Sullivan & McLaughlin Companies Completes Electrical Construction of Reebok Global Headquarters in Boston Seaport

NECA contractor teams with Architect: Gensler, Boston, MA; EE: WB Engineers & Consultants, Boston, MA; GC: Gilbane Building Company, Boston, MA

The company moved from its former home office campus in Canton, MA. The new Reebok headquarters houses the international footwear and sports gear company’s corporate offices, meeting spaces, and a state-of-the-art design lab, located on the third floor. The facility also features a 7,600 square-foot Reebok flagship retail store with a customization shop on the first floor; and a two-story, integrated 30,000 square-foot fitness center, complete with a boxing ring and studios for Pilates, CrossFit, yoga and spin.

SullyMac’s scope of work included the installation of primary and emergency power, lighting and lighting control systems, the fire alarm system, and plumbing protection system, as well as low-voltage installations for Reebok’s tel/data, security, and audio-visual systems. The NCA-A Boston contract also provided power to the HVAC control systems.

Commenting on the demands of the project, PM Worobey said, “The Reebok project had a very aggressive schedule given the amount of electrical scope that was required. The SullyMac team had more than 33,000 hours of work to complete in six months, with multi-turnover phases. Our pre-fabrication coordination team was critical to expediting construction, and achieving Reebok’s project timeline.”

He added, “Fast turnaround of the detailed coordination required close cooperation between the architect, engineer, and all subcontractors in order to drive the coordination process with quick turnaround of any conflicts and issues.”

To efficiently meet the project requirements, SullyMac’s prefab team of Local 103 journeymen and apprentices assembled thousands of LED lighting fixtures in the company’s prefabrication facility. The project team also employed Trimble GPS hardware and software to effectively pre-plan and pinpoint the location of all lighting supports, floor boxes, and “poke-thru” locations.

Reebok now houses more than 700 employees in its state-of-the-art Boston Seaport world headquarters.

Ayer Electric Completes 2.59MW Solar Array in Moultonborough, NH for New Hampshire Electric Cooperative

NECA contractor teams with GC: Ameresco, Framingham, MA on New Hampshire’s Largest Solar Array; Owner: New Hampshire Electric Cooperative

In late December 2017, New Hampshire’s largest solar PV array went online, as NCA New Hampshire Division electrical contractor, Ayer Electric, Inc., of Barrington, NH, completed installation of the 2.59MW solar project in Moultonborough, NH for utility company New Hampshire Electric Cooperative (NHEC). The photovoltaic (PV) array is comprised of 7,200 solar panels installed across nine acres of a 13-acre site and wired to a NHEC substation in Moultonborough. The project scope included Ayer Electric’s installation and wiring of 40 480V-AC inverters, which feed a NHEC transformer. The inverters are installed on steel framing and are rated for exterior use. All underground conduit was installed on the remote and secluded site.

Ayer’s first phase of work was performed during the severe December cold snap, as the electrical team provided wire management, which included a comprehensive and detailed tie-in check list for the 7,200 solar panels. The solar site is projected to generate 2.59MW of electricity per year, enough to power approximately 600 homes and will save NHEC more than $290,000 annually in power costs. The green energy project will dramatically help the region’s electricity demands during peak use in the summer.

Ayer Electric handled the project working as a subcontractor to general contractor, Ameresco, of Framingham, MA. Ameresco supplied the solar panels and a TerraRack racking system. Ayer managed a field crew of 25 to 30 IBEW Local 103 electricians, based out of Concord, NH, in the fast-track, three-month project. The Ayer management team, headed by Project Supervisor Todd Sandborn and Project Estimator Frank Gaenger, worked in close cooperation with NHEC project engineer Gary LeMay and Ameresco project manager Nash Yonzis.

The Moultonborough solar project is important for NHEC and its customers, and Ayer Electric is pleased to have worked to have worked in tandem with Ameresco in its installation. Our Local 490 crew did a skillful job throughout the project, and especially in extremely harsh weather conditions, to meet the project scope and timeline,” said Gaenger.

The NHEC Moultonborough solar project is a Davis Bacon project, funded by New Clean Renewable Energy US Bonds. Ayer Electric’s New Hampshire’s largest solar installation company (excluding solar developers). The electrical contractor installed 4,224MW of solar power in 2017 and has tripled its solar production each year since 2014.
J&M Brown Shines as One Seaport Square Rises

ARCHITECT: Elkus Manfredi Architects, Boston; EE: Cosentini Associates, Boston; CM: John Moriarty and Associates, Winchester, MA; Developers: Boston Global Investors, Berkshire Group, W.S. Development

In November 2017, J&M Brown Company, Inc. (JMB), of Jamaica Plain, MA, completed electrical construction of 5 Fan Pier Boulevard – Building C at One Seaport Square, the Seaport district’s newest and most vibrant mixed-use project. Earlier in the year, work was completed at Building B – The Benjamin, located at 25 Northern Ave. The two 22-story towers house 850 luxury apartments and over 300,000 square-feet of retail and entertainment space, with three levels of below-ground parking.

J&M Brown’s scope included providing the buildings’ primary and emergency power as well as their integrated fire alarm system. JMB also installed lighting in the buildings’ lobbies, rooftop terraces, and exterior public realm areas.

For a complete directory of NECA Greater Boston Chapter member firms, call 1-877-NECA-IBEW or visit us at www.bostonneca.org.

NECA Boston Holding Confirms 2018 Board of Directors; Michael McDonald of McDonald Electrical Elected President

WEST NEWTON, MA – The Boston Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) confirmed its 2018 officers and officers at its Annual Chapter Meeting in January. Michael McDonald, of McDonald Electrical Corp., was elected to serve a two-year term as the chapter’s president.

NECA Boston Chapter 2018 Board of Directors


NECA Boston Chapter Assistant Manager, Kristen Gowin, IBEW Local 103 Vice President – United Electrical Construction, Inc., thanked the outgoing officers for their hard work, and congratulated the elected officers for their new roles.

Michael McPhee, Vice President of NECA District 1, Featured Speaker at NECA Boston Annual Meeting

On January 16, Michael McPhee, Vice President of NECA District 1 and principal of McPhee Electric, was the featured speaker at the NECA Boston Chapter Annual Meeting at the Westin Hotel in Waltham. McPhee was introduced by incoming NECA Boston president, Michael McDonal of McDonald Electrical Corporation.

McPhee presented an overview of the current state of the union electrical industry in the region and his vision for the organization. He spoke of the vibrancy of the construction market in our region and the importance of infrastructure spending to help continue to spur commercial, educational and healthcare development, and the construction industry. He also focused on leadership in education and management as being crucial roles for NECA.

“Talent, training and management of a skilled workforce are keys to success in all businesses, especially in electrical construction,” McPhee said, “It is critical to be nimble with technology, with the ongoing changes in the industry.”

He added, “The Boston Chapter of NECA and its members are leaders in the industry, and it is one of the most vibrant chapters in the country. NECA wants to make it easier for our contractors to be even more successful.”

McPhee was elected Vice President of NECA District 1 – New England, New York and New Jersey, at the NECA Annual Convention in Seattle in October. In his position, McPhee represents NECA contractors in Washington with the NECA national office, and the International office of the IBEW.

In accepting his new role as NECA Boston Chapter president, McDonald said, “I am honored to serve NECA and the electrical industry. My commitment is to make NECA the best it can be — continuing our leadership in all aspects of the electrical industry.” He spoke of the importance of the “great labor-management partnership between NECA Boston and Local 103.” He also thanked past presidents of NECA Boston Chapter for their service, including Joseph McCluskey, Jr. of E.G. Sawyer, Paul Guarracino of J.M. Electrical, Joe Bodio of LAN-TEL Communications, Tom Driscoll of E.S. Boulos, and the late David MacKay of E.G. Sawyer.

Nearly 80 NECA members attended the meeting.

NECA Boston Stands with Sen. Edward Markey against Solar Panel Tariffs

ARLINGTON, MA – On January 30, representatives from NECA Boston Chapter, IBEW Local 103, and other MA solar industry stakeholders joined with Sen. Edward Markey in a press conference, voicing concerns about the new 30% Solar Tariff on imports of solar panels recently imposed on the industry in Washington. The tariff threatens solar job growth as the cost of solar installations will rise and demand is expected to slow.

NECA Boston Chapter Assistant Manager, Kristen Gowin, IBEW Local 103 Vice President, Frank Adams, Sen. Edward Markey and Local 103 Business Agent Jay Fraser

LEGISLATIVE NEWS – Telecom Licensing, Paid Family Medical Leave and Wage Theft Bills

On February 7, 2018, several bills that would directly impact the electrical construction industry in Massachusetts received extensions within their respective Committees so that State legislators can continue to consider the prospective impact of the legislation. The Telephone Licensing bill (H.1992) and the Paid Family Medical Leave bill were granted extensions to April 9, 2018. The Wage Theft bill was extended to March 7. The Telecom Licensing bill is in review by the Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure. The Paid Family Medical Leave and Wage Theft bills are under review by the Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development. NECA Boston Chapter advocates for the passage of these bills and will continue to monitor their movement in the Legislature.