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## **Year's best work honored at ABC San Diego Excellence in Construction Awards**

*Straub Construction and Gould Electric take top honors*

**(San Diego, CA)** – Fifteen contractors working on projects ranging from affordable housing to military facilities, hospitals, schools, and libraries, transit centers and wildlife centers, office buildings and courthouses were honored for their work at the Associated Builders and Contractors Excellence in Construction Awards on November 17.

“Behind each of these awards are extraordinary men and women who are building San Diego and building America,” said Philip Piel, ABCSD Board Chairman. “The honors belong to them both as individuals and as teams working together. They should take great pride in their achievements and it’s our privilege to recognize their work.”

In addition to recognizing contractors, ABC San Diego honored Oceanside City Councilmember Jerry Kern with an Excellence in Leadership Award for his support of fair and open competition. The City of Oceanside passed the county’s first ballot measure ensuring all contractors the right to bid for public contracts without requiring costly project labor agreements.

The evening’s top awards were presented to Straub Construction, Inc. for the Design –Build Human Resources Service Center at MCAS Miramar; and Gould Electric, Inc. for their role in the construction of the Thomas Jefferson School of Law.

Winner of Top Project by a General Contractor, the Design-Build Human Resources Service Center at MCAS Miramar is described as the base’s most sustainable, unique, and prestigious facility. Straub Construction used innovative design to create the building’s unique architectural style and aerodynamic characteristics on a military base that is over 23,000 acres with over 400 structures and houses employing approximately 11,000 people. The design team faced unique challenges with military protocols and specifications, preservation of the wetland, and designing a project that would fully incorporate function and form.

The project received LEED Platinum certification and has a roof mounted Photovoltaic System produces 12.5% of the building’s annual energy. In addition, it houses efficient energy systems, building systems, and electrical systems that exceed California State Requirements by 42%.

“Very few contractors, if any, would be able to achieve what Straub has achieved without significant impacts to time and cost,” says Dave Grant, NAVFAC Design Build Manager.

Receiving the award for Top Project by a Sub-Contractor for the Thomas Jefferson School of Law, Gould Electric played a pivotal role in the construction of a technologically advanced, distinctive building located in San Diego’s East Village. The project used the design-assist model, and Gould Electric worked closely with the design team, general contractor, and others intimately involved with project construction.

Unique challenges included the implementation of a “core first” concept where the subterranean core was formed and three floors were poured, and project delays due to the discovery of prehistoric fossils found during excavation. Gould Electric used BIM technology, schematic design, unique layout techniques to construct accurate plans, and

prefabrication to complete the project on time and on budget. The project expects to receive LEED Gold certification, making Thomas Jefferson School of Law one of a small number of law schools in the nation to achieve this prestigious status.

ABC Contractors also recognized for their outstanding craftsmanship include:

#### **Top Project Finalists**

C.W. Driver - Fallbrook Branch Library

Sherwood Mechanical - Ten Fifty B Street, San Diego

Stronghold Engineering, Inc. - Seismic Retrofit and Historic Renovation, San Bernardino County Central Courthouse

Western Bay Sheet Metal, Inc. - Palm Desert High School (Phase 2)

#### **Excellence Winners**

Hensel Phelps - Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center Emergency Department and Observation Unit Expansion

Lusardi Construction Co. - Camp Cuyamaca

Stronghold Engineering, Inc. - Repair Damaged Communication Lines, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton

Stronghold Engineering, Inc. - Design and Construct Solar Canopy, Transit Maintenance Facility, City of Santa Clarita

Turner Construction Company - Chula Vista High School (Project 1)

#### **Merit Winners**

Echo Pacific Construction, Inc.- Lincoln Middle School Modernization

Ledcor Construction, Inc. - City of El Cajon Public Safety Center

Lusardi Construction Co. - San Marcos Elementary School

Reno Contracting - Veterans Affairs Clinic, Oceanside

Reno Contracting - MedImpact Building, Scripps Poway Parkway

Rowan Electric, Inc. - Fallbrook Branch Library

Rowan Electric, Inc. - Ramona Library

Stronghold Engineering, Inc. - Bachelor Enlisted Quarters, Bldgs. 14 and 15, Naval Air Station Lemoore

Western Bay Sheet Metal, Inc. - National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Chula Vista

The awards dinner was presented by the 2011 Annual Sponsors with master event sponsors Rowan Electric and Pacific Building Group; reception sponsor Stronghold Electric; beverage sponsor Helix Electric, and entertainment sponsors Straub Construction and Schwartz, Semerdjian, Ballard and Cauley LLP, Attorneys at Law. Rowan Electric accepted two awards of merit for the Fallbrook Library and Ramona Library. Pacific Building Group is a past award winner and finalist for top project in 2010 for the Callaway Golf Headquarters Renovation.

#### **About ABC San Diego**

Associated Builders and Contractors is a national association representing more than 23,000 merit shop construction and construction-related firms in 75 chapters across the United States. The San Diego Chapter of ABC represents construction and construction-related firms throughout San Diego County. To find out more about ABCSD, visit, [www.abcsd.org](http://www.abcsd.org).

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