MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, CONCOURSE H, INTERNATIONAL MODIFICATIONS, MIAMI, FL

Architect: Perez & Perez, Miami, FL
Engineer: SDM Consulting Engineers, Inc., Coral Gables, FL
Construction Managers: Parsons-Odebrecht Joint Venture, Miami, FL
Sheet Metal Contractor: Dodec, Inc., Hialeah Gardens, FL
The scope of this project was to install VAV’s galvanized supply, return and exhaust duct work along with the required smoke exhaust fans in the Miami International Airport, Concourse H.

The duct was manufactured by MFH Sheet Metal Fabricators, Corp. of North Miami Beach. MFH Sheet Metal Fabricators, Corp. recently purchased the fabrication division of TES of South Florida. MFH produces lined, unlined, single & double-wall metal duct, fiberglass duct, stainless steel and kitchen exhaust duct to the customer’s specifications.

The main challenges that the Concourse H Project presented were: 1) Portions of the work had already been performed by another contractor, who defaulted on his contract. 2) The project was a revision of an existing concourse in the airport and 3) The plans did not reflect the tenant changes that had occurred over the years. It appeared that the previous contractor was unable to adequately communicate with the engineer and thus was unable to complete the job.

Dodec, Inc. took over the project and after surveying the conditions, met with the engineer and reviewed the challenges presented by the job and their scope with him. Dodec and the engineer were able to communicate the job challenges.

Dodec assisted the engineer in solving design RFI’s and was able to get the job rolling again. Dodec’s portion of the job is now complete and the entire concourse will shortly be finished.

Sometimes jobs that appear to be difficult at first glance turn out to be just the opposite. A simple meeting of the minds at the site was all it took for a successful performance.

The client has expressed their satisfaction with the project, and as a result Dodec, Inc. has been called upon to do additional work.
The Brevard County Detention Center Expansion project was unusual because it required the installation of duct work into Sprung Instant Structures or stressed membrane structures, which are engineered relocatable clear span structure systems referred to by the Detention Center as “tents”. For more information on these unique structures see www.sprung.com.

Lapin Sheet Metal Company, Inc. contracted to install HVAC duct in four detention tents and in one masonry structure, the laundry facility.

All duct was galvanized sheet metal fabricated and installed according to SMACNA standards.
Additionally, Eastern Sheet Metal, Co. provided dual wall spiral duct and Price Air Devices were used in all four tents. The Price Air Devices and Greenheck Duct Specialties provided by Stan Weaver Company were utilized in all four tents.

One of the unique aspects of the project was the upper hanger attachments which were used to support the mechanical systems. These attachments had to mate with slots in the ribs of the building steel and were positioned along these slots at required locations to mate with the mechanical systems they were to support.

The attachment locations required a coordinated effort on the part of all the contractors involved. There was also a mechanical mezzanine in each tent which housed the air handling unit.

The $262,500.00 project was fast track starting in May, 2006 and completed in July, 2006 ready for owner occupancy.

Lapin Sheet Metal Company, Inc. recognized the Precision Mechanical, Inc. crew for their support in making the timely completion of the project a reality.
The Daytona Beach Community College Mori Hosseini Center project consists of the construction of a new facility for the relocation and expansion of the college’s hospitality, tourism and culinary programs and for the Southeast Museum of Photography.

The scope of the project for Lee’s Sheet Metal & Air Conditioning, Inc. of East Palatka includes providing the fabrication and installation of the HVAC duct system for the new two-story, 67,000 square-foot Mori Hosseini Center.

Lee’s Sheet Metal contracted with Cadvantage Drafting Services, Inc. of St. Petersburg to provide coordination and fabrication drawings for the project.

Cadvantage utilizes an in-house custom 3-D Autocad® based software program for duct work design. The program allows Cadvantage to produce drawings that help Lee’s Sheet Metal stay on schedule. It also helps addresses coordination problems prior to fabrication.

Cadvantage Drafting Service’s President, Dan Sinclair, emphasizes the importance of good communication between architects, owners, engineers and project managers.

“In today’s construction environment, effective coordination is the key to a successful project. Our 3-D drawings enable these professionals to pinpoint problem areas before they can have a negative impact.”

The expected completion date for this project is July 10, 2007.

Jimmy Lee, president of Lee’s Sheet Metal & Air Conditioning, Inc., expressed his sincere gratitude to everyone involved in the coordination phase of this project.

Special thanks go to James Cason of PPI Construction, Jack Sanderson of W. W. Gay Mechanical, Claude Evans of Southeast Fire Protection, Dan Sinclair of Cadvantage and Brian McCord of Lee’s Sheet Metal.
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JP Sheet Metal  
JV Installation  
MFH Sheet Metal Fabricators, Corp.  
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EARLY START-UP OF PERMANENTLY INSTALLED HVAC SYSTEMS

Contractors are increasingly being required to perform early start-up of HVAC Systems for the use of temporary heating, cooling or dehumidification during the construction process. This practice can pose a significant impact to the integrity of the HVAC equipment and HVAC distribution system.

SMACNA has developed several documents in reference to concerns related to early start-up of HVAC systems. Early start-up of HVAC systems can often create serious issues and concerns with regard to warranties and service.

The document on Temporary Uses of HVAC Systems in Building Construction Projects outlines the realities and risks of using temporary heating, cooling and dehumidification equipment.

To view the documents on early start-up, visit the SMACNA website www.smacna.org.
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