Las Vegas’ First Major League Sports Team Gets New Home

Quality Mechanical, a division of Harris Companies, recently completed mechanical and plumbing services for the 20,000-seat T-Mobile Arena in Las Vegas, NV. The arena is home to Las Vegas’ first major league sports team, the NHL’s Vegas Golden Knights. Quality Mechanical was honored by the opportunity to contribute to the construction of this new destination. The arena will host a wide variety of sporting events, concerts and awards shows.

The arena opened in April 2016, after nearly two years of construction. It’s the first sports or entertainment complex in Las Vegas to achieve LEED Gold certification. Quality Mechanical joined general contractor Hunt/Penta on the project. Using 3D BIM/CAD coordination and field leadership, Quality Mechanical was able to adhere to the NHL’s rigorous technical specifications for the ice rink and locker room piping installation. The result is a facility to be proud of.

Safety First

The T-Mobile Arena project had an impressive safety record and achieved two million safe working hours with zero lost-time injuries. Quality Mechanical actively created a safe working environment by retaining a full-time, on-site safety coordinator and requiring bend and stretch and safety discussions at the start of each shift.

Playing to Strengths

Quality Mechanical used its expertise and resources in CAD/BIM modeling to provide clash coordination with the other trades. This effort to catch and eliminate...
A MESSAGE FROM GREG HOSCH, CEO

According to Forbe’s magazine Apple, Google and Microsoft are the world’s three most valuable brands for 2017. Certainly each of these brands evokes reactions in consumers. When we see the iconic Apple logo, we immediately have certain expectations about product quality, innovation, presentation and value. These brands have evolved over time to become the giants they are today. Most of us can probably remember what those brands meant to us five, 10, or 15 years ago.

At Harris, our brand is evolving too. Much of our geographic expansion has been through acquisition. In almost every case, we have kept the existing business name to retain its value in the local marketplace. This strategy was effective in maintaining local brand loyalty, but only those who already knew Harris really understood the subtle connection to the overall corporate brand.

Over the course of the next year, we will transition all of our divisions to a shared business name, logo and branding strategy.

Over time, we’ve come to realize that long-term value is in the Harris brand. In some cases, we’ve submitted a proposal to a customer for a large project with individuals from two or three of our regions. In those cases, we’ve had to educate the customer that these differently named companies are really a part of the same company.

As our business has grown, so have our customers. Many of our customers are now national in reach and it’s easier for us to do business with them in multiple locations when we have one consistent name and logo. It also facilitates collaboration between our offices to seamlessly and logically deliver the best resources to a project regardless of location.

Internally, adopting a common brand sends a message to our employees about breaking down the last silos to more effectively grow our business. We’ll be collaborating across geographic boundaries and deploying best practice throughout the company.

I look forward to a new clarity of purpose that better serves our customers and helps our team members grow and prosper along with the company. It’s much more than just a new logo; it’s a new statement about our identity!

ZEROING IN ON SAFETY
Dan Kent, Corporate Safety Director

I’m pleased to announce that Quality Mechanical, a division of Harris Companies, finished 2016 with zero recordable injuries!

Recordable injuries are more serious than a cut or a scratch that you could treat with first aid and require professional medical attention. They are tracked as part of the yearly OSHA Form 300 Log.

Quality Mechanical’s safety record is no accident. Employees at all levels are dedicated to safe practices. With strong support from management, employees are trained in safety continuously throughout the year. Safety audits as well as thorough accident and near-miss investigations help correct potential job site hazards. Employees also started a safety bingo program to keep safety top of mind.

To maintain safe job sites in 2017, Quality Mechanical is adding additional safety efforts to those already in place. Superintendents and project managers will be provided with more training and opportunities to conduct safety audits. Pre-task plan tracking and training will also go into effect.

Quality Mechanical’s president Doug Lea (right) accepts the Harris Safety Award from Todd Thiele, Executive Safety Committee Chair (left).
HARRIS MECHANICAL SOUTHWEST
Phoenix International Raceway Expansion and Renovation
Harris Mechanical Southwest was selected as the design-build contractor for the $178 million renovation and expansion of the Phoenix International Raceway. The team will be designing and installing the plumbing and HVAC systems. The project includes redesigning and expanding seating, improving and expanding restroom access, creating a pedestrian tunnel, improved broadcasting facilities and redesigning the racetrack.

HARRIS CONTROLS
Rochester Expansion
Harris Controls is expanding into the Rochester, MN market. Rob Maxson, account executive, is heading up customer solutions and satisfaction. Rob is based out of the HiMEC office. We look forward to bringing our customer-focused controls business to the Rochester area!

HARRIS MECHANICAL
Park Nicollet Methodist Hospital Boiler Replacements
Starting in April, Harris will be working with Park Nicollet Methodist Hospital in Saint Louis Park, MN to replace three high pressure steam boilers with five new low pressure steam (LPS) boilers. The project will be phased over two years with two new LPS boilers installed in 2017 and the remaining three new LPS boilers in 2018.

Marshfield Hospital and Cancer Center
The Harris Mechanical healthcare division has begun work on the new Marshfield Hospital and Cancer Center in Marshfield, WI. Harris is partnering with general contractor Knutson Construction and engineering firm HDR to provide preconstruction and mechanical services for the new construction of the 37,000 sq. ft. cancer center and four-story 200,000 sq. ft. hospital.

New Minnesota United FC Stadium
Harris Mechanical is joining M.A. Mortenson Construction to provide design-assist and mechanical services for the new Minnesota United FC Stadium in St. Paul. The $150 million, 346,000 sq. ft. stadium will be home to Major League Soccer in Minnesota. The project team is currently immersed in the preconstruction effort. Construction is scheduled to start in June and be completed in January 2019.

River Falls High School Mechanical Piping Replacement
Harris Mechanical was awarded the River Falls High School Mechanical Piping Replacement Project in River Falls, WI. Harris is working with Kraus-Anderson Construction and Apex Engineering to replace 12,000 ft. of mechanical piping as well as mechanical equipment. The team is in the planning phase and will start construction when school lets out for the summer.

DID YOU KNOW?
Superior Air Handling Accomplishes Safety Milestone on MOX Nuclear Project
During the first week of January 2017, Superior craftworkers at the MOX project in Aiken, SC hit two million safe working hours.

HiMEC Mechanical Helps Out at Block Kids Event
On January 30th, the southeastern Minnesota chapter for the National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) hosted their annual Block Kids event. Kids in grades 4-6 learned about construction and created their own building from legos, tinfoil and string. HiMEC NAWIC members and their coworkers joined in to help run and judge the event.

HiMEC At Home Awards Scholarship
In conjunction with iHeartMedia, HiMEC at Home, as well as Overby Orthodontics, Sylvan Learning Center and The Rochester Area Foundation presented Randal (Randy) Wendt with a $2,500 scholarship. Randy won HiMEC and iHeartMedia’s photo contest and will be attending The University of Wisconsin-River Falls in fall 2017.

Corporate Office Gets Renovation
Renovations are underway at the corporate office in St. Paul. General contractor Kraus-Anderson Construction is working with Harris to create an open layout with modern spaces for employees to work and hold meetings. Improvements also include a new heating and cooling system. Construction began in February and will be complete mid-June.
Brenda Devlin
Vice President of Human Capital

In November 2016, Brenda Devlin joined Harris Companies as Vice President of Human Capital. Brenda is a proven human capital leader who focuses on aligning business initiatives with strategy and culture, while helping employees throughout the organization grow and develop as professionals.

Brenda’s title is a purposeful departure from the traditional vice president of human resources. A “resource” is something you expend, whereas “capital” is something you invest. Finding and developing great talent is part of how we deliver high-quality projects for our customers.

Brenda is passionate about identifying and developing positive aspects of company culture because, as Peter Drucker, a famous industrial organizational psychologist states, “culture eats strategy for breakfast.” She leads Harris Companies’ Talent & Culture Strategic Team, which is spearheading the company-wide effort to make Harris the employer of choice in the mechanical contracting industry. This group is determining and implementing changes to support and drive a culture that will make Harris a destination workplace.

When Brenda and the Talent & Culture Strategic Team look at culture, they are looking at everything from surface level mission statements, office decor and stated values to the unspoken assumptions and structures. These elements drive how people at Harris interact with each other, our customers and people at other companies.

Creating a destination workplace culture entails assessing our current culture and then determining any needed changes. Next the organization’s culture is strategically reinforced or changed to support and drive the strategic plan. The goal is to create a workplace that’s welcoming and supportive of its employees.

We believe that remarkable people create remarkable results. As we refine and focus our company culture, we look forward to sharing the benefits with you.

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potentially costly or time-consuming conflicts before they occurred was instrumental to the project’s success. Extensive CAD coordination and the use of Trimble units (robotic laser layout devices) during installation also helped Quality Mechanical’s field team save time during the layout and leveling of plumbing and HVAC systems and contributed to the successful installation of the arena’s 92 in. diameter bowl ductwork. Quality Mechanical’s prefabrication capabilities were crucial to keeping the project on-schedule. The majority of the arena’s ductwork, plumbing and piping systems were prefabricated in the shop, including restroom carriers and large mechanical piping segments. The team designed, fabricated and installed the hydronic and domestic water piping as a rack system to maximize efficiency.

A True Team Effort

Much of Quality’s project success was thanks to the combined efforts of the entire project team. Hunt/Penta, valued subcontractors and partners from all the trades came together to deliver a great project.

If you have comments, suggestions or if you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please email marketing@hmcc.com.