TECH/SPEC NEWS

WALT DISNEY WORLD CORONADO SPRINGS RESORT COMMERCIAL ROOFTOP DUCTWORK REPLACEMENT, LAKE BUENA VISTA, FL

SHEET METAL CONTRACTOR: LAPIN SHEET METAL COMPANY, INC. ORLANDO, FL
The Coronado Springs Resort rooftop duct replacement project was unusual because it required the installation of new stainless steel dual wall return air duct while minimizing the downtime of the existing air conditioning system.

Lapin Sheet Metal Company, Inc. was first asked to meet with facilities management to review the condition of the rooftop duct.

Initial site review revealed that existing
return air duct had rusted through to the point where the duct was compromised.

Lapin submitted its proposal with a detailed analysis of what the replacement duct construction should be along with an action plan on how work was to be staged to minimize downtime.

Lapin Sheet Metal Company’s plan was accepted, its bid was finalized, and the company was selected for the work.

Pre-manufacturing of new replacement duct together with tight coordination with rigging crews on both the ground and roof aided in expediting installation of new duct while at the same time removing the old duct.

Work was done on off hours to further minimize disruption to building operations.

Lapin expressed thanks to the Facilities Management Department for their openness to the company’s suggestions and their assistance in working with Lapin to facilitate the work.

Dan DeMaso of Lapin gave special recognition to Celsius Contracting for their effort on the project which aided the completion of work on time and with minimal discomfort to facilities management.
The scope of the work on this project consisted of adding one 25 ton Trane Rooftop Unit (RTU) to the two existing 25 ton RTU’s serving the recording studio/auditorium. The ceiling was removed for all trades to raise the above-ceiling ducts, sprinkler pipes and conduits to a minimum of 21 feet to make room for a light grid system for the Trinity Broadcasting Network’s future TV studio.

All existing metal-wrapped ductwork was removed and replaced with KoolDuct which was manufactured at McDonald Air’s 25,000 sq. ft. facility. A major working challenge was that the studio had to remain operational during construction.

McDonald Air & Sheet Metal, Inc. replaced the demolished duct with KoolDuct, on a daily basis, in order to keep the air evenly distributed for guests and as required by the owner’s instructions. Careful coordination with the owner and all the other trades made this job very successful.

Another one of the challenges of this project was that all work was completed on 3rd shift or during non-operational hours and McDonald Air had to have the auditorium cleaned and ready for business by 9:00 a.m. daily. Also difficult was working around the layout of the existing building with the steep slope of the roof, and four existing RTU’s (not only serving the auditorium but also the merchandise gift shop too).

McDonald Air & Sheet Metal, Inc. had to modify the original duct design and air distribution (supplied by Tom Barrow Co., Orlando) in order to accommodate the owner’s requirements. McDonald Air also had to re-submit amended drawings to the architect/engineer for approval because of height issues. According to the owner, the height was very critical for lighting the TV studio.

McDonald Air recognizes the valuable contributions of Clark Waters and his crew at E C Waters Heating & Air Conditioning, and also of McDonald Air’s job foreman, Mike Rausch, and the shop manager, Les Jones, for coordinating daily to have special fittings made and shipped to the jobsite for installation every night.
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IS ALUMINUM A PROPER MATERIAL CHOICE?

The following is one of many frequently asked questions of SMACNA’s Technical Resources Department regarding content in SMACNA’s publication “Round Industrial Duct Construction Standard,” second edition, 1999, an American National Standard.

Question?: I’m in the process of installing a ventilation system that will be venting an area that will have the potential for hydrogen gas releases.

I selected 3003 aluminum as the material of choice, as it is a non-ferrous and non-sparking material. The fans that were procured were constructed to meet AMCA Standard 99-0401-86 Type A, for a spark-resistant construction (all aluminum fan housing, inlet cone, and wheel).

In Section 3.2.6 (Aluminum), the note at the bottom states: “Aluminum is not recommended for the fabrication of systems operating at temperatures above 400ºF, or systems conveying corrosive, flammable or explosive vapors, fumes, mists, or particulates of any type.”

I’m confused about the statement concerning “not recommended...for explosive vapors.”

Since I chose 3003 aluminum as it is a non-ferrous and non-sparking material, I would like to understand the rationale of the note regarding passing a potentially explosive gas through the aluminum duct.

Answer: SMACNA’s Industrial Ventilation and Power Industry Task Force that wrote this standard meant to recommend aluminum for Class 1 applications only.

Whether flammable or explosive fumes, vapors, and mists are included in Class 1 can be debated. But, certainly, the Task Force did not intend to issue construction recommendations dealing with such specialized and hazardous applications; therefore the note excluding them.

We recognize that for such applications as the choice of materials is severely limited, and therefore it is the designer/specifier who is called upon to make an informed decision.
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386-423-2500
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Bohnert Sheet Metal
2225 NW 76th Street
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305-696-6851
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St. Petersburg, FL 33713
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Cailis Mechanical Corp.
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Davie, FL 33330
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Hialeah, FL 33018
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Ferber Sheet Metal Works, Inc.
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Jacksonville, FL 32226-6069
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Flap Sheet Metal Company
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Orlando, FL 32839
407-423-9897
Ronald J. Lapin

Lee’s Sheet Metal Works, Inc.
P.O. Box 756
East Palatka, FL 32131
386-328-5563
James Lee

McDonald Air and Sheet Metal, Inc.
2730 Eunice Avenue
Orlando, FL 32808
407-295-0220
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Magnum Sheet Metal, Inc.
7470 NW 68th Street
Miami, FL 33166
305-885-5656
William H. Murphy, Sr.

MetalFab, Inc.
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San Antonio, FL 33576
352-588-9901
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Moffitt Mechanical, LLC
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Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
904-241-9944
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National Sheet Metal Co.
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Jacksonville, FL 32211
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Omega Test and Balance
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Fort Pierce, FL 34982

Ray’s Metal Works, Inc.
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Alachua, FL 32615
386-462-1415
Ray Burnsed, Sr.

Sheet Metal Experts, Inc.
8986 N.W. 105th Way
Medley, FL 33178
305-805-2019
William F. Medlin

South Florida Sheet Metal
5217 NE Shore Village Terrace
Stuart, FL 34996
954-647-6457
Wayne Bozer

United Sheet Metal Company
14945 NW 25th Court
Miami, FL 33054
305-685-3526
Rich Applegate

Vickers Metal Works, Inc.
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Orlando, FL 32810
407-297-7546
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WINNER OF THE MANUAL DRAWING FROM THE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER!

The October SMACNA technical manual drawing winner was Joseph Hafner, Hafner-Ferlita Architects, Tampa, FL

He chose to receive the Architectural Sheet Metal Manual, 6th edition 2003

Enter today for the next drawing.

Florida

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