terry Kilduff and PM Jeff Veil headed the security system project with PM Randy Silva leading the tel/data project team. Consigli Construction, of Boston, served as the general contractor.

Commenting on the fast-track nature of the project, PM Estabrooks said, “The project’s most challenging aspect was the short window of time from demo to full completion – demolition began at the end of April and the project was completed by the beginning of August. This included procurement of materials and working in a partially occupied building. The dedication of the field personnel, as well as the management and close coordination across all levels of project team members, including J&M Brown, Consigli, P&W, ARUP, and WIT enabled us to meet critical project timeline dates and occupancy requirements.”

The renovated WIT Douglas D. Schumann library, designed by architect, Perkins + Will, of Boston, features a modern, open environment design and incorporates building upgrades that focus on sustainability and energy-efficiency.

State Electric Completes Primary Electrical Construction at Boston Bruins’ Warrior Ice Arena at Boston Landing

Architect: Elkus Manfredi Architects, Boston; Engineer: WSP Flack + Kurtz, Boston; GC: John Moriarty & Associates, Winchester, MA; Owner: New Balance Development

BRIGHTON, MA – State Electric Corp., of Bedford, MA, has provided electrical construction services at the new Warrior Ice Arena practice facility for the Boston Bruins, as well as at the attached ten-story office building at Boston Landing.

State’s project scope entailed the installation of all-in-wall sleeving for tel/data and audio-visual networks, as well as the required power connections for the ice management system at the arena. In addition, State Electric provided the installation for the programmable fire alarm system, Lutron lighting dimming system, and all mechanical equipment connections. The seventeen-month project was completed for occupancy on September 1, 2016.

The project required all electrical installations for the ice rink to be completed prior to starting other aspects of the facility. State Electric created extensive project schedules, closely coordinating with general contractor John Moriarty & Associates to keep concurrent schedules for the arena and office building on track. Prefabrication enhanced the efficiency of the project, as State Electric’s prefabrication facility custom fabricated all racks and conduit bends prior to installation. The NECA contractor also worked closely with the lighting manufacturer to ensure that lights were installed weeks before installation.

The agile project schedule was successful, enabling the team to meet the aggressive project schedule. Project Manager Mike Abbott headed the State Electric project team, supervising a field crew of 67 IBEW Local 103 electricians on both projects at peak construction.

Adjacent to the New Balance world headquarters, the 175,000 s/f state-of-the-art training and practice facility for the Bruins has seating for 660 patrons. The facility opened to the Bruins and the public in September.

JM Electrical Completes Building Automation/Control System Project at Warrior Ice Arena

JM Electrical Company, Inc. headquartered in Lynnfield, MA, completed power and control system project operations at Warrior Ice Arena, the Boston Bruins practice facility at the Boston Landing development in Brighton.

The NECA contractor installed power and control wiring for the ice rink’s refrigeration system and pre-packaged mechanical rooms. In addition, JM Electrical wired the leak detection system, added sensors associated with the ice battery tank, and installed cooling towers, dehumidification units and associated air handling units.

“There were many components associated with the ice rink system in the arena,” said Jay Bourke, project manager at NB Development Group and general manager of Warrior Ice Arena. “It was a pleasure working with JM, as the company’s staff is so skilled and experienced in the field.”

Work at the arena site began in December 2014 and JM began installations in January of this year. It is adjacent to a 10-story office building, part of a 15-acre Boston Landing project.

John Guaracino, project manager of JM Electrical, said, “As big Boston sports fans, JM Electrical is pleased to have contributed to operations at the state-of-the-art practice rink for our own Boston Bruins.”

EDUCATION NEWS

Gaston Electrical presents to NECA/Wentworth Student Chapter

Gaston Electrical Company Project Manager Adam Staniec met with approximately 15 Wentworth students, speaking about his career path in project management and the dynamic commercial project work Gaston provides throughout the region. Adam encouraged the students to explore the electrical industry.

The group was joined by Nina Radzim, HR for Gaston.

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EDUCATION NEWS

NECA Boston Conducts Electrical Project Supervision Course for Foreman Training

BOSTON, MA – In October and November on successive Tuesdays, NECA Boston Chapter conducted a five-session Foremen Training course, Introduction to Project Supervision. The continuing education course, held at the Greater Boston JATC Electrical Training Center, was headed by instructor Wayne DelPino, a faculty member at Wentworth Institute of Technology. Fifteen electrical foremen from NECA members Ayer Electric, Bent Electrical Contractors, New England Electric Group, and McPhee Electric attended and will earn 1.2 CEU Certificates from Wentworth. The program focused on skills required to handle a broad range of supervisory issues faced on the job. Such wide-ranging topics as collective bargaining agreements, job site documentation, material purchasing, crew communications, contract basics, scope of work, management tools for scheduling, setting performance milestones, and dealing with employee issues were presented.

During the first session on October 19th, NECA Boston Chapter Manager Glenn Kingsbury, IBEW Business Agent Don Sheehan and Attorney Ira Sills presented industry issues related to collective bargaining agreements and dealing with harassment and discrimination to the NECA/IBEW foremen (see photo).

INDUSTRY NEWS

NECA Boston, McDonald Electrical host Chilean Construction Delegation in Walkthrough of Harvard Kennedy School and 1350 Boylston Street

On October 11th, following the NECA national convention, NECA Boston Chapter and McDonald Electrical provided an electrical construction delegation from Chile a walkthrough of two dynamic McDonald Electrical project sites one at the Harvard Kennedy School in Cambridge and the other at the 1350 Boylston Street residential high-rise, a Skanska USA project.

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Take a close look at just a few of the recently completed projects by NECA Greater Boston Chapter members. It will tell you where to turn for the highest standards in electrical, telecom, and renewable energy construction. Rely on the power of quality electrical work. Call 877-NECA-IBEW for a complete directory of NECA Greater Boston Chapter Members, or visit us at www.bostonneca.org.

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