



# PIERCE

## News & Notes

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Employee Newsletter

December 2010

## Job Spotlight: Balfour Beatty Office Building

As of November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010, Balfour Beatty's Headquarters has a new address, and Pierce Associates is proud to have performed the mechanical work for their benefit. Occupying the entire fifth floor of the Bridgewater Corporation Building in Fairfax, VA, the new office space consists of one fully occupied level of 26,000 square feet.

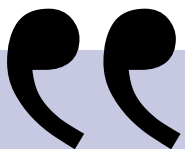
From the start, Balfour Beatty sought to showcase their contracting skills by employing an Integrated Project Delivery (IPD) construction system, one which streamlines the design and construction process by bringing all parties together at the start. To that end, Fox Architects assisted in the IPD by providing the architectural design, while the MEP package was designed and built by Engineered Systems Alliance (ESA), a joint venture Pierce shares with Hankins & Anderson and Truland Systems Corporation. As our partners, Hankins & Anderson is a multidisciplinary engineering firm based out of Glen Allen, VA, that provides consulting engineering and design services. Truland Systems, based out of Reston, VA, provides all of the electrical design support as well as electrical contracting. By working together as one team, the contractors are able to provide input in the design, and field design issues to be solved "in house". As a result, ESA seeks to provide the best possible MEP design in the most economical manner possible.

In designing their new office space, one of Balfour Beatty's main goals was to support a variety of work styles with maximum adaptability and environmental controllability for the user. They also wanted to focus on creating an environmentally friendly, sustainable office space, and as a result of this focus, the project is slated to achieve LEED-CI v3.0 Gold certification. The mechanical systems for the new headquarters consist

of an existing air handling unit and primary duct supply that feed 36 VAV boxes throughout the floor. Interior zones are served by single duct terminal boxes, while the exterior zones are served by fan powered terminal boxes. Air is exhausted from the kitchen by way of an inline exhaust fan, while the IT server room has a ductless split system AC unit that maintains the temperature in the server room during all hours regardless of building occupancy. The installation of the new VAV boxes and relocating of the ductwork was led by Justin Sheppard, while rerouting of sanitary pipe and kitchen plumbing work was led by Joe Royce.

Due to the compressed duration of the job, a large part of the project's success is due to the combined efforts of ESA's coordination team and Balfour Beatty's BIM specialist in trying to resolve a majority of the design issues before construction began. Using a full 3D model of the core and shell, the team was able to identify clashes between the ductwork, lighting systems, and sprinkler pipe and solve these problems well in advance of construction. For Pierce's portion of this work, our coordination was led by Scott Sheppard, Matt Hill, and Mike Spears.

As of this writing, the office space just finished testing and balancing, and is now going through the final phases of enhanced commissioning under the direction of Chinook Systems. Functional Performance Tests on the VAVs and the split system are scheduled to be performed in mid-December, with the goal of being completely finished with the project before the holidays. Congratulations to all those who worked to complete this renovation and thanks especially to ESA and industry partners for making this project a success.



A snowflake is one of the most fragile creations,  
but look what they can do when they stick together!

- Unknown



# EMPLOYEE highlights

## Jimmy Dwyer



Jimmy Dwyer has been a sheet metal mechanic in Pierce's sheet metal shop for over 28 years, beginning as a 2<sup>nd</sup> year apprentice in 1981. Jimmy

was born in Manassas, but due to a hearing impairment, he grew up with his aunt in Washington, DC and attended Galludet School for the Deaf. At Galludet, he worked to improve his speech and develop his sign language skills, and he stayed through high school, attending their Model Secondary School for the Deaf.

After graduating from high school, Jimmy moved to Minnesota to attend the St. Paul Technical Vocational Institute. He began training as a plumber before switching to the sheet metal trade, where he obtained his apprenticeship diploma in just one year. While in St. Paul, Jimmy met his future wife, Lisa, but he also quickly learned that sheet metal mechanics don't work consistently during the winter in Minnesota. As a result, they moved back to the DC area and Jimmy joined Local 100, where he did another 4 year apprenticeship and got a second apprenticeship diploma.

At Pierce, Jimmy has spent the last 10 years in the shop primarily welding, but he also fills in wherever an extra mechanic is needed. During the course of his 28 years in the shop, he has watched Pierce grow and develop as the sheet metal shop has expanded and brought in new equipment. Additionally, he is fortunate enough to work side by side with his only son, Allen, who

welds in the station immediately adjacent to him.

When he's not working, Jimmy is an avid bowler who has spent years traveling for tournaments. Asked about his best score, he replies, "279" with a smile. The story behind the smile involves a tournament in Laurel, MD. Jimmy had bowled 11 consecutive strikes and, needing only a final strike to complete the perfect game, he threw a great ball that scattered all the pins. Unfortunately, through some bad luck, one of the pins actually left the lane, bounced off one of the walls and landed back in the lane where it remained standing upright.

When he's not bowling, Jimmy likes spending time with his three grandkids, Kirsten, Danny, and Sarah. He also does home remodeling in his free time.

## Shannon Kraeski



Shannon Kraeski joined Pierce Associates last August as an Assistant Plumbing Foreman. He immediately started working at the MedImmune

project with Robert Chaisson, and has stayed busy on-site there ever since. His daily activities include bringing material into the job, problem solving and making sure work is getting done in an efficient and productive manner. In addition to his extensive field knowledge, Shannon has experience in drafting, engineering and estimating.

Throughout high school Shannon worked on various construction jobs in the Washington DC Metropolitan area where he grew up. After graduation from Bowie High

School, Shannon started working for the government for two years drawing patent ideas and ultimately earning his Certificate in Drafting and Engineering. From there, Shannon started working for Pro Air and enrolled in the Local 5 apprentice program. He graduated Salutatorian of his class in 2005 and continued at Pro Air. Shannon brings with him over ten years of experience running small projects for Pro Air, BPI and worked most recently at the National Archives finishing a job for TK.

When not at work, Shannon enjoys spending time with his wife, Jamie, and their three children, Timmy, 8, Gabriel, 4 and JJ, 3. He stays busy riding dirt bikes on motor cross tracks and skateboarding with Timmy on the half-pipe he built in his front yard in Annapolis, MD. His passion is extreme sports and loves skiing, snowboarding and is currently planning his first sky-diving trip for 2011.

## Denny Lyons



With the coming of next year, Denny Lyons will have completed 40 years of continuous service as a valued employee of Pierce Associates. Denny

began his career here in 1971 as a first year apprentice out of Local 602, and after serving two years in the field, he was brought to the main office to help establish Pierce's first pipe fabrication shop in 1973. Back when the shop started, it was manned only by Denny, an occasional welder, and a truck driver, but today it has grown into a sizeable manufacturing facility, replete with modern fabrication

equipment and a team of welders and fitters. Through it all, Denny has been there, effectively serving as the one and only fitting shop supervisor in the company's history.

Denny currently lives in Springfield, VA with his wife, Diana. He has two sons from his previous marriage: Craig, 29, who works as a helper in the shop and will be seeking acceptance into Local 602's apprenticeship program, and Chris, 31, who is a field foreman for Southland Industries. He also has one stepson through Diana, Chris, 27, who works as an IT contractor for the federal government.

When Denny is not working to keep our field crews supplied with the material they need, he is an avid golfer who enjoys taking in a round as often as he can. He and Diana have made several golfing vacations in recent years, including a now annual pilgrimage to Palm Springs to golf with roughly 30 friends. As Denny now contemplates his future retirement, he relishes the opportunity to spend more time on the links.

## Louis Brooks



Louis Brooks was born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri, and moved to the Washington, DC area in 1971. He joined Construction & General Laborers' Local Union 657 in 1975, and has been a member ever since. He began work for Pierce Associates on the Pentagon project in 2001, and is currently a laborer foreman at NCE.

When asked about his employer, Louis had only positive things to say, stating Pierce "is a top notch company, and I do all that I can every day to make the company look good." Though he's been known to crack a joke from time to time, Louis takes the responsibility of being a foreman seriously. "I look forward to coming to work every single day, and I give all that I

can when I work, but I expect the same out of everyone under me," he says.

Louis currently resides in Fort Washington, MD, with his wife of 15 years, Sharon, and he is the proud father of four children: Kashif, Ronald, Kimberly, and Christina. When he's not busy at work, he enjoys running to stay in shape. He is also an avid reader, and he enjoys a wide variety of books, saying, "If there's a good book out there I will read it." There are, however, a few books Louis particularly enjoys. One of them is The End of Work by Jeremy Rifkin, a non-fiction recounting of the decline of the global labor force and the dawn of the post-market era, and it highlights the impact increasing automation has on the world's blue collar, retail, and wholesale employees. Louis says the book that has been most influential on him is the Seven Habits of Highly Effective People, by Steven Covey, which ended up validating many beliefs he had already held.

## BEE safe

There's a new tool available in the fight against eye injuries, the Monogoggle XTR, and it has been outperforming standard face shields at some of our biggest sites. Typically, standard face shields collect dust and debris in the space between the hardhat bill and the mask housing. When the work is done and the wearer raises the shield or removes their hardhat, the wearer gets an eye full of all the material the standard face shield was supposed to have blocked. Only a face shield can protect the face and air passages from the falling dust and debris created by drilling overhead; we should not have to face a catch 22.

That's why the Monogoggle XTR is so special. The Monogoggle XTR is a set of safety goggles with a built-in face shield. The goggles are not attached to the hardhat, and as a result, the waste collection problem is eliminated. The Monogoggle XTR is ANSI (American National Standards Institute) Z-87 compliant, but it should always be worn in addition to safety glasses. Also, the user will be able to see through the lenses of the Monogoggle XTR for longer periods with out stopping due to the anti-static and anti-fog materials the goggle is made from. Best of all, the lenses are replaceable, so the more durable Monogoggle XTR can be purchased for about the same price as a standard face shield.

Pierce Safety was cautious about replacing face shields with a relatively new and untested product, so we made it available in the field and tracked its performance. Workers who chose to use the Monogoggle XTR had rave reviews, while workers who continued using standard face shields had the same safety issues as always. Given those results, and in an effort to better protect our valuable team members, we're moving to only stock Monogoggle XTR in our shops. Now, when you need a face shield for your work, ask for the "new" standard by name.



Whether it's greeting visitors that enter our front door, processing a "HOT" RFI to be submitted to a General Contractor, or putting the finishing touches on a subcontract or purchase order, the Pierce Administrative team serves as the backbone for our company's daily operations. Collectively, their tasks are diverse and many, but together they efficiently get the job done.

The first contact a visitor or caller has with our company comes thru Lorraine Sheffield, Pierce's meticulous and dependable receptionist. Throughout the course of a day, Lorraine fields innumerable calls; announces guests & deliveries; manages postal services including stamping, sorting, and distribution; maintains logs for couriers and incoming checks; and keeps track of the whereabouts of key Pierce Associates personnel. Additionally, Lorraine plays a significant role assisting the Commissioning and TAB departments in typing the project close-out testing and balancing reports.

On the Executive level, Pat Tanguay serves as Executive Assistant to our corporate President, Steve Pierce, and Executive Vice President John Dunleavy. In addition to meeting their needs, Pat supports Pre-Construction in the development and issuance of major purchase orders and subcontracts; manages corporate service contracts including leasing and maintenance of office equipment; manages the ordering of office supplies & coffee services; sets up jobsites w/ phone and utility services; and plays a vital role in corporate event planning.

Administration's involvement with any given project begins at its earliest stages. Once a project num-

ber has been assigned, they set it up in Expedition, our web-based contract management program, and then, in coordination with the IT department, set it up again in Pierce's internal website, PierceNet, and in Document Control, our paperless document storage/distribution system. From there, the flow of paperwork really begins.

Working closely with the project managers, Trish Kerstetter, Administrative Manager, and Christy Moriarty, Administrative Assistant, perform a myriad of project-related tasks. Depending on Pierce's project load, on average they will process several hundred incoming & outgoing RFI's, equipment and material submittals, and drawing transmittals monthly. They are also responsible for sending out miscellaneous letters and cost proposals, updating and maintaining Mechanical Modification registers, processing change orders to contracts as well as partial and final release of liens. They maintain all record file copies of correspondence and perform all archiving of the same. Invoicing of miscellaneous receivables and work orders are channeled through them and, at the end of each month, it is then that they take on one of their most important duties—the monthly contract billings for each project. Administration continues to perform these tasks diligently throughout our work, right down to a project's completion and the arduous tasks of creating valve tag charts and operation and maintenance manuals.

While their team may not be big in size or number, the impact Administration has to Pierce's overall success is incalculable, and their consistent hard-work ethic and dedication are ever appreciated.

## Job Spotlight: Grunley DOI Cafeteria

Phase 3 of The Department of Interior Modernization Project has come to an end, and its late-1930's era, 28,254 square foot cafeteria had its grand opening to much fanfare. This renovation included completely new MEP systems, a new skylight system, new finishes and furnishings, and restored historic murals.

This area proved to be extremely challenging for Pierce, as several AHU's had to be installed above drop and hard ceilings, a 28 inch grease duct needed to be routed through the basement and up 7 stories through the roof, countless congested areas needed to be coordinated and installed, and all the various kitchen appliances and equipment required plumbing connections.

This work was so rigorous, and the end product so impressive, that the Associated General Contractors (AGC) of the metropolitan area recognized our General Contractor on the project, Grunley Construction, with a Merit Award at the 10th Annual Washington Contractor's Awards. Pierce is proud to have been part of the team to earn this recognition, and thanks to Grunley and our other partners for all their efforts in making this project such a noted success.

# Pierce Associates: Employee Notes

Congratulations to the Westlake High School football team in Waldorf Maryland for finishing the season 9-2 and sharing in the SMAC championship! Our own Ronnie Stokes coached the offensive line, which racked up 2,568 yards rushing and averaged 36 points per game.

Steve Pierce's daughter, Melissa, has recently been accepted for admission into High Point University in High Point, North Carolina. Melissa is currently a high school senior and will begin her freshman year at High Point in the fall of 2011. Congratulations Melissa!!

Congratulations also to Fitter Superintendent Joe Kromer, who was crowned the Maryland State Champion in the 50+ class of Motocross on October 31st at Bud's Creek Maryland.

Proud father Phil Cuellar, Jr, wrote to us concerning his daughter's softball championship;

"Her name is Gabrielle (Gabby) and her team name was the Bandits. My father, Phil Cuellar Sr., was the head coach and I was one of the assistants. They went undefeated 12-0. She is a pitcher and had 10 strikeouts and 3 rbi's in the championship game. The Bandits were up to bat and they were down one run. It was the bottom of the last inning with

2 outs and bases loaded. Gabby was up to hit, and it was do or die time. She watched the first pitch come down the pike for a strike. The second pitch came down the pike again....CRACK.... she smoked a shot past the short stop that brought in 2 runs which won the game. Its proof of that old saying that the Cuellars have ice in their veins."



*Phil Cuellar, his father Phil Sr., and daughter Gabrielle after winning the championship softball game.*

Darrell Wade and his wife Michelle welcomed the arrival of their twin baby girls on September 25th! Braelyn Kember was born at 7:03 am, weighing 3lbs 11oz and measuring 16 1/2" long, and a minute later Kinsley Make-na arrived weighing 4lbs 4 oz and measuring 17 1/2". Send out some well wishes

for a good night's sleep to Darrell and Michelle.

Project Manager Dan Donaghy successfully ran the 35th Marine Corps Marathon on October 31st. Finishing in 4:25:29, he then spent the rest of the day eating as much candy as humanly possible.

Congratulations to Jim Pierce who announced that his third grandchild is on the way, and that this will be his first grandson!

Terrence J. McCall of Pierce Associates graduated from Local 100 in October... Congratulations!

## Training & Events @ Pierce

Terrell S. Whiting attended the Night Mig Class from July to September.

Matt Hopke completed MCAMW's "Project Management Training", an 8-week course in October.

Dave Spears, Scott Kick, and Fred Gilbert attended AGC of DC's "CQM: Construction Quality Management" Class on October 21.

Matt Corrigan, Andrew Martin, Dan Donaghy, Matt Hopke, Tristan Churm, George D'Amore, Bryan Miesowitz, and Anne Brodfuehrer attended MCAMW's "Young Executives Lunch & Learn" on October 13.

Mike Smearman and Matt Corrigan attended MCA's 11th Annual MCAMW/ASHRAE Joint Trade Show, co-sponsored by SMACNA Mid-Atlantic Chapter on November 10.

Debbie Curtin, Fred Gilbert, Scott Sisk, and Dave Spears attended the Army Corp of Engineers Construction Quality Management for Contractors training course.

## "New You" Biggest Loser Contest

A new Biggest Loser Contest will start in January and run for four months. Anyone interested in participating should contact LaShan Payton to sign up.

## Local 100 Supports Community

Local 100 held the 21st Annual James E. Killeen, Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament on September 17, 2010 at the Twin Shields Golf Club. It was a fantastic day for playing golf and for remembering all the friends and associates who have participated and contributed to

this annual event which provides scholarships to our children and our spouses, and also supports Dollars Against Diabetes.

Scott Sheppard, Russell Stanley, Phil Cuellar, Matt Hill, Paul Thiel, Fred Brooks, Darrell Wade, Daryl Spen-

cer, Charlie Wood, Tom Hickey, Andrew Stephenson, Jeff Wolfenbarger, John Balon, Denny Lyons, Robert Crouch, Larry Aley were the participants from Pierce Associates in the golf tournament.

# Job Update

## NASM Air & Space (0806)

Owner: Smithsonian Institution

GC: Hensel Phelps Construction Co.

Architect/Engineer: HOK

The Pierce Team at the National Air and Space Museum – Udvar-Hazy Center, Phase II has completed all installation work and is very nearly complete with Commissioning and the Punch List.

Large enough to house several aircraft at one time, the facility will give the Museum's specialists the room and equipment to restore and preserve artifacts. From a glazed mezzanine, guests will be able to view behind-the-scenes work infrequently seen by the general public. The Restoration Hangar will also house numerous support shops where Museum staff will complete the many highly specialized functions necessary to preserve this valuable collection.

Final Completion and a Certificate of Occupancy were obtained in early November 2010, and on November 22nd, a World War II era Curtiss SB2C-5 Helldiver was moved into the hangar for restoration. The Helldiver was a carrier-based dive-bomber aircraft used by the United States Navy during World War II.

The sheetmetal workers, under the command of Cody Cain, have completed last minute change orders and punch list items throughout the building; the plumbers, under the direction of Ken Hollingshead, have set and tested all plumbing fixtures and installed all valve tags; and the pipefitters, under Will Peterson's supervision, have their work complete, flushed and operational.

Meanwhile, our Quality Control and Commissioning Department are conducting the last few remaining Functional Performance Tests, with Tom Croce, John Groenwoldt, and

Chris Baptiste completing all pre start up and start up activities while Chinook Systems is handling all Pre Functional Check Lists. Moreover, TAB Technicians Charlie Tate and Rodney Meyer have completed the testing and balancing.

All in all, an excellent job well done.

## DOI Modernization Project, Option #4 (0905)

Owner: GSA/Dept. of Interior

GC: Grunley Construction

Architect: Shalom Baranes Associates

Engineer: GHT Limited

Phase 4 of The Department of the Interior Modernization Project is currently underway in Wing 2 with plumbing and HVAC being roughed in from the 7th floor to the 2nd floor. Once finished, this wing will include 8 AHU's, 15 Fans, and 118 Fan Coil Units. Pierce has already encountered numerous challenges on this phase, both in demolition and in our efforts to maintain services to Wing 1, but thus far the work is ahead of schedule and progressing quickly. Along with Wing 2, we have already received two large change orders which will require the scoping and/or replacing of 125 roof drains, and the installation of drain pans and drains in new bollards. The work is currently being coordinated and managed by Paul Ellis, Lead Coordinator; John Cumberland, Project Superintendent/Sheet-metal Foreman; Ronnie Stokes, HVAC Piping Foreman; and Brian Sonon, Plumbing Foreman.

## Bureau of Engraving (1001)

Owner: Department of Printing and Engraving

GC: Washington Gas Energy Systems

Engineer: Genesys

Pierce Associates has been contracted by Washington Gas to remove and replace an existing, obsolete Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) capture system at the Bureau of Engraving. Led by superintendent

Dennis Fitzpatrick and sheet metal foreman Al Mathias, the demolition in the penthouse is complete and duct work installation has begun throughout the building. Scheduled to complete in June of 2011, the bulk of the work remains ahead, including the completion of two five-floor exhaust risers, various run outs and installation of new exhaust fans.

## Howard University (1002)

Owner: Howard University

GC: Honeywell

Engineer: SRBR

The Howard University Project is a little over halfway complete and has been progressing smoothly thanks to onsite foremen Nelson Peguero (steamfitter) and Joe Mattia (sheet metal). To date, the fitter crew has replaced over 300' of steam condensate piping in the basement of a 100-year-old structure, and has additionally changed over 20 control valves throughout the campus. The combined sheet metal and fitter teams have also removed and replaced the four main air handling units in the university's main gym, and they have done all of this during the school year with minimal disruption to the student body.

## MedImmune P95 - Area 6 Lab (0902)

Owner: MedImmune, LLC

GC: Tompkins Builders, Inc.

Engineer: Kling Stubbins

With substantial completion slated for August of 2011, Pierce Associates is now on the downward-side of peak manpower. Rough in is substantially complete on most floors of the building. Hookup of lab casework will keep plumbers and fitters (under the auspices of Robert Chaisson and Richard Cherba respectively) busy throughout the winter months. Plumbers will also be kept busy with core bathrooms as well as hooking up the biowaste and process waste systems which will treat the lab waters before entering the sanitary systems. Steamfitters remain busy with hookup

of the cooling tower, final connections in the penthouse of the AHU's and HRU's as well as the boilers in the basement. One unusual system still underway is the liquid nitrogen piping package. Close coordination was required in order to allow this jacketed pipe with bayonet style connections to be fit together. Our vendor, Princeton Cryogenics, has noted we have performed flawlessly to date.

Sheet metal, under the supervision of John Nolan, is also working on moving from system rough ins to final hookups and installation of air outlets. Outside air plenums in both the penthouse and basement are quickly moving towards completion. As with the plumbers and fitters, final connections of lab equipment will be their primary focus.

It is also time for our QC/Cx staff to take center stage in preparation for an intense commissioning process. Cello Romero, Gregg Rzechula and Joe Conklin are on-site daily and tasked with making sure installations meet the rigid standards of MedImmune and the

design architect/engineer, Kling Stubbins. It has only been through the diligent efforts of our field forces that Non Compliance Notices have been kept to a minimal and promptly responded.

Finally, as is always the case at MedImmune, safety remains of paramount importance. Arnold Weiss, Adam McConnell, Pat Marsilio, Joe Peterson and Eric Brunner remain diligent to the fact that even though the majority of work is complete, attention to safety until the last piece of work is installed is an absolute must.

#### NCE (0706)

GC: Clark/Balfour Beatty – NCE, A Joint Venture

Architect: RTKL / Kling

Engineer: RTKL / Kling

Although manpower levels are at a quarter of what they were at their peak, there still is a significant amount of constructive work left to be done at NCE. Punchlist continues to progress through the basement, north bar typical floors, and north

bar air handling units. Rooftop AHUs G and H have been successfully turned over to the government, with E and F units to follow in the near future.

In addition, recently returned Tony Davis and the fitters are running copper piping in the JKL area and completing equipment connections. Sheet metal workers, under Porter Neese and Mike Taylor, are hard at work installing grease ductwork in the kitchen areas, as well as undertaking the arduous task of warranty tagging jobsite equipment. Crews are also installing grilles, diffusers, and chilled beams in north bar and JKL areas as ceilings allow.

Meanwhile, Jeff Horsman's plumbers are hard at work installing fixtures in the remaining areas of the north building, running copper in the JKL area, and valve tagging and labeling. TAB activities are progressing through tower C, and Commissioning and CQC continue their efforts starting equipment while making a final push to sign off and close-in the remaining areas of the building.

## Pierce Craftsmen Volunteer for MCAMW "Heat's On-Water's Off"

Pierce Associates would like to extend special thanks to Jose Ayala, Willie Banks, Geary Burch, Marvin Guerra, Stacey Holt, Constantin Jiga, T. J. Ramsey, Kenny Reantoquio, Lamont Toney, and Reed Kendall for volunteering their time and effort by assisting their fellow plumbers and steamfitters during the jointly sponsored Mechanical Contractors Association of Metropolitan Washington / Plumbers and Gasfitters Local 5 / Steamfitters Local 602 "Heat's On - Water's Off" program on Saturday September 25, 2010.

These Pierce employees, along with other MCAMW Contractors, plumbers, and steamfitters, worked to make plumbing, gas fitting and HVAC repairs on many homes located in Prince's Georges County. Because of their efforts, these homes are in safer condition and ready for the winter heating season. We extend a gracious thank you to these fine craftsmen.

## Technical Tips

Faced with the prospect of installing hundreds of chilled beams out at NCE, Pierce Associates began considering ways in which the beams could be installed most efficiently and in a manner that would aid our field workers. To that end, Mike Smearman and Ryan Morris developed a typical layout system for the North Bar that combined standardization with ease of reference.

In the pipe shop, hook-up "packs" were developed that would allow for the prefabrication and transport of several "typical" piping connection assemblies required by the chilled beam design. These packs were then color coded with spray paint and delivered to the site, whereupon the field compared the color coding to that shown on their coordinated shop drawings to ensure they were installed in the appropriate locations. In addition, a sheet metal hanger layout template was developed to enhance the placement of hanger inserts for the chilled beam piping, thereby increasing the efficiency of the hanger installation as well. As a result, much of the time spent on typical layout was removed, and our chilled beam installations proceeded much more quickly.

Pierce Associates, Inc.  
4216 Wheeler Avenue  
Alexandria, VA 22304

# Happy Holidays!

The PAI management team wishes everyone a happy and healthy holiday season. Surrounded by family, the holidays are the time to reflect on the previous year and to be thankful for all that we have.

The management team is thankful for the great people we have working here; you make every day better, and your great attitude and skillful work continue to enhance PAI's image in the construction community.

No matter what you are celebrating this holiday season, please make sure to take some time with your friends and family; nothing could be more important. Best wishes for your holiday season and a happy, healthy New Year.

