THANK-YOU to all of our 2023 Build Washington Awards sponsors!

AGC of Washington takes great pride each year in recognizing the best and brightest of our members’ people, programs and projects — but it doesn’t happen without the generous support of many sponsoring firms.

Thank-you to these AGC-member firms who helped to make the 2023 Build Washington Awards possible.
AGC 2023 BUILD WASHINGTON AWARDS

GRAND AWARDS

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INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Rising Star Award
Project Manager of the Year
Superintendent of the Year
Brian Salsgiver Safety Professional of Year Award

2023 CONSTRUCTION EXCELLENCE AWARDS

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SAFETY EXCELLENCE AWARDS

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<th>CATEGORY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Construction Manager (under 100K hours)</td>
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<td>Orion Marine Contractors</td>
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<td>Washington Patriot Construction</td>
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General contracting can become very siloed, in all aspects of the industry. It is recognized that many times the demands of the contract (or sub-contract, or regulation, etc.) becomes the standard to work from, and no more. But investing in the industry has a return that is not always clearly recognized. Applying this to safety, the company understands that when it invests in the community and safety industry, it is ultimately investing in a better future for the individuals it tries to protect.

JTM’s core value of safety is based on its passion to protect its people and the community like family. That is why JTM partners with organizations like Milwaukee’s R&D department to test out new technologies on JTM projects and work with Milwaukee to offer feedback on what contractors need in emerging safety technology. Additionally, this desire to invest in the safety industry led to a relationship with CPWR and participating in jobsite climate research. Beyond helping the researchers and innovators in technology, JTM also engages with the local community and academic institutions to invest in the next wave of safety professionals entering the workforce. JTM has engaged with Edmonds Community College to support and invite to JTM projects non-traditional interns through L&I’s retraining program. These internships may not result in job placement, but JTM gets the opportunity to develop individuals interested in safety as a career.

Additionally, JTM is developing an Introduction to Safety Management course for Renton Technical College’s Construction Management program — this coming from a demand from students to learn more about the safety field, which has resulted in an opportunity for JTM to invest in future safety professionals.

JTM also holds a high value in involvement with professional societies, safety committees and safety conferences. For the last few years, JTM has been a premier sponsor of Construction Safety Day (CSD), the ASSP Puget Sound Safety Symposium, and the annual Governor’s Industrial Health and Safety Conference. Beyond financial support, JTM’s safety team is involved in the management of these events, sitting in various committee, board and leadership positions. JTM’s corporate safety director serves as the management representative of construction on the Governor’s Industrial Safety and Health Advisory Board, and is vice president of the board. On the CSD committee, one of JTM’s safety managers is involved in picking scholarship winners. In addition, JTM team members show up and participate. Conferences, committees, meetings: you will often see not one JTM representative, but many. That simple dedication — making sure JTM is present — is evidence of the company’s commitment to evolving the industry of safety.
EXCELLENCE IN INNOVATION
TURNER CONSTRUCTION

Adjacent and just to the east of the existing Seattle Aquarium, the Ocean Pavilion will amplify the aquarium’s existing global conservation efforts and inspire a worldwide ocean ethic by bringing visitors face-to-face with tropical species native to the Coral Triangle, a marine biodiversity hot spot in the Indo-Pacific region.

The 3,500 sustainably sourced animals that will live in the Ocean Pavilion are members of complex and delicate tropical reef ecosystems. The aquarium plans for its new habitats to house apex predators (sharks and rays), fish (wrasses, grouper, trevally, butterflyfish and others), up to 30 species of corals, anemones, sea stars, giant clams, and other marine life. The habitats will also feature mangrove trees — critical sources of shelter for young fish. By highlighting the interconnected nature of marine ecosystems, the Ocean Pavilion will allow visitors to see how losing even a single species has a devastating ripple effect.

The project’s unique shape has few regular angles or flat surfaces, and relies on copious amounts of concrete and rebar to support its future 360,000-gallon coral reef ecosystem. Turner used a custom forming approach using CNC foam build-up to make many of those curved surfaces.

AGC/MOSS ADAMS COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
DPR CONSTRUCTION

DPR Construction leverages strategic skills-based volunteering to create a lasting impact in communities around the Puget Sound. DPR’s philanthropic vision is “Building possibilities for the under-resourced.” It does this through supporting organizations that serve individuals in the local communities who face economic challenges and/or a lack of resources.

DPR implements its vision through employee-led volunteer initiatives that harness the strength of their professional skills to help nonprofit partners move forward in their missions. DPR’s goal is to provide the organizations it supports with resources and tools to help them achieve long-term success. DPR listens to and collaborates with its community partners to identify how it can help them through its Three Pillars of skills-based volunteering:

- **PILLAR 1** — facility construction and renovation. DPR makes facilities improvements that enable community organizations to maximize their impact.
- **PILLAR 2** — career and education guidance for youth. DPR creates and delivers construction education and career programs for under-resourced youth.
- **PILLAR 3** — operational support for nonprofit partners. DPR builds relationships with community organizations and helps strengthen their operational capacity.

As COVID-19 restrictions were relaxed, DPR volunteers were ready to start making a difference. Organized by the pillars, DPR’s community initiative outcomes include:

**PILLAR 1**

- Collaborating with Rebuilding Together to make facility improvements at the senior center in Ballard. Activities included painting the common room and installing a new rubber base, repairing drywall and ceiling tiles, completely rebuilding the ADA accessibility ramp and deck, exterior landscaping, and general safety enhancements.
- With Sawhorse Revolution, DPR’s craft labor supported projects around the facility including building tiny homes and completing the Spotlight for the Deaf community space. DPR’s team also helped prepare groundwork for expanding Estetilla’s Library, a depository focused on social justice literature.
- At Mary’s Place, the DPR team completed various maintenance projects including landscape cleanup and the installation of a new fence protecting the playground area.
- DPR provided $150,000 of in-kind facility construction and renovation work.

**PILLAR 2**

- Active supporters of the ACE Mentoring Program, DPR’s team hosted ACE students in the company office, and three employees participated as mentors across the greater Puget Sound.
- DPR supported YouthBuild with training for students covering OSHA 10, CPR/first aid, enneagrams, general construction information panels, and job-site tours.
- With Sawhorse Revolution, DPR’s craft team members were able to share their love of carpentry with hands-on training and activities.

**PILLAR 3**

- Operationally, DPR supported Sawhorse Revolution by helping plan the group’s annual Gingerbread Barn-Raiser.

CHAMPION OF DIVERSITY AWARD
CORPORATE COMMITMENT, AND WORKFORCE DIVERSITY
KIEWIT

Kiewit says that diversity is vital to the success of its business. Rooted by its corporate core values — people, integrity, excellence and stewardship — Kiewit is committed to inclusive employment and business practices that reflect equity, respect and accountability, and has policies in place to ensure that its workplace is free from discrimination.

Every Kiewit employee is required to adhere to the company’s equal employment opportunity, anti-harassment and non-discrimination policy, as detailed in the corporate policy manual. To ensure understanding and alignment with Kiewit’s core values and cultural expectations, diversity training is provided to employees on an annual basis.

Kiewit’s diversity representation is on par or exceeds its industry peers. Within Kiewit, diversity is represented at all levels, from the board and executive offices to interns. Kiewit continues to focus on growing a diverse pipeline at all levels of the organization through recruitment, professional development, mentorship and stretch assignments.

Kiewit’s recruitment efforts involve partnering with industry and community diversity organizations and recruiting at a variety of colleges, military bases and job fairs to build a diverse workforce. To attract and retain diverse talent, the company has implemented several internal programs, such as the Women in Kiewit employee group and its Thurgood Marshall and Kiewit Legacy Minority and Women scholarship programs — which have awarded over $550,000 to women and diverse scholars.

Under the direction of executive leadership, Kiewit’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee is responsible for implementation and oversight of company DEI strategies and initiatives. Accountability is ensured through regular reports — both to the executive team and through companywide updates. On its projects, designated DBE/EOO compliance managers oversee diversity efforts and ensure connectivity between the project team, subcontractors, community and job seekers, ensuring alignment and progress towards diversity objectives.

Diversity efforts include partnerships and investments in nonprofit organizations serving the communities in which Kiewit builds. Kiewit says it’s proud to be a past NAMC-Washington Prime Contractor of the Year and have established long-standing relationships with organizations such as NW Minority Builders Alliance and Washington PTAC through membership, sponsorship, event attendance and volunteer service.

Kiewit regularly participates in NW Minority Builders Alliance and Washington Chapter of the National Association of Minority Contractors meetings, and regularly partners with Washington Procurement Technical Assistance Center and RISE Up to create opportunities for inclusiveness on projects.
Kiewit consistently meets or exceeds DBE goals through incorporating a diverse business inclusion strategy as part of its overall subcontracting plan. Recent Washington state projects that have exceeded DBE goals include the Alaskan Way Viaduct demolition (exceeded goal by 9.7%), SR 520 floating bridge and landings (exceeded goal by 0.8%), and SR 530 Trafton and Schoolyard creeks fish passage (exceeded goal by 4%).

Kiewit uses various strategies to foster DBE participation, including certification assistance; hosting pre-bid meetings and one-on-one sessions; unbundling work packages; and ensuring a transparent and consistent bid process. The company is also committed to building capacity and enhancing the success of its small/diverse business partners by providing technical and administrative support to help mitigate barriers to participation.

Successful partnerships drive successful projects, and Kiewit regards the success and growth of its diverse partners as its responsibility. Finding opportunities to mentor and develop the subcontracting community is a part of its ordinary course of business. Kiewit’s internal mentoring program promotes success and growth by providing participating firms access to sponsored workshops, roundtables, and educational sessions delivered by industry experts. Kiewit has also participated extensively in programs like WSDOT’s Mentor Protege Program.

Future Women in Kiewit seminars offer Kiewit interns and new or incoming female employees the opportunity to network, hear leadership talks and attend expert-led breakout sessions.
SKAGIT COUNTY STABILIZATION CENTER

Location: Sedro-Woolley  
General contractor: Faber Construction

The new community-based Skagit County Stabilization Center campus includes an evaluation and treatment (E&T) center and subsequent substance use disorder treatment facility, with possible future expansion of two additional programs to meet a dire need in Skagit County. The E&T is a 16-bed program that provides inpatient mental health services to adults who are experiencing acute psychiatric symptoms and require a secure environment to stabilize symptoms and prepare to return home or to lower levels of care. Design emphasis was placed on safety, choice and empowerment, and welcoming environments that feel like home. The siting, design and programming were informed by feedback from extensive community outreach and stakeholder engagement sessions, as well as best practices from innovative behavioral health programs nationwide. The facility opened for patients in 2022.

Skagit County Stabilization Center was designed as a welcoming environment that feels like home.

Photo from Faber Construction

Whether your project is near, over or under the water, Orion can deliver.

HEAVY CIVIL AND MARINE CONTRACTOR
PRIVATE BUILDING $2 MILLION TO $5 MILLION

PENINSULA FISH FOOD BANK

Location: Gig Harbor
General contractor: Washington Patriot Construction

This design-build project consisted of providing a new, larger space for the Gig Harbor Peninsula Fish Food Bank and Community Services to call home. The original food bank was a shared facility that had become too small to support the organization’s needs. Washington Patriot Construction led the design and permitting process starting in March 2020 with conceptual design until July 2021, when construction began on the 10,000-square-foot food bank. This warehouse building is used to store food and donated items and contains office spaces for the staff and volunteers.

A large stormwater detention vault was also constructed beneath the parking lot. The food bank was built to LEED Silver standards, although it is not officially certified.
WASHINGTON PATRIOT CONSTRUCTION
LEAD • BUILD • SERVE • LIVE

WA Patriot is honored to receive the 2023 AGC BUILD WASHINGTON AWARD for Safety Excellence
GC Building - Under 150,000 Hours

PRIVATE BUILDING $5 MILLION TO $20 MILLION
JAMESTOWN S’KLALLAM HEALING CLINIC

Location: Sequim
General contractor: Korsmo Construction

The Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe has taken the lead in meeting the growing need for opioid-use disorder treatment through this new medication-assisted treatment (MAT) facility.

The Jamestown S’Klallam Healing Clinic is only the third MAT clinic in the nation to provide full wraparound services, including primary care, dental care, counseling services, childcare, transportation and social services. Wraparound services give patients a higher chance of recovery than traditional clinics by helping to heal both the mind and body. The wraparound service model embraces each patient’s individual strengths, needs and natural support systems. Clinic staff create individualized care plans that are delivered in a structured team-based framework.

The 17,000-square-foot clinic incorporates elements of the tribe’s culture through design and materials that emphasize healing and recovery. A central corridor meanders through the building, leading patients through Native American art-filled spaces with abundant natural light that forms a pathway reflecting the journey of recovery.

PRIVATE BUILDING $20 MILLION TO $50 MILLION
HOBSON PLACE SOUTH

Location: Seattle
Winner: Walsh Construction

Hobson Place is a 93,000-square-foot mixed-use supportive housing building that provides permanent affordable housing and on-site health services to people who have experienced extended periods of homelessness. The project’s owner, Downtown Emergency Services Center (DESC), named it in honor of its former executive director Bill Hobson, an advocate for the homeless in the region. The project includes two phases: an initial North phase with 85 apartments; and a second South phase with 92 apartments and a 5,600-square-foot public health clinic operated by Harborview.

This nomination focuses on the South project, which was delivered on schedule and budget in early 2022. Walsh Construction was part of a collaborative team with DESC, Harborview, Runberg Architects, and TGB Architects, who navigated numerous logistical challenges on a tight urban site to design and construct a high-quality, Passive House-certified building.

PRIVATE BUILDING $50 MILLION TO $100 MILLION
THE ACCOLADE

Location: Seattle
General contractor: Exxel Pacific

The Accolade is a 21-story, 238,094-square-foot student-housing tower with one below-grade level and city views.

The project has 226 units with 597 beds. Units are furnished with high-end, space-saving furniture, stainless-steel appliances, dishwashers and washers/dryers.

Located one block from the U District light rail station and two blocks from the UW campus, The Accolade was designed to promote sustainable transportation, including a 180-stall bike room with a workstation. Amenities include a gym, third level family deck with rock-climbing wall, TV lounge, clubhouse, rooftop lounge with exterior breezeway connecting the barbecue deck and the rooftop “park with a grassy hill,” study lounge with countertop seating, conference tables and connected study rooms. The ground floor offers a lounging area, several study nooks, a coffee bar, an exterior porch for people watching/interacting with passersby, property management and Luxer One package lockers.

WASHINGTON PATRIOT CONSTRUCTION
LEAD • BUILD • SERVE • LIVE

WA Patriot is honored to receive the 2023 AGC BUILD WASHINGTON AWARD for Safety Excellence
GC Building - Under 150,000 Hours

The Accolade is a 21-story, 238,094-square-foot student-housing tower in the U District.
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PRIVATE BUILDING OVER $100 MILLION

Dexter Yard

Location: Seattle
General contractor: Turner Construction

Dexter Yard is a 540,000-square-foot building in the South Lake Union neighborhood of Seattle. The 15-story building is comprised of a pair of towers, each 175 feet tall, providing 515,000 square feet of lab and office space, and approximately 25,000 square feet of ground floor space devoted to retail.

A pedestrian through-block passage offers access to retail, office elevator lobbies and an open gathering space, and serves as a vital pathway connecting the South Lake Union neighborhood and Lake Union. The project also features an interior open area called the Field House, reservable by building tenants and community groups. Approximately three levels of below-ground parking are provided.

“The building is designed to help establish a distinct identity for the area and to enhance the developing pedestrian experience,” notes Kyle Gaffney, founding principal at SkB Architects and co-lead designer for the project.

TENANT IMPROVEMENT UNDER $5 MILLION

Cantina Monarca Restaurant & Tequila Bar

Location: Bellevue
General contractor: Bayley Construction

Cantina Monarca is a 2,428-square-foot restaurant and high-end tequila bar installed in an existing tenant space on the ground floor of Lincoln Square South in downtown Bellevue.

The owner selected Gulla Jonsdottir, an interior design firm from Los Angeles, to develop and execute the conceptual design for the project, with Ferguson Architecture as the architect of record. Bayley Construction was selected as the general contractor to finish construction just after demolition of the existing tenant space was complete.

This complex project included extensive demolition of the existing restaurant space and comprehensive installation of new systems, casework, finishes and kitchen equipment. Unique challenges inherent to the restaurant’s concept included pervasive compound framing and finishes, complex fire and life-safety coordination for the interior wood cladding specifications and details, and intricate detailing and installation for required mechanical, electrical and fire sprinkler functionality within the wood and agave ceiling assemblies.
TENANT IMPROVEMENT OVER $5 MILLION
QUINAULT WELLNESS CENTER

Location: Aberdeen
General contractor: Abbott Construction

Serving both Quinault tribal members and the public, the new Quinault Wellness Center is an outpatient facility that addresses the community effects of substance use disorders through evidence-based holistic treatment.

This adaptive reuse project transformed a 40-year-old structure from a former retail space to a new clinic offering a medication-assisted treatment (MAT) program and wrap-around services such as primary care, dental, behavioral health, childcare and administrative space. The project included core and shell upgrades and site improvements.

This facility completes the first phase of a larger vision, with future expansion planned on the site. The Quinault Wellness Center is a significant modern development that hopes to heal the community while also spurring the revitalization of downtown Aberdeen.
HIGHWAY/TRANSPORTATION $5 MILLION TO $15 MILLION

UNION STREET PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE WATERFRONT ACCESS

Location: Seattle
General contractor: The Walsh Group

With the demolition of the Alaskan Way Viaduct and the focus on creating pedestrian- and tourist-friendly access between Western Avenue near the Pike Place Market and the waterfront, the city of Seattle addressed the grade issue by soliciting the design and construction of an attractive and ADA-accessible stairway and elevator structure, part of the many key east-west streets the city will improve.

The Union Street pedestrian bridge provides a universally accessible connection between the downtown core and the new waterfront with a wider walkway, stairway, and an elevator with a commanding view of the Seattle Great Wheel, Seattle Aquarium and Elliott Bay. Pedestrian lighting is integrated in the railings of the bridge and stairs, underneath the bridge deck and within the elevator.

The project features a 30-foot-tall artwork representing the flora and fauna of the waterfront by Seattle artist Norie Sato, bringing attention to the environment found near the waterfront.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WALSH GROUP

HIGHWAY/TRANSPORTATION UNDER $5 MILLION

SR 17 GRAPE DRIVE INTERSECTION SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

Location: Moses Lake
Winner: Granite Construction

The SR 17 Grape Drive intersection project was part of the Washington State Department of Transportation Collision Reduction and Prevention program, improving safety at the intersection in Moses Lake.

The project improved and updated the intersection by replacing the existing traffic signal with a multi-lane roundabout to reduce the frequency and severity of collisions at the intersection. The use of splitter islands and exterior curbing on this roundabout promotes the use of lower speeds while traveling through the intersection — mitigating potential future collisions and allowing safer pedestrian travel through the intersection.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GRANITE CONSTRUCTION

UMC IS PROUD TO WIN THE 2023 AGC BUILD WASHINGTON AWARD FOR SAFETY EXCELLENCE SPECIALTY CONTRACTOR 500,000 - 1 MILLION WORKER HOURS CATEGORY.

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HEAVY/INDUSTRIAL OVER $20 MILLION
STEILACOOM-DUPONT ROAD TO THORNE LANE CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS

Location: JBLM vicinity
General contractor: Atkinson Construction

Atkinson Construction rebuilt the interchanges at Thorne Lane and Berkeley Street, and added lanes to relieve chronic traffic congestion and improve mobility along the interstate.

Photo courtesy of Atkinson Construction

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER UNDER 100,000 WORKER HOURS
CENTENNIAL CONTRACTORS ENTERPRISES

HEAVY/INDUSTRIAL UNDER $5 MILLION
TOLT PIPELINE NO. 1 REHABILITATION

Location: Duvall
General contractor: Imco General Construction

The Tolt Pipeline project restored a critical pipeline that provides raw drinking water to the Tolt Water Treatment Facility for the city of Seattle. In 2009, the pipeline was taken out of service because the hillside was sliding and had caused parts of the pipeline to separate. After the slope was stabilized, Imco rehabilitated approximately 2,500 linear feet of pipeline using 54-inch HDPE pipe installed by sliplining. Excavations were up to 20 feet deep.

The remote project had no internet connectivity, so the team relied on frequent cell communication between on-site personnel and the office to manage the work. The project was completed on time with minimal change orders. Most of the work was performed under live power lines, requiring a relentless emphasis on safety.

To support the construction industry and promote safety during its outreach events, Centennial provides safety training to new subcontractors, as well as existing, as part of these events. For its existing trade partners, Centennial invites them to attend its lunch-and-learns and other safety-specific training. This training can include first aid/CPR/AED, electrical safety, jobsite hazard analysis and OSHA 30.

As a commitment to its trade partners, Centennial supports the growth and development of college students wanting to go into the construction industry by providing internships. Typically, each year Centennial will hire approximately two to three individuals to work with its team in the Seattle and Fort Lewis offices. Each intern spends time working with project management and field staff. This allows each intern to obtain a basic understanding of the different phases that a construction project undergoes.

A typical internship usually lasts three months, with some interns returning to work during holiday breaks and some receiving offers to come aboard after graduations.

As part of the internship process, interns are trained in the Centennial HSEQ program. The interns are offered safety training classes that can range from CPR/first aid to other OSHA-related classes. Once the intern has received the basic HSEQ training, the intern is able to perform site visits with supervision.

One of the great benefits of the intern being out in the field is to see first-hand why safety is the No. 1 core value in keeping all industry personnel safe. Interns are a part of the safety process, from inception to completion of the project. The intern also learns why the environmental and quality side is so important as it relates to worker safety. The interns are also able to get a sense of why safety is a team effort.

In the office and on the project site, the intern is able to experience why safety and inclusion are so important. At the end of the workday, every employee goes home to their family and loved ones safe and has the right to be in a work environment that ensures safety, equity and fosters a culture of inclusion.

To support the construction industry and promote safety during its outreach events, Centennial provides safety training to new subcontractors, as well as existing, as part of these events. For its existing trade partners, Centennial invites them to attend its lunch-and-learns and other safety-specific training. This training can include first aid/CPR/AED, electrical safety, jobsite hazard analysis and OSHA 30.

As a commitment to its trade partners, Centennial provides these different training courses at no cost. This allows Centennial to maintain a proactive approach to safety within the construction industry while creating a safety culture that extends beyond its project sites. Centennial mentors smaller trade partners on business and safety, so they can use that knowledge as they grow as contractors. The safety and business knowledge gained while working with Centennial will help guide workers toward a safe and inclusive working environment for years beyond.

Centennial also maintains and updates its website that allows access to safety plans, templates, and company HSEQ policies that subcontractors and clients can access for safety-related materials and support.

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CONSTRUCTION MANAGER OVER 200,000 WORKER HOURS

EXXEL PACIFIC

Many Exxel Pacific employees are committed to giving back to the industry, investing their time and knowledge in many areas, including education (on and off the job), general mentorship and guidance.

Brian Sorensen, director of safety at Exxel, served on the AGC of Washington’s Safety Committee as Northern District representative for one year and was recently promoted to general contractor at large for the committee. Sorensen feels this position is of great importance and is excited to bring fresh ideas to the committee, helping to advance AGC Safety discussions, as well as AGC Safety monthly forums. He also invests his time as part of other industry collaborations, such as the AGC Crane Safety task force, and works with the AGC on safety legislative feedback and testimony.

Sorensen also engages frequently with his alma-mater at Central Washington University, working with faculty and young professionals in the safety program. He has taken on the role of a mentor, organizing job walks to introduce aspiring students to the industry. He has also spoken to college classes and been a conduit for CWU’s intern program.

Mark Rosenwald, site logistics coordinator at Exxel, is committed to supporting Core Plus Construction, an official Washington state program of study allowing high school students to explore careers in the construction industry. Students benefit by using hands-on learning to gain real-world skills and earn graduation credits.

Rosenwald works with Sarah Patterson, workforce development director for the AGC Education Foundation, participating as a panelist twice for an after school online get together for students. In these sessions, he emphasized how his skills and experiences, acquired from his diverse career background, help him interface with neighborhood businesses and leaders — especially when Exxel’s work may impact the community.

Rosenwald also works with Dan Morris, AGC director of education and training, developing a two-part class to help promote safety in construction.

Bailey Bowell and Paul Rivas, senior safety coordinators, are on an apprenticeship committee for the Certified Safety Specialists Apprenticeship Program, also acting as contractor representatives to support the program and its students. They provide guidance on curriculum and topics for learning as well as offering meaningful mentorship to students and graduates of the program. When requested, they will also counsel members of the apprenticeship program during their field internship, providing experienced guidance to future safety professionals entering the industry.

Through these commitments, Exxel’s team is helping to advance the caliber of safety professionals to the industry.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR HIGHWAY CIVIL UNDER 100,000 WORKER HOURS

NOVA GROUP

Nova’s new hire orientation now includes The Capacity Model (TCM) 101, provided by its parent organization Quanta Services. This new safety philosophy focuses on building in the capacity to fail while accepting the reality that humans make mistakes and will fail eventually. TCM focuses on human performance, the ability to fail safely, STKY (stuff that kills you) and the Energy Wheel (energy present at the jobsite).

All newly hired Nova employees and subcontractors attend a site-specific safety orientation. This custom-designed training program, entitled Safety Training and Orientation Program (STOP), provides new employees with Nova’s general safety orientation, including site-specific procedures emphasizing the OSHA Focus Four hazards in construction. This program also tests their knowledge and understanding, requiring a 100% passing score on over 35 questions. All new hires are issued “stop work authority” and empowered to speak up when an unsafe act or condition is witnessed. Nova’s open door policy is promoted during the safety orientation, encouraging and opening all lines of communication.

One of the key factors that makes Nova’s safety program so successful, enabling it to stand out from other contractors, is that Nova’s site safety and health officers (SSHOs) are extremely passionate towards safety and are qualified through experience and advanced certifications. SSHOs work closely with the corporate safety director, project managers, superintendents, foremen and craft workers. SSHOs are OSHA 500 level instructors and certified to teach through the National Center for Construction Education and Research.

SSHOS hold both the STS-C and CHST designations. Superintendents and foremen are STS-C certified and hold advanced safety management and OSHA certifications, including the OSHA 30-hour and/or EM-385 40-hour. OSHA 10-hour training is conducted on each project, with all hourly employees required to attend, and qualified rigger/signal person training is now being taught virtually for anyone involved in rigging activities.

Nova went digital this year, with several of its safety initiatives available to employees/management on their smart devices. For example, employees are encouraged to record a “good catch” on their phone, and they are also able to scan a QR code to take them directly to the Red Book so they can immediately and efficiently switch to and document a new unplanned task.

Nova also started sharing safety alerts from its sister companies, where each month a summary of incidents are reviewed with all hands and discussed as to how Nova can prevent these incidents. Safety alerts are generated for any and all incidents involving damage to equipment or injury to workers, including utility strikes, first aid only injuries, etc.
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Nothing is more important than the safety of our employees. MacDonald-Miller is honored to receive the AGC Building Washington Safety Excellence Award for Specialty Contractor, over 1 million hours for the 9th year in a row. We’d like to extend a special thank you to the AGC for everything they do for the construction industry. Congratulations to all of the award winners!

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Last year was the first full year that every region in Orion was using a service from Clicksafety.com that Orion calls its Daily Safety questions. Each morning Orion leaders in the field get a safety-related quiz question in their inbox. Orion can populate the question banks and learn a lot on the back end of the program. On the day-to-day, Orion’s leaders get a slow drip of safety knowledge right away in the morning. It will help change the morning discussions from something non-work related to something safety related because they got a question wrong and want to complain about it to their co-workers.

The Pacific Northwest region of Orion leads the rest of the company in regards to safety. The group here had been working with this program for a few months leading up to 2022 and really helped work out the kinks. Then in 2022, when it was released to the rest of the regions, the group here had enough familiarity with it to start suggesting and writing questions for the bank of questions. This is not uncommon for this group. Other examples of this region setting the standard for the rest of the company are using HCSS for JHA observations (management review of a job hazard analysis in the field and discussion with the crew), and the Temporary Structures and Construction Devices manual was generated in this region and shared with the rest of the company.

Orion’s participation in the Construction Safety Research Alliance goes beyond its employees. This research is shared with the whole industry. Orion is a dues-paying member to CSRA and with that it gets to join a research team. A representative from Orion’s Pacific Northwest region is currently on the team that is studying the true ROI of various safety initiatives.

Orion’s HSE vice president is a board member for the Council for Dredging and Marine Construction Safety (CDMCS), which has been doing a lot of work to help deal with underwater utilities. This group works hand-in-hand with the Army Corps of Engineers and has just started to engage OSHA in discussions about addressing fall protection rules over the water. A representative from Orion’s Pacific Northwest region attends these meetings and contributes to the efforts. For example, the local underwater utility policy was shared with the CDMCS, and that group will be putting its own logos on it and sharing it with the industry as a best practice.

For the past couple years, there has been a Port of Seattle safety walk on one of Orion’s projects at the same time as the AGC monthly meetings. This has hindered Orion’s attendance/participation in those meetings, but the company has presented and hosted presenters on the port’s monthly safety calls. A representative from Orion’s local region participated on a Construction Health and Safety Technicians exam question writing committee twice last year. The question writers really help to set the standard for what a CHST should know.
Building upon its successful safety standards, UMC incorporated psychological safety into its pride-based safety program. This is a concept where people are physically and psychologically safe in their work environment. They are empowered to speak up and act, knowing that everybody is working toward the same goal and support.

One of the best definitions of an excellent safety culture, even in a chaotic situation that is in the absence of direction, in changing conditions, everybody knows exactly what to do. One of the best ways to describe this is a military rescue team in adverse conditions. Still, they go forward with confidence, knowing that they have a mission to complete and that everyone on the team is pulling for the success of the mission, and that under no circumstance will any team member be left behind. This mindset and mentality are key to having the most effective workforce possible.

Another way to describe the concept is by telling a story; every team member knows how the story is supposed to end because they’re all working together to try to make that story a reality. In a film, we often treat the workforce as extras; however, we focus on making each team member feel like a main character. The protagonist knows how they contribute and help successfully complete the mission. This is not a training program but a different way to engage individually with each team member.

It will take some time for the concept to be fully incorporated throughout the organization. UMC has piloted it with its foremen and shared the concept to its peers in industry training, where UMC has garnered rave reviews. UMC already sees a considerable change in motivation and engagement. These micro-missions keep every member driving towards common goals with unlimited support. Another aspect is that all decisions and all resources are utilized with the mission’s success in mind with 100% involvement.
Granite is heavily involved in advocating for work zone safety improvements in Washington state. The company is a member of two separate committees that focus on work zone safety improvements: the WAPA/WSDOT/AGC Paving Work Zone Risk Reduction Committee; and the Union Senators Industry (USI) Work Zone Safety Committee.

The WAPA/WSDOT/AGC committee has been working for many years on work zone safety initiatives with a sizable level of success. A key initiative from this committee was for uniformed police officer (UPO) presence in work zones to deter irresponsible and unsafe driving by third-party motorists to be written into the WSDOT Standard Specifications book. There have been inconsistencies in the past regarding whether UPO presence would be included in contracts for WSDOT work and the committee wanted to eliminate those inconsistencies while securing more safety measures for workers.

Other items that have recently been adopted by this committee are placing temporary rumble strips ahead of work zones and testing smart work zone (SWZ) installations throughout the state. These SWZs sense when traffic has backed up past the advance warning signs and turn on additional signage to compensate for the backup. An interesting function of the SWZs is the way they communicate with the driving app Waze. When the SWZ is activated, it connects with Waze to inform drivers of upcoming traffic control changes so they can potentially take an alternate route around the work zone and are not caught unaware of traffic pattern changes or backups. Granite successfully implemented SWZ on its recent Interstate 5 rehabilitation project in the Woodland area.

The USI committee is comprised of the major construction unions in Washington (led by the Laborers), senators and industry members including Granite. Since its inception less than a year ago, the committee has already made major strides toward accomplishing its goals. Notably, USI has worked tirelessly advocating for a bill to implement speed cameras in work zones across Washington. The bill recently passed in the Senate and is currently being reviewed in the House Transportation Committee.

Coordinated and persistent pressure and advocacy by the unions and senators for reforms and meaningful change has moved policy and reforms faster than any other time in recent memory. This coordinated effort has paid off and has resulted in the installation of the SWZs, which include photos from the SWZ meetings and instituted a new procedure for gas leaks on job-sites. By engaging employees in its construction safety program, Washington Patriot Construction gains valuable insights from across the company on the best practices to adopt and integrate into its safety program.

A recent example of a newly implemented best practice is the prompt communication between construction sites and teams. This practice was developed from lessons learned on a recent project when a subcontractor discovered an unexpected underground pipe. After verifying that it was not an electrical pipe, the subcontractor proceeded to cut the pipe and detected a strong natural gas odor. He promptly stopped and learned that it had not followed the proper protocol for shutting off valves, which could have led to multiple dangerous situations. It shared this information at Washington Patriot’s quarterly safety meeting and instituted a new procedure for gas leaks on job-sites.

Furthermore, Washington Patriot develops weekly updates on all its projects. These updates, which include photos from the week’s activities, are circulated among a select group of team members for review before being distributed to project teams. This practice enables the team to identify and address any safety deficiencies promptly, thus preventing future occurrences.

Additionally, Washington Patriot employs webinars on its projects that can be monitored at any time to ensure compliance with safety protocols. Washington Patriot understands that safety is crucial in the construction industry. By creating a strong safety culture and demonstrating that construction can be done safely, it believes it can attract and retain the next generation of builders. That’s why it hires interns and teaches them the importance of safety early on in their careers. By sharing and instilling Washington Patriot’s safety culture with them, the company shares the tools and importance so they can carry it with them as they grow and evolve in the industry.

Washington Patriot also believes in working together as an industry to make safety a core value on all construction sites. As mentors to 8(a) companies, Washington Patriot helps them establish robust safety programs, which strengthens the industry as a whole. Last year, Washington Patriot completed an 8-year mentorship with a protégé construction firm from Oak Harbor, and this firm has since built its business and safety program to take safety to the next level and more diverse projects. Washington Patriot recently become a mentor to another 8(a) protégé firm, which desires to work on federal government installations in Washington state.

To further enhance its safety program and culture, Washington Patriot hired a third-party safety consultant who is assigned to all projects. The consultant monitors regular visits to job sites and shares safety updates and information with all personnel, including craft workers, subcontractors, designers, and owners who may be on site. Washington Patriot believes that informing everyone on its job sites about safety hazards will ensure they understand what precautions they can take and promote good safety habits on other job sites they enter.
FOUSHÉE & ASSOCIATES

Foushée ensures that everyone returns home safely every day. That focus is a product of being a family-oriented business with proven procedures and training in place. This principle is reflected in Foushée’s better-than-industry-average safety rates.

Ownership’s commitment, leadership and involvement provides the foundation for continued improvement, and allows the Foushée Safety Value to provide the time, resources and daily support to project teams. Foushée views “everyone” as its team members — trade partners, clients, neighbors, surrounding community, and other contractors and stakeholders within the region. Foushée assists and supports the safety of its trade partners by truly partnering. Foushée assists with site-specific safety plan reviews and development, offers courtesy OSHA training, and builds committed relationships with its trade partners’ safety and operations managers.

Foushée’s safety director will have individual meetings with smaller subcontractors that need additional support in learning how to develop an accident prevention program. Foushée shares Labor & Industries templates and training resources to help them develop or improve their current safety programs and processes.

Foushée believes investing time to assist its trade partners is a win-win scenario, as it improves their overall safety programs and supports creating a safer work environment for all workers. The company also supports owners’ contractors with the same courtesy it lends to its trade partners.

Foushée project superintendents communicate with surrounding neighbors and businesses to provide a source of information and contact with what is happening on the jobsite. This helps to educate and coordinate neighbors on noise, traffic control, crane activity and other site-specific issues that may affect the surrounding neighborhood.

Foushée believes it is equally important to participate with Labor & Industries stakeholder meetings and provide constructive feedback when requested or ask questions for clarity. Foushée offers trade partner safety professionals the opportunity to attend its OSHA 10- and 30-hour courses to support and further their safety awareness and understanding.

Foushée’s safety director maintains relationships with existing safety professionals and develops new relationships with other safety colleagues within the region. This investment in networking allows for the continual sharing of lessons learned, best practices and more effective means and methods that result in overall safety improvement by all parties. Foushée values the importance of providing safety leadership within its community because everyone benefits.

BNBUILDERS

BNBuilders takes pride in investing in its direct employees and subcontractors. Therefore, when it works with a less experienced subcontractor, BNB project teams, including site safety, will take the time to work with that subcontractor to help them improve their safety program. Often this includes coaching them on safety program improvement, including basics such as the safety manual, SSSP, and the daily tools such as pre-task plans and job hazard analysis (JHA).

BNB also helps identify which safety-related training subcontractors need to facilitate their work safely. Basics such as appropriate PPE, fall protection plans, hot work permits, dig permits, etc., will be a focus based on their scope of work.

In addition, BNB is active in Central Washington University’s Occupational and Health Program. With five alumni working in the BNB safety department, the company has a key interest in giving back to the program. Over the years, BNB team members have assisted the program with real-life examples of pre-task planning and JHAs to help students recognize the safety-related challenges craft workers face daily on a construction site.

BNB actively recruits employees from the program each year and consistently hires interns to provide students with on-the-job training. The company emphasizes the importance of teaching students how to identify hazards, plan for upcoming work, and develop culture on projects with their daily interactions.

BNB is working with Federal Way High School’s Intro to Construction class to provide the students with tours and examples of how projects are planned, executed and completed safely. In addition, BNB recognizes the construction industry needs new labor to continue filling the ranks of construction workers on job sites.

BNB works with Guardian and Werner regularly to provide feedback on the usability of new fall protection equipment. With falls being such an essential aspect of project safety, BNB is continuously looking for the most current innovation of this equipment to help its craft members work safely and efficiently.
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RISING STAR AWARD
MARK ROSENWALD
EXXEL PACIFIC

Mark Rosenwald takes his role as site logistics coordinator very seriously and maintains a safe, clean and efficient site. He is fully aware of every worker who steps foot on his site, where all the materials are located and when the next load is showing up. Regardless of the weather or how long of a day it has been, you will always find him with an infectious smile on his face.

Rosenwald acts as liaison to local residents, neighboring properties, nearby construction projects, and the community, notifying them of upcoming work that may impact them in some way, posting project updates to help them feel involved, and helping to ensure public safety.

An over-achiever in every aspect of his life, Rosenwald is always willing to take the Saturday shift for a crane erection, large-material delivery or anything else that may come up, even though that means coming across on the Bremerton ferry at 4:40 am. He also makes yearly updates to Exxel Pacific’s Handbook for Site Logistics Coordination – which he wrote in 2019.

Whenever an opportunity presents itself, Rosenwald advocates passionately for students to understand their potential in the industry, by discovering the kinds of work that they find the most gratifying. He wholeheartedly recommends trying several kinds of work for the sake of refining your search and learning what strengths a person possesses to build upon. Rosenwald also serves as a mentor to newer site logistics coordinators, who are stationed at other Exxel Pacific projects, and hopes to inspire others to consider a career in site logistics.

Rosenwald has been committing time for the last three years to be an interviewer at PACT (Pre-Apprenticeship Construction Training) program graduations. This allows graduates to have several, back-to-back, 10-minute interviews with potential local employers in the construction industry. He was also recently one of three Exxel Pacific panelists who visited the Wood Technology Center PACT classroom. The panelists introduced themselves, explained their job description and how they got into construction, provided interviewing tips, and gave pointers on how to enter the construction industry via opportunities available at general contractors such as Exxel Pacific, in addition to their typical approaches at trade unions.

PROJECT MANAGER OF THE YEAR
BRADLEY MORLOCK
ORION MARINE CONTRACTORS

Bradley Morlock’s 36-year career overseeing all phases of marine construction projects spans a diverse array of complex, multi-million-dollar infrastructure and environmental construction projects for private sector and government agency clients. His experience includes managing subcontractors and large multi-discipline crews on a variety of pier, wharf, outfall, highway/bridge, and other marine construction maintenance, improvement and demolition projects.

Morlock takes mentoring the next generation of project managers seriously, perhaps most importantly through leading by example in his involvement with organizations outside of work. Morlock is on the JATC, which is the piledrivers’ apprenticeship committee, and he is the president of the board of directors for Eagles Wing Coordinated Care, a nonprofit.

On the job, Morlock demonstrates to the next generation of project managers that safety and production are not at odds with each other. Morlock has managed nearly three years of recordable-free work. This success is from empowering the people on his projects to make changes to an operation that would make the work safer or more productive without cutting corners. However, when changes like this are made, Morlock makes sure it’s planned out and well communicated. He verifies this in multiple ways, but perhaps the most important is with Orion’s JHA (job hazard analysis) observation program. In 2022 not just Morlock, but all of his staff on his current project, achieved 100% participation in the JHA observation program.

Morlock has worked with the engineer at Vigor to best reuse the existing material on-site by replacing the material underwater and keeping the material from having to be disposed of off-site. In addition, Morlock and team have determined ways to add the necessary equipment on site within a confined work area to complete additional work within the pre-approved in-water work window, lessening the environmental impact to the Puget Sound.
Brian Salsgiver Safety Professional of the Year Award

Justin Molocznik
JTM Construction

Since joining JTM, Justin Molocznik has energized a safety program that was in peril. While the attitude and desire for a strong safety culture was built into the organization at its core, the safety effort lacked the organization and leadership to capture its energy.

It was evidenced that change was imminent from the beginning of Molocznik’s tenure, as he strategically changed the language around safety within the organization, starting with leadership’s understanding of the impacts of a safety culture. It was from here where Molocznik and his team started to build accountability for safety, and refine the mentality of a compliance-based culture. Two strategic projects helped emphasize this effort, one being the evaluation and overhaul of JTM’s accident prevention plan (which has been adopted into the JTM employee health and safety manual), and the second being the reorganization of the safety team to capitalize on team member strengths and better define responsibilities.

By focusing in these areas early-on, and completing these projects with input from the entire organization, Molocznik was able to gain buy-in throughout the organization, and the belief that safety was highly achievable and priority one for JTM was embraced.

Superintendent of the Year

Matt Elder
Atkinson Construction

Matt Elder takes a personal approach to safety. He knows everyone by name on his projects, which has fostered a genuine mutual respect between him and his project teams. Elder’s personal touch shows he truly cares about his teams’ wellbeing and the work they are performing.

In his capacity as superintendent, Elder leads the overall safety vision of his projects by “walking the walk” and demonstrating his commitment to safety as an extension of how he approaches the job. In addition, Elder is a firm believer in clear communication — he is direct in communicating his expectations, and his project teams have adopted this style of direct communication to ensure challenges are met head on and resolved quickly.

Elder has worked on some of Atkinson Construction’s more complex projects. Examples are lifting an entire steel truss bridge in one piece while working over water, then moving it to a new location twice during the life of the project, to constructing a new SR 509 alignment from I-5 to 24th Avenue South, including a new interchange with I-5 along 2.5 miles of I-5 from South 200th Street to SR 516, and replacing the South 216th Street bridge over I-5.

Elder has extensive experience in bridge work and work zone safety. He has come to the realization that clear and accurate communication is the best approach to creating a safer work environment. He exemplifies this by his approach to safety meetings, such as Atkinson’s All Hands meeting, that he leads on his projects. He is known for beginning every meeting with a national recognition of something famous. It works as an ice breaker and sets the tone for everyone’s attention. He then makes sure all stakeholders in the meeting speak about their upcoming work, allowing for comments and interaction by the group.

Elder is also a firm believer in Atkinson’s Speak Up Listen Up philosophy and drives that concept to all levels by setting the expectation for increased safety observations and near-miss reporting. He has devised his own method of recognizing those who participate with safety observations and near-miss reports, and his jobs always maintain the greatest participation.

Additionally, his projects within Atkinson Construction in Washington continually have the least number of incidents and workers’ compensation claims — proving that he continually promotes good decision making that results in less injury.

Elder is very involved in identifying new ways to increase quality work and safety by innovating better means to communicate. This includes small things, like always being the first in a meeting to address safety observations, regardless of if they are positive or negative observations. He believes the continual repetition of concepts such as safety and quality benefit the job’s performance and constantly keeps safety as the focus of every decision.