

Highlights in Surveying

Announcing our second annual Highlights in Surveying Project Contest Winner selection.

In its second year running, we at *POB* have come to enjoy our exclusive Highlights in Surveying (and Mapping) Project Contest. Entries from impressive surveying and mapping firms come to us, along with the challenge to evaluate their potential for winning.

For our second annual contest, submitted projects must have been completed by December 2005. The award winner was selected by a concentrated panel of *POB* editors, and professional members of *POB*'s editorial board: Milton E. Denny, PLS; Joseph V.R. Paiva, PhD, PS, PE; Lieca N. Hohner; and Kimberly Jensen. The chosen award winners were presented with an honorary award plaque at their office in May, provided with



Milton Denny: "Quality surveying services is the most under-rated part of most construction projects. Most contractors just want the cheapest price and will settle for mediocrity. The firm *Midwestern Consulting* proved the worth of a surveying company to the point [that] they were given the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to be part of the solution [while] dealing with very difficult and technical problems in building *Station Place*.

"The accuracy requirements on this project were far greater than [those] encountered in any normal surveying project, including an ALTA survey. Their use of modern technology, i.e., laser scanning, demonstrates the future direction of surveying on the construction site."

Kimberly Jensen: "What's truly impressive about *Midwestern's* work on the *Station Place Building* is that the company used its people and assets for maximum efficiency at every stage of the project. And they also collaborated effectively with other teams across the country

all working on an incredibly complex project."

Lieca N. Hohner: "Midwestern Consulting is a progressive company, setting a high standard for other surveying and geomatics firms. They realize when to use the right tool for the right job. They know how to work together as a team and with other consulting companies, even across the country. They show professionalism at every stage and due diligence throughout their projects. They set a great example."

Again, *POB* applauds *Midwestern Consulting* for its dedication to the profession on an impressive project!

and the winner is...

reprints for promotional purposes and given a Magellan Roadmate 800 portable navigation device from Thales. On behalf of *POB*'s staff and judges, we congratulate this year's winner: *Midwestern Consulting LLC* of Ann Arbor, Mich., for its *Station Place* building project. Read details about this complex facility on the following pages.

The project *Midwestern Consulting* undertook from September 2003 to May 2005 was recognized for many elements: the proper and appropriate use of advanced technology; the efficient use of time, tools and crews; meeting of stringent design requirements; the consideration of safety for crew members; meeting the challenge of a unique design; and elevating the surveying support work performed on complex construction jobs. Here's what our judges had to say:

Joe Paiva: "Scanning is a relatively new technology for surveyors. This is a project showing how it is steadily becoming a mainstream tool. Clearly other choices for making the measurements were considered and rejected. The fact that the geometric shapes to be surveyed here were not the usual circular curves, spirals and parabolas added to the interest. The architectural approach is also intriguing. And finally, the study and analysis of the point clouds by survey consultants, engineers and owner's representative in geographically dispersed offices demonstrates that this project was multi-disciplinary and highly supported by a variety of non-survey technologies, serving as a model for the work environment of the surveyor consultant of the future."

Our congratulations to the following professionals involved in the project:

- MITCHELL WIMBUSH, PS, project surveyor
- DANNY M. BONGIOVANNI, PS, principal-in-charge
- DAX BIRD, survey crew chief
- PAUL KOVACS, survey crew chief
- PAUL BURY, survey technician
- RYAN ROBERTS, survey technician

Continuing the Challenge in 2006

POB is now accepting submissions for the third annual Highlights in Surveying project contest. Thanks to our supportive contest sponsors, next year's winner will win a cool two grand—that's \$2,000 dollars, bucks or whatever you call them in your area!

We invite all U.S. and international surveying and mapping firms, civil engineers, construction surveyors, mappers, photogrammetrists, imaging professionals, GIS practitioners, transportation employees and others involved in the geomatics profession to enter our contest. Whether you use more conventional equipment such as lasers and total stations for your work, or advanced technology such as GPS or laser scanning, tell us about your work. A cool project, an innovative approach or an impressive team can all constitute a great story—you just might win! Enter online at www.pobonline.com/contest.