

AGC MO



For Immediate Release
Oct. 10, 2016

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BUILDING & HIGHWAY CONTRACTORS CELEBRATE BUILDMO WEEK OCT. 10-14
Week-long/statewide celebration kicks off Oct. 10 at 212 S. Meramec Project in Clayton

ST. LOUIS—Today, the AGC of Missouri, government and civic leaders gathered at PARIC's 212 S. Meramec job site in Clayton to kick off a weeklong celebration of the construction industry in Missouri. Additional events are scheduled in Jefferson City and Springfield, MO on Oct. 11, with BuildMO Week 2016 culminating Oct. 14th with the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Construction Training Center in St. Louis.

The 382,666-sq.ft., 26-story post tension concrete high-rise building is the largest multi-family and mixed-used building in Clayton. The tower will consist of mixed retail space, garage parking, 20 levels of luxury apartments (250 units), and a roof level with a swimming pool and other amenities. Construction on the \$60 million building began in Oct. 2015, with completion expected in June 2017. Developer/owner is WORP/CA Clayton, LLC. Architect is HDA Architects and Alper Audi is structural engineer. Project investors include union pension funds and others.

Leonard Toenjes, CAE, president, AGC of Missouri, welcomed Karen Ellis, director of economic development for the St. Louis Regional Chamber, representatives of St. Louis County Executive, Steve Stenger, and St. Louis City Mayor, Francis Slay, along with building trade union officials and other guests.

Toenjes noted that construction is a major driver of Missouri's economy, employing more than 116,200 persons throughout the state, with **Missouri ranking 4th in the nation** in one-month employment growth between July and August 2016: View at: https://www.agc.org/sites/default/files/Files/Communications/State_Empl_201608_Alpha.pdf

In 2015, Missouri construction contributed \$11 billion (3.8 percent) of the state's GDP of \$293 billion. That same year, Missouri construction wages and salaries totaled \$ \$6.5 billion. In 2014, construction workers' pay in Missouri averaged \$54,400, 18 percent more than all private sector employees in the state. Missouri had 13,000 construction firms in 2014, of which 92 percent were small (fewer than 20 employees.)

NOTE: Economic data provided Sept. 2016 by the AGC of America

Keith Wolkoff, president of PARIC, stated that, as of Sept. 30, 2016, the 212 S. Meramec project has logged a total of 92,453 hours by laborers, carpenters, operators, ironworkers, electricians, sheet metal workers, plumbers, pipefitters, cement masons, sprinkler fitters, glaziers, tapers and roofers. "We are very proud of the technology and innovation we've applied to this project, including BIM 3-D modeling and robotic layout," Wolkoff said. "A specialty concrete mix was developed for this building to hit psi's not utilized in St. Louis ever before. BASF's expert, known for the majority of the tallest concrete building designs in the world, worked closely with the design team for 212 S. Meramec.

The project is a joint venture of PARIC and McHugh. Major subcontractors on the project include CECO Concrete Construction, concrete; Murphy Company, HVAC and plumbing engineer; Kaiser Electric, electrical engineer; and Fire Tech, fire protection engineer.

Toenjes also pointed out that although employment has surpassed pre-recession figures, the industry is now facing a critical workforce shortage, attributed to an aging workforce, the 2008 recession, and the recent increase in construction activity. “Every day we hear new reports of contractors turning down or delaying work because of the skilled worker shortage,” said Toenjes. “Nationwide, the shortage is reaching a critical stage. We have a multitude of programs and incentives for hard-working men and women of all backgrounds to join the ranks of Missouri’s present and future construction industry.

“When young people are contemplating a career choice, we hope they will consider construction,” added Toenjes. “As we’ve viewed today, our industry can be a rewarding and challenging career choice. With new technologies, sustainable buildings, new construction methods and other innovations, we are looking to the best and brightest to join our industry. The AGC of Missouri also has been an industry leader in creating a more inclusive construction business and workforce environment for all construction related participants throughout Missouri. Come join us – there are jobs waiting!”

Through its Construction Labor Market Analyzer®, the *Building Your Future* Initiative has compiled data on each state and how many construction craft professionals will be needed over the next three years. Missouri data (updated quarterly) can be found at: <http://byf.org/craft-labor-map>

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About the AGC of Missouri

The Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Missouri is the largest organization representing the united voice of the construction industry throughout the state of Missouri. AGC of Missouri represents nearly 550 commercial, industrial, heavy and highway contractors, industry partners and related firms in 110 counties across the state of Missouri. AGC of Missouri operates offices in St. Louis and Jefferson City. Visit: www.agcmo.org

About PARIC

PARIC Corporation was established in 1979 and is currently one of the largest privately held, St. Louis based, companies. As a premiere General Contractor, Construction Manager, and Design/Builder PARIC provides a complete range of construction services, specializing in commercial, interiors, academic, healthcare, historic renovations, hospitality and entertainment, senior living, and multi-family. We are always on the forefront of construction advancements, utilizing the latest in virtual design and construction technology. PARIC partners with our clients to help build their vision by providing a level of quality and service that we believe is unmatched. Every day, PARIC is focused on Building Excellence to Move our Community Forward. Visit: www.paric.com

Full Schedule of BuildMO Week Activities:

Mon., Oct. 10, 11 a.m. – News Conference: 212 S. Meramec, Clayton (PARIC job site)

Tue., Oct. 11, 10 a.m. – News Conference: Lafayette Street Interchange, Jefferson City (in parking lot of Simonsen Ninth Grade Center on East Monroe Street, overlooking MoDOT/Emery Sapp site)

Tues., Oct. 11, 3 p.m. – News Conference: U.S. 65 interchange and six-laning project, Springfield, MO (enter at Lake Springfield access off of Southwood overlooking MoDOT/Emery Sapp site)

Friday, Oct. 14, 3:30 p.m. – Construction Training School 50th Anniversary Celebration/Chain-cutting ceremony, 6301 Knox Industrial Dr., St. Louis