

MILLENNIUM DESIGNER

THE LATEST NEWS ON PROJECT DEVELOPMENTS

Principally Speaking...



Joshua Finn, project coordinator of Millennium Design Associates, is a 1995 graduate of Wentworth Institute of Technology with a Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering. Josh has been with the firm for almost 5 years and if you ask him, I'm sure he'll tell you he's loved every minute of it.

Fast cars and fast fingers are what young Josh is all about. His lightning fast CAD abilities really put a stress on his keyboard and mouse. This is good when projects have to be completed quickly, but bad when it comes to computer hardware replacement costs. Equally as fast is Josh's favorite car, the Ferrari 288 GTO.

So when your looking for a high performance machine that can go 0-60 in less than 5 seconds, forget about the GTO, put your money on Joshua Finn, extension 15.

HERTZ FEELS GROWING PAINS

Rapid retail expansion into any market is never an easy task. With real estate at a premium and the development of new sites proceeding at a snails pace, the chore of finding and opening retail storefronts has become a daunting one.

In spite of these difficulties, Hertz has stepped up its expansion into the suburban market place since the events of 9-11 significantly reduced airport rental demands. The approach utilized by Hertz to facilitate this expansion, has been to fit up a series of small satellite locations with similar "automobile friendly features" using the design build project delivery method.

Coastal Construction of Duxbury, MA spearheads these projects. Coastal generates the basic job scope with M.D.A. based on the client's needs, timeline and code requirements. The resulting construction documentation is issued shortly thereafter with Coastal fitting up the site, often in less than one month. To date, Coastal and M.D.A. have delivered ten sites to Hertz in a little over one year.



Hertz, Raynham, MA

DIFFERENT NAME, SAME CLIENT

From MediaOne to AT&T Broadband and now Comcast, MDA has done a variety of projects for the cable giant ranging from call center renovations to tech center conversions and payment center updates.

Our latest projects include a 2,000 square feet payment center renovation in Peabody, MA and feasibility studies for their current facilities in Fairhaven, MA and Fall River, MA. Although their logo has changed, many of the faces in the facilities department have remained the same, allowing our relationship with those we are familiar with to remain strong.



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Millennium Design Associates, Inc. is an architectural and engineering firm offering services nationally for retailers, restaurants and commercial developers.

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Code Corner

ARCHITECT'S ADDENDA

First Source

TRAGEDY CAUSES REFORM

Architects and engineers alike are often challenged in keeping pace with the changes to the various state and local building codes and supplements. When beginning a project in an unfamiliar town or city, the first task is to determine what building codes and code amendments the local authorities having jurisdiction are enforcing.

This information is available online at www.firstsourceonline.com. Here, code information is listed by state and city with contact information for local inspectors and codes being enforced. Links to towns, cities and counties that have web sites are also posted here. In addition to code information, this site also contains an RS Means Calculator as well as links to various product information

All too often tragedy reminds us of our most important obligation the *health and safety of the public*. The Station Nightclub fire in Warwick, RI on February 20th killed 100 people and injured another 180. The panicked stampede at Chicago's E2 nightclub just three days prior to the Warwick fire killed 21 and injured 55.

Though the causes for the incidents were different, the nightclubs shared a common thread; multiple building code violations. In both cases, the majority of occupants raced toward the most familiar, but not necessarily the closest exit. Those who attempted to find alternate exits either had difficulty, or in the case of the E2 people arrived at the exits only to find the doors chained shut.

While a sprinkler system would have saved many lives in Warwick, it would not have prevented the ensuing panic and stampede toward the exits. The results would likely have been similar to the E2 tragedy.

Currently code enforcement officials have become critical of egress design, often requesting "code plus" egress solutions.

While only local enforcement can ensure on-going code compliance, a careful study of how people react in emergency situations must be at the forefront of assembly use and egress design. It should not be how many exits the code requires, it should be how many exits does the building need.