Lynnwell Associates Shines in Electrical Construction of Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate at Columbia Point in Boston, MA

Project features four NECA contractors: Lynnwell Associates, Quincy, MA – Primary Electrical Construction; Boston Lightning Rod, Dedham, MA – Lightning Protection System; J.M. Electrical Co., Lynnfield, MA – Building Automation Controls, LAN-TEL Communications, Norwood, MA – Tel/Data Installations

CM: Lee Kennedy Co., Inc., Quincy, MA; EE: WSP Group, Boston, MA; Architect: Roland Viñoly Architects, New York, NY

J.M. Electrical Company Provides Edward M. Kennedy Institute’s Building Automation System

In a uniquely challenging aspect of the project, the chiller plants for the adjacent Kennedy Library were relocated to the new Institute facility during construction. Within its scope, J.M. Electrical seamlessly repositioned the chiller plant controls for the Kennedy Library and integrated them into the same backbone as the Institute’s chiller control system, and then put the system back online. This entailed bringing an elaborate system of pumps, valves, actuators, and frequency drives under control and integrating them so that they function as one system. To accomplish ongoing HVAC service at the Kennedy Library, a parallel system of temporary chillers was utilized so that humidity and temperature control in the critical museum environment was always maintained.

Climate control, also vital to the new Edward M. Kennedy Institute’s museum environment, is fully computer-controlled to ensure an optimal environment. The building automation system constantly monitors all spaces within the facility and adjusts based on real-time conditions. It is programmed to alert management to any adjustments that may be required, with control of the building’s automation system operable via the facility’s engineering office.

J.M. Electrical Project Manager Niall Black and Foreman Hugh MacKinnon headed the NECA contractor’s field crew of IBEW Local 103 electricians in a project that commenced in August 2013 and was complete in October 2014. The J.M. Electrical team “coordinated closely with Lynnwell Associates to ensure the HVAC control systems went online as scheduled,” PM Black said.
May is National Electrical Safety Month

May is National Electrical Safety Month and the NECA is proud to join with the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) in raising awareness about electrical safety by facilitating public education throughout the year. Promotional materials that electrical contractors and others may use to join in the safety campaign are available on ESFI’s website at www.esfi.org.

NECA's Leadership in Electrical Safety in Sharp Focus at 2015 Safety Professionals Conference, May 18 - 20 in Phoenix, AZ

WEST NEWTON, MA – The 2015 NECA Safety Professionals Conference, scheduled May 18 to 20 in Phoenix, is the industry’s premier safety conference, providing the most useful, up-to-the-minute information on safety compliance, management, and standards development. This year’s conference will focus on the new 2015 edition of NFPA 70E: Standard for Electrical Safety in the Workplace. Considered the most important document applicable to electrical construction and maintenance, NFPA 70E is a critical tool for protecting electrical workers from shock, arc-flash and arc-blast hazards, as well as safeguarding customers and their personnel and facilities. The 2015 National Electrical Safety Professionals Conference includes educational tracks for both electrical line construction and inside electrical construction. To learn more and register, visit www.necasafetyconference.com or call NECA Boston Chapter at 617-969-2521.

LAN-TEL Communications Connects Tel/Data Infrastructure for Kennedy Institute

NECA contractor LAN-TEL Communications, headquartered in Norwood, MA, provided the new Edward M. Kennedy Institute's telecommunications infrastructure, which is comprised of a Main Distribution Frame (MDF) on the second floor and four Intermediate Distribution Frames (IDFs) on the first floor. The tel/data backbone consists of traditional fiber optic and copper cable runs, interconnecting the MDF with each of the four IDFs. LAN-TEL’s crew of six Local 103 technicians also installed wireless access points throughout the building. Project Manager Dave Stevenson and Foreman Brian Collett headed LAN-TEL’s project team in the six-month tel/data project, which was completed in September 2014.

Lynnwell Associates Shines in Electrical Construction of Edward M. Kennedy Institute (Continued)

The official dedication ceremony held on March 30th. The official dedication ceremony featured a celebrated list of speakers, including President Barack Obama, Vice President Joseph Biden, Republican Senator John McCain, and the late Senator Kennedy’s wife, Victoria Reggie Kennedy, who along with him, is a co-founder of the Institute. It was attended by numerous U.S. Senators and colleagues of the late Senator Kennedy, prominent Massachusetts officials, including Governor Charlie Baker and Boston Mayor Martin Walsh, and members of Senator Kennedy’s family.

Boston Lightning Rod, Inc., based in Dedham, MA, served as a subcontractor to Lynnwell Associates in providing engineering, design and installation of the facility’s exterior lightning protection system. The specialty project was headed by PM Andrew Mulholland supervising two lightning protection technicians from IBEW Local 103.

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