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FoundationWorks, Inc. Moves into Commercial Modular Building Segment with Innovative Foundation System

University of Southern California's New Student Dining Facility Among the First to Employ FoundationWorks System

Portland, Ore. (August 15, 2008) – Builders of commercial modular structures now have an innovative foundation system option that can meet rigorous IBC building standards in just hours, while offering significant environmental sustainability benefits.

The Modular Support Column System™ from FoundationWorks, Inc., employs metal support columns with adjustable steel heads that can be installed in hours, rather than relying upon concrete or block foundations which are expensive, time-consuming, inexact and eventually require expensive removal. The series of columns produce a permanent foundation capable of withstanding intense earthquakes and high winds, although it can be removed and relocated with ease.

“Commercial modular builders are excited about the ease and convenience of this foundation system, which we originally introduced in the factory-built residential market,” said Al Preusch, Portland-based Founding Director of FoundationWorks, Inc., and a former factory-built homebuilder executive.

“The new system can satisfy rigorous seismic standards, shorten the construction cycle by 1-2 weeks and substantially reduce demolition costs (primarily concrete removal) when the facility is removed or retired. Accordingly, the System is highly environmentally friendly because it substantially reduces concrete requirements compared to other systems and is reusable.”

USC Dining Facility Supported By FoundationWorks System

One of the first commercial installations using the modular support column system is a new restaurant complex at the University of Southern California opening to students for the fall semester. The FoundationWorks system supports 17 factory-built units that house restaurant kitchens and refrigeration units that cover 7,400 square feet. The new dome-shaped dining facility known as “The Lot” features seven popular restaurant concepts serving the institution’s 33,000 students, and may be relocated after campus construction nearby is completed.

“The main thing that intrigued us was the reusability of the foundation system,” said Ralph Goldbeck, a partner of Fresno, Calif.-based Kitchens To Go/Carlin Manufacturing (www.kitchens-2-go.com), a leading modular and mobile kitchen builder that supplied the units.

“As a company we’re working to become more environmentally conscious, and saw the FoundationWorks system as an opportunity to reduce the amount of block and concrete waste, and the ability to reuse the foundation, just like our kitchen units.”

Goldbeck said the USC facility was particularly complicated because of the number and size of the units, tolerances within 56-foot spans, and building sets that required installation by crane. Despite those complications, he said the FoundationWorks system performed well, including enduring a nearby earthquake shortly after it was installed.

“I think it’s a great application for block and level configuration where the metal piers can be installed after the unit is positioned. It has some great applications for Kitchens To Go.”

Todd Warren, Gene Adams and the crew of TBL Enterprises in Canyon Lake, Calif. were responsible for installing the FoundationWorks System at the USC campus.

“We were particularly impressed with the lateral strength of the FoundationWorks product and its bracing system. We had to slide the units sideways to remove the thick straps the crane used, and then moved the units to their final position. It’s a good strong system.”

Once the buildings were set into position, TBL installed I-Beam clamps and the process was finished.

“The successful use of FoundationWorks’ unique System in this high profile project illustrates its potential in all forms of modular built construction,” said Mike Taylor, Chief Operating Officer of FoundationWorks, Inc. “It is a strong foundation system that reduces construction time and complexity. It also offers two very important environmental sustainability features: it dramatically reduces concrete requirements and thus CO₂ emissions, and is 100-percent reusable if the structure is later relocated.”

FoundationWorks, Inc. anticipates serving the fast-growing commercial modular building segment, which is estimated at \$3.5 billion in annual revenue and has been growing at around 10 percent a year.

More information is available at www.foundationworksinc.com or by contacting Beverly Workman, the Company's national sales manager, at 1.800.497.5484 (x118).

About FoundationWorks, Inc.

FoundationWorks, Inc. manufactures, and markets proprietary foundation systems designed and engineered especially to improve the structural performance and appearance of factory-built structures. The Company provides foundations for factory-built homes and commercial structures, including innovative perimeter support walls. More than 4,000 such foundation systems have been installed. FoundationWorks, Inc. was founded in 2004 through an acquisition led by Al Preusch, a Portland, Ore. investor and former factory-built home executive. The Company has its headquarters in Greensboro, N.C., and a wholly owned subsidiary, EquityAccess Mortgage, Inc., that originates low-interest mortgage loans for factory-built homes. More information is at www.foundationworksinc.com

“The Lot” at USC

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