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**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**Construction Systems Inc. Honored With AGC Build Ohio 2007 Award**

COLUMBUS, Ohio – December 4, 2007 – Construction Systems Inc. (CSI) was awarded the Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Ohio 2007 Build Ohio award in the Renovation category for CSI's renovation of the Columbus College of Art & Design's Schottenstein Residence Hall. The annual Build Ohio Awards program is one of the most widely recognized statewide construction awards program honoring excellence in construction in the country.

The Build Ohio winners were announced for the first time during the November awards dinner at the Hilton Columbus. Build Ohio winners received the prestigious bronze and green marble Build Ohio statue. Projects can be entered in one of six categories; CSI was honored as the winner in the Renovation category for the dormitory renovation at Columbus College of Art & Design (CCAD). Other entries in the Renovation Category included projects at the University of Dayton, The Ohio State University, Cleveland State University, and the Lazarus Building in Downtown Columbus.

Award entries are evaluated based on four criteria—excellence in project management, excellence in client service, meeting the challenge of a difficult job, and innovations in construction techniques and/or materials. A panel of retired construction professionals selected the Build Ohio winners.

CSI's summer-break renovation of the CCAD Schottenstein Residence Hall was an entire renovation of the four-story, 55,000 SF freshman dormitory. The project was completed within 87 days, precisely on schedule and within the \$1.4 million budget.

The schedule contained 55 major activities and 15 major critical path items for less than three months of work. On a typical critical path schedule 15% of the items are critical path items; on the CCAD schedule, 27% of the activities were critical path items.

Jeffrey A. Fisher, CCAD Senior VP and Chief Financial Officer, said, "The only way we would have done this project with this time line is with a contractor we trusted and have worked well with on past projects."

The scope of work consisted of the demolition and replacement of every surface and every plumbing and lighting fixture in the building. The HVAC system was upgraded and thoroughly cleaned and sanitized. Custom-built study and storage units were constructed in CSI's mill shop during the demo and construction phases and brought to the site when each room was ready for installation.

The investment in pre-construction planning was enormous, but proved invaluable. A full-scale model of an entire suite was constructed in a nearby CCAD warehouse and outfitted with the exact bathroom and electrical fixtures, built-in work surfaces, storage units, and furniture. Not only did this working model help finalize dimensions, materials and fixture selections, it served as a means to secure the trustees' approval. CCAD's interior design students were invaluable members of the design team, along with architect Bruce Wisecarver.

Once the project started, no construction meetings were held. All decisions were made on site daily with the owner, CSI's superintendent, and the affected subcontractors so work could proceed immediately. Costly and time consuming paperwork such as change orders, RFIs, and written meeting minutes were nonexistent. No change orders were requested by any contractor on the project.

The renovation of CCAD's Schottenstein Residence Hall was nominated for a Build Ohio Award primarily for the teamwork and customer relationship that allowed for the

accomplishment of an aggressive schedule and workload. "It's not often that we are presented with an extraordinary challenge and the perfect combination of owner, subcontractors, design professionals, and CSI team members to meet that challenge," stated J.D. Flaherty, Jr., CSI president.

The 2007 Build Ohio Award is the third Build Ohio that CSI has won in the 16-year history of the awards competition. CSI was previously honored with Build Ohio Awards in the Specialty category for The Longaberger Basket Building and The Jeffersonville Outlet Mall in 1993 and 1998.

**About Construction Systems Inc.**

Construction Systems Inc. (CSI) is a commercial general trades and specialties subcontractor, and a leading facilities renovation contractor. CSI serves central and southeastern Ohio from its headquarters in Columbus Ohio. CSI self-performs general trades work, and with 110 employees, CSI is one of Central Ohio's largest employers of skilled craftsmen. Celebrating its 40th anniversary in the building industry, CSI has completed over 12,000 projects and worked in hundreds of buildings in central Ohio. For more information about any of CSI's service offerings, projects or company contacts visit [www.ConSysOhio.com](http://www.ConSysOhio.com) or call 614-252-0708.

**Photo Caption:**

Accepting the 2007 Build Ohio Award in the renovation category for Construction Systems Inc. are (left to right) Denny Bauders, VP/Chief Financial Officer, Andy Poczik, Executive Vice President, Anthony Yates, Project Superintendent, and JD Flaherty, Jr., President.

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