



For Immediate Release

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James T. Ruddell Named CMAA “Person of the Year”

McLean, VA—The Construction Management Association of America has named James T. (Jim) Ruddell, PE, of Parsons Brinckerhoff Construction Services its 2006 Person of the Year for his leadership of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge replacement project south of Washington, DC. The award was presented on October 17 at the CMAA National Conference & Trade Show in Tampa, FL.

The Wilson Bridge project reached an important milestone earlier this year with the opening of the first of two new river spans and the demolition of the old bridge, which had long been a traffic bottleneck in the Metropolitan Washington, DC area. Work on the project is expected to be completed in 2011.

The bridge replacement and related interchange work will take 11 years and cost \$2.4 billion. The project includes two new river crossings, four reconstructed interchanges, more than 200 subcontractors, 1,000 workers, and 7.5 miles of complex urban interstate highway construction. Adding to the complexities: four owners are involved including the federal government, two states, and the City of Alexandria, VA.

As a vice president at Parsons Brinckerhoff Construction Services, where he has been for 13 years, Ruddell has managed a number of major highway and other construction projects throughout his career. This past management experience has served him well in his position as construction manager of the Wilson Bridge project—one of the largest and most high-profile construction projects in the nation.

Beginning with a core staff of only three, Ruddell supervised the growth of the construction management team to a peak of 170 professionals. This team was able to become involved in the project in the early planning stages, which was a key to keeping this huge project on schedule and on budget. Ruddell’s construction management team also had input into the environmental permitting process, a vital part of the job, since the project would impact both fish life and an eagle habitat. “It’s unusual for a CM to be involved in that process so early, and we got way ahead of the curve,” Ruddell says.

In accepting the award, Ruddell said, “Construction managers and project owners often think about shedding our risk. The irony is that when we manage risk for the builder, we dramatically reduce risk for ourselves. Tonight, I challenge you to approach your projects with understanding and wisdom. The best way to assure your success is to focus on the success of your partners.”

Ruddell was also acknowledged in a letter by President George W. Bush, who wrote: “Outstanding accomplishments are achieved through dedication, integrity, and skill. I appreciate all those who live by the principles of excellence. Your efforts contribute to the success of our Nation and reflect the true spirit of America.”

CMAA is North America's only organization dedicated exclusively to the interests of the professional construction and program management industry. On behalf of its twenty-five regional chapters and

nearly 4,000 public and private firms and individuals throughout the Nation, CMAA promotes the construction management industry and provides professional resources, advocacy, professional development, certification, and business opportunities to its members. CMAA's national headquarters is located in McLean, Virginia and the Association's website is www.cmaanet.org.

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