CIVICVentures

May 15, 2009

Design-Build Institute of America
Attn: 2009 Awards Competition
1100 H Street NW, Suite 500
Washington DC 20005

National Design-Build Awards Jury:

Anchorage owes a big thank you to Jerry Neeser and the entire Neeser Construction, Inc., (NCI) Design/Build team for their outstanding effort to help bring Alaska's convention capability into the 21st century. Without NCI and its team of design professionals, this might still be a vision for the future. The completion and opening of the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center fulfills that long held vision.

This "Destination Downtown" project is a world class facility that has increased Anchorage's civic and convention capacity by 300 percent; and Anchorage is already reaping the benefit. The Anchorage Visitors & Convention Bureau has secured contracts for some of the largest convention groups in the country, significant bookings that extend several years into the future. This is a very real example of "if you build it, they will come".

While taking exceptional advantage of the spectacular views that surround our city, the Center provides a 50,000SF exhibit hall with a capacity for 274 booth set ups, banquet set up capacity of 2,400; classroom set up for 2,940; or general session set up capacity for 5,000. In addition, the 25,000SF ballroom has capacity for 136 booth set ups; banquet seating for 2,400 plus a full stage; classroom set up for 1,530; or lecture set up for 2,550. And, there are 46,500SF of usable lobbies and pre-function areas. The Center can accommodate multiple conventions simultaneously with a total of over 7,000 conventioneers in attendance.

Top to bottom, the NCI team members were unwavering in their dedication to quality, safety, and timeliness. The team's work on this significant and very successful project merits recognition.

Sincerely,

James N. Reeves
President, CIVICVentures