

Mid-Atlantic FOCUS



A Newsletter for Customers of the GSA Public Buildings Service

Fall 2009

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Solar Panel Installation is A Major Component of Recovery Act Projects in the Mid-Atlantic Region

As we reported in the Summer 2009 edition of *Focus*, the General Services Administration (GSA) has a large responsibility under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). GSA's Mid-Atlantic Region received nearly \$164 million of the \$5.5 billion allotted to GSA to complete projects in 10 buildings and facilities across the Region's six state territory.

ARRA has provided GSA with the opportunity to reinvest in our public buildings, encourage long-term growth in energy-efficient technologies, alternative energy and green solutions, and stimulate job creation. The Mid-Atlantic Region has already awarded construction for a roof replacement and the installation of a photovoltaic solar array at the Veterans Affairs Regional Office and Insurance Center (VAROIC) in Philadelphia, PA. We are happy to announce with this first ARRA construction contract award in the Region, we are well on the way to meeting GSA's ARRA goals.

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The Veterans Affairs Regional Office and Insurance Center in Philadelphia will receive a photovoltaic solar panel array and roof installation, reducing the building's energy consumption and carbon dioxide emissions.

From the Desk of Rob Hewell



Across the nation, the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) is excelling at meeting the objectives of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. As of the end of fiscal year 2009, the GSA Public Buildings Service (PBS) had awarded nearly \$1.4 billion in Recovery Act contracts. And, we continue to launch green building projects at an unprecedented rate.

Here in the Mid-Atlantic Region, we'll kick off our Recovery Act construction work this fall at the Veterans Affairs Regional Office and Insurance Center (VAROIC) in Philadelphia. In this edition of *Focus*, you'll read about our plans to replace the roof and install a photovoltaic solar array at the facility. Through this, and other Recovery Act projects, we are investing in sustainable and better work environments for our clients, putting Americans back to work, and strengthening our nation's energy independence.

In addition to our Recovery Act work, we continue to deliver the day-to-day federal workplace requirements that support so many critical agency missions. In this edition, you will read about an expansion to the U.S. Joint Forces Command's Joint Technology Exploration Center, which was completed this summer in Norfolk, Virginia. This facility includes the most innovative of technologies, including a Knowledge Advanced Visualization Environment that will greatly assist the agency in simulating and analyzing war strategies. This summer we also broke ground on a new Administrative Office Building at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia. This is an important first step toward modernizing the agency's facilities and infrastructure while reducing their operations and maintenance costs. And, this fall we delivered the last of 45 temporary leased spaces in the Mid-Atlantic Region to support the U.S. Census Bureau in conducting their 2010 Census.

Our dedicated and creative Mid-Atlantic PBS team continues to deliver federal workplace requirements quickly and diligently. As many career federal employees reach retirement age, PBS is developing a new generation of professional expertise. You'll read about the recent promotions of Rick Spencer and Mike Riviello to Branch Chiefs in our Design and Construction Division, as well as the promotion of Len Purzycki to Director of our new Facilities Management and Services Programs Division. Together, our leadership team is focused on ensuring consistent service delivery while growing this new generation's understanding of the diverse, critical missions of our federal clients. [▶](#)



Rob Hewell
Regional Commissioner
Public Buildings Service
Mid-Atlantic Region

Use GSA SmartPay[®] 2 Charge Cards Meeting Your Agency's Furniture Needs

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has authorized the use of GSA SmartPay[®] 2 charge cards for official purchases made with your American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 funds (when used in accordance with OMB Circular A-123, Appendix B, in conjunction with agency-specific policy). As a benefit, use of the card enables enhanced reporting and transparency, which aligns with ARRA requirements.

All three GSA SmartPay contractor banks offer robust services to enhance and accommodate your agency as you spend your ARRA funds. If your agency anticipates a high volume of ARRA-related transactions, activities and travel expenses, additional charge card accounts can be created and linked to specific ARRA accounting codes to improve reporting capabilities and oversight. Transaction, reconciliation, and reporting procedures remain consistent with standard charge card operating procedures and can reduce administrative costs. Additionally, your agency can receive benefits in the form of negotiated bank refunds on increases in spending through the card program.

Specific guidance pertaining to the use of the GSA SmartPay charge cards for allocated ARRA funds can be found in OMB Memo M-09-15, Section 1.14. Reporting requirements for purchases both above and below the micro-purchase threshold can also be found within OMB M-09-15. Refer to OMB Memo M-09-15 and discuss options within your agency for using GSA SmartPay charge cards to help you meet your ARRA requirements. [▶](#)

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Solar Panel Installation is A Major Component of Recovery Act Projects in the Mid-Atlantic Region

The scope of the VAROIC project is to replace the existing roof with a new, highly insulated roof and to install solar panels to generate electricity. The project will increase the thermal efficiency of the building envelope, save energy, and will provide a source of clean renewable energy. The project will also result in long-term energy cost savings.

There are many types of solar power collectors. Photovoltaic panels are the blue or black panels that we commonly see installed on commercial buildings and homes. A solar array is simply a series of solar panels linked together to form a more powerful energy collection system. A photovoltaic solar array is a form of solar power collection that converts solar energy to power that's usable within the building itself or can be sold back to the local utility.

The photovoltaic solar array installed on the VAROIC roof will reduce the facility's energy costs and cut carbon dioxide emissions. The roof replacement project will reuse existing insulation, eliminating unnecessary waste from the project. In order to increase the efficiency of the roof, additional insulation will be added to increase the building's "R-value." Simply put, R-value is a measure of how well insulation resists heat flow. By increasing the R-value of the roof, the building systems will be able to run more efficiently, with less energy loss.

Physical construction on the roof and photovoltaic solar array is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2009, with substantial completion in the fall of 2010. Over \$7 million is funded through ARRA for this project.

The project team for the VAROIC has made their objective to contribute to the improvement of global energy management through efficient design and construction practices that reduce energy consumption and that are environmentally friendly. ♣



An example of a photovoltaic solar panel array installed at the Clarkson S. Fisher U.S. Courthouse Annex in Trenton, New Jersey

University of Pittsburgh and GSA Collaborate for Graduate Course



*William S. Moorhead Federal Building
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*

The General Services Administration (GSA) Pittsburgh Field Office has discovered a unique way to provide world-class workspace to a new clientele: college students.

In a partnership with the University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, the William S. Moorhead Federal Building in Pittsburgh, PA, will host graduate classes in the 13th floor conference room during the 2009-2010 school year.

As part of the collaboration, the University of Pittsburgh will install video teleconferencing equipment in the Moorhead conference room for the graduate course. The school benefits by adding valuable classroom space for its graduate students. All federal tenants in the building will have access to the conference room during business hours, to utilize the video equipment for training, meetings, and teleconferencing.

The graduate course, focusing on public administration and policy, will be offered to federal, state, and local government employees admitted to graduate programs at the University of Pittsburgh. These graduate students are focusing on degrees in Public Administration, International Development, or International Affairs. ♣

Len Purzycki Named Director of the Facilities Management and Services Programs Division

Len Purzycki was recently named Director of the Public Buildings Service (PBS) Mid-Atlantic Region's new Facilities Management and Services Programs Division. The new Division is designed to facilitate centralized organization of a variety of facility management programs including: safety, environmental/sustainability, energy, security, and building operations.

Len began his career with the General Services Administration (GSA) Mid-Atlantic Region as an Industrial Hygienist in 1988. He understands the business of PBS and the important missions of our clients. He has held numerous leadership positions within GSA including Director of the Business Development Division, Director of the Technical Consultation & Professional Development Staff, Deputy Director of the Portfolio Management Division, and Acting Director of the Real Property Management and Safety Division.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to bring together a group of talented technical professionals to address the challenge of more effectively integrating the management of a diverse set of programs across the business of PBS. I look forward to helping address the national consistency our customers are looking for in many of these areas as well as increasing the Mid-Atlantic Region's ability to effectively manage our assets and provide a superior customer experience."

Len has 29 years of federal service, most of that time in various environmental, health and safety roles, including over eight years as an Industrial Hygienist for the Department of the Army. He also managed environmental programs in private sector manufacturing and consulting corporations. Holding a bachelor's degree in Chemistry & Biology as well as a master's degree in Environmental Health, he brings a strong background in environmental science program management to his new position.

"Our provision of policy guidance throughout the region and oversight of regional operations and projects should complement our customer's own efforts and responsibilities as well as expectations in these areas. I think it's well summarized in our goal to help the region sustain world-class facilities and services, the national vision for the Facilities Management & Services Programs organization." 



"I'm excited about the opportunity to bring together a group of talented technical professionals to address the challenge of more effectively integrating the management of a diverse set of programs across the business of PBS."

— *Len Purzycki*
*Director, Facilities Management
and Services Programs
Division Manager*

GSA Presents Green Activities and Opportunities at the 2009 World Green Energy Symposium

These days, “going green” isn’t simply a slogan anymore. People across the government, the nation, and the world recognize the importance of taking steps to preserve our environment. The General Services Administration (GSA) demonstrated our serious commitment to this responsibility as a sponsor for the 2009 World Green Energy Symposium, held September 25-26, in Philadelphia, PA.

The World Green Energy Symposium (WGES) is designed to bring together government leaders, business leaders, businesses, innovators, university students, and consumers at large in an atmosphere conducive to information exchange on new and alternative green energy possibilities and opportunities. The 2009 Symposium showcased new, alternative, sustainable, and innovative product development and green energy opportunities for businesses and the public.



GSA Mid-Atlantic Region Supervisory Engineers Kyle Wiest and Matt Silksen, joined by Martin Weiland of GSA’s Program Management Office, discuss GSA’s green building efforts with a WGES participant.



GSA Small Business Specialist Mari McNally discusses contracting opportunities with a small business owner during the WGES.

This year’s WGES topics included current policy information, new policy ideas, and world policy views. It focused on green technology options available and already succeeding. Every year, the Symposium provides opportunities for networking, learning, exchanging, exhibiting, and investing in the future of new energy and green technology.

During the Symposium’s opening session,

Martin Weiland of GSA’s National Program Management Office spoke to attendees about GSA’s commitment to green design and construction as it relates to the agency’s American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) projects.

GSA Mid-Atlantic Region Supervisory Engineers Kyle Wiest and Matt Silksen discussed several of the Region’s ARRA projects during the “Green Building: New Construction and Modernization” session. Attendees learned more about the scope of the Region’s ARRA projects and the type of work that GSA is performing on ARRA projects nationwide. Kyle and Matt demonstrated how GSA’s \$5.5 billion in ARRA funding is actually resulting in energy savings and business opportunities.

Business opportunities were the focus of the “Agency Green Procurement Panel” moderated by David Dickson, District Director of the U.S. Small Business Administration. Mari McNally, Small Business Specialist for the GSA Mid-Atlantic Region, presented a wealth of information on how to do business with the government through GSA. GSA depends on small businesses to perform much of our work. Now more than ever, GSA is committed to providing small businesses with as many opportunities for government work as possible. The panel also included representatives from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

GSA Business Management Specialist Gary Jenkins was a panelist for the “Renewable Energy and the Resources: Solar, Wind and Geothermal” session. He provided expert advice in all areas of energy management improvement and support services, including training, metering, building commissioning, energy audits, resource efficiency management services, turnkey innovation in energy, and water management.

During the Symposium’s “Master Class/Roundtable,” GSA was represented by Kevin Kampschroer, Acting Director, GSA Office of Federal High-Performance Green Buildings. Kevin leads GSA’s activities in response to the Energy Bills and Executive Order on the Environment, Sustainability and Energy Conservation. He created the framework for GSA to respond to the challenges of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act’s mandate to move the GSA Federal building inventory toward high-performance green building.

GSA is proud to participate in events that showcase our commitment to greening the government, as well as the businesses that help us to accomplish this goal. 

Breaking Ground for NASA's New Town Building in Hampton, VA

On July 17, 2009, the General Services Administration (GSA) and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) co-hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for a new Administrative Office Building in NASA Langley Research Center in Hampton, VA. Over 250 guests

“GSA brings to the partnership the experienced personnel, the processes and the procedures to streamline our project.”

— *Lesa Roe*
NASA Langley Director

attended this outdoor event to hear remarks from NASA Associate Deputy Administrator Charles Scales, NASA Langley Director Lesa Roe, GSA Public Buildings Service (PBS) Regional Commissioner Rob Hewell, and the Honorable Molly Ward, Mayor of Hampton.

On this same day, NASA Langley marked its 92nd anniversary and celebrated their research and growth as a world renowned leader in aeronautic and space programs. Master of Ceremonies Lesa Roe said, “Today is a most appropriate day to look toward

our future, enhance our infrastructure and enrich our capabilities.” PBS Regional Commissioner Rob Hewell stated, “This project represents fiscal responsibility and outstanding design excellence. The architectural intent is to provide NASA with a new forward-looking image of NASA’s mission, and to reference the rich NASA Langley legacy in the field of aeronautics through references to flight and speed.”

NASA’s Charles Scales noted, “One of the legacies of space exploration has been the focus that has been put back on Earth. We have learned just how fragile Earth is, so we need to do everything we can to make sure that we take care of it. This new facility will help toward that.” The three-story, 72,000 square foot Administrative Office Building 1 is designed with Building Information Modeling (BIM) technology and is anticipated to meet U.S. Green Building Council’s Gold certification in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®). The project team is aiming to achieve Gold LEED® certification through incorporating the following into the building design:

- ❖ green vegetated roof
- ❖ photovoltaic solar panel roof
- ❖ high-efficiency HVAC system
- ❖ geothermal system: ground source heat pump
- ❖ high-efficiency windows and solar shading panels
- ❖ maximum daylight available for interiors
- ❖ water conservation system in restrooms
- ❖ low-emitting interior architectural finishes

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Building Information Modeling (BIM) rendering of NASA Langley Administrative Office Building 1

Groundbreaking Ceremony for NASA Langley Research Center's first green-certified building.



*Charles Scales,
NASA Associate Deputy Administrator*

(from left) Lesa Roe, NASA Langley Director; Charles Scales, NASA Associate Deputy Administrator; the Honorable Molly Ward, Mayor of Hampton; and Rob Hewell, GSA Regional Commissioner for Public Buildings Service

Photo Credit: NASA/Sean Smith



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In 2003, GSA and NASA partnered to develop a "New Town" master plan for modernizing the facilities and infrastructure at NASA Langley while simultaneously reducing the Center's operations and maintenance costs. The groundbreaking marks the first building identified in NASA's "New Town," a \$200 million facility improvement project for constructing six new buildings and renovating two existing buildings in Langley.

NASA's Lesa Roe said, "GSA brings to the partnership the experienced personnel, the processes and the procedures to streamline our project. I want to thank the General Services

Administration for being a true partner not only on the New Town project, but also with this ceremony today." Partnership and collaboration between NASA and GSA have provided GSA with a full understanding of the Langley mission, current operations, and future goals. Rob Hewell noted, "We are very pleased to be working with the innovative leaders of NASA. Their commitment to energy conservation, air quality, and water efficiency drove the design of this first building."

The Administrative Office Building 1 will be substantially complete in March 2011. 

GSA Partners with U.S. Joint Forces Command to Modernize Warfighting Facilities at Virginia Headquarters

The U.S. Joint Forces Command (USJFCOM), in partnership with the General Services Administration (GSA) Mid-Atlantic Region, continues to expand and update its facilities in an effort to provide for the Department of Defense (DOD) in its role as the “transformation laboratory” of the United States military.

Headquartered in Norfolk, VA, USJFCOM is one of the nine unified commands in the DOD. They develop warfighting concepts, utilizing state-of-the-art technology that simulates war strategies and their potential outcomes. The USJFCOM facility encompasses over 25 acres of secured space. GSA leases and manages much of this complex on behalf of the DOD.

GSA continues to partner with USJFCOM as they expand their mission requirements at the Joint Technology Exploration Center (JTEC) on the command's campus. Completed in September 2007, Phase I of the construction project added 23,000 square feet to the existing compound providing space for the Special Operations Command and the Joint Intelligence Lab. Phase I included state-of-the-art visualization technology known as a “Knowledge Wall.” The Wall is a 37 foot by 13 foot, rear-projected screen that projects high-resolution data, providing analysts and military decision-makers new ways to see and interact with large collections of live video, including 3-D graphics.

Phase II of the project was completed in July 2009, with the further expansion of the JTEC facility. 7,500 square feet were added to include new technologies aimed at reproducing and analyzing war strategies. The newest and most innovative of those technologies is the Knowledge Advanced Visualization Environment (KAVE), an 18 foot by 10 foot structure utilized to simulate war fighting.

Users put on 3-D glasses before stepping into the KAVE. State-of-the-art computer graphics and multiple data feeds delivered through screens on all four walls and floor converge to create a three-dimensional environment. Computer programs can be developed to simulate any environment.

The USJFCOM KAVE, which cost \$4 million to design and construct, is the largest in the DOD inventory.

Air Force Major Caeli Hull, JFCOM's Deputy Division Officer for Innovation and Experimentation, stated the KAVE's ability to provide a complete 3-D environment will aid in recreating war fighting conditions that are nearly identical to the real thing.

USJFCOM can also utilize the KAVE technology to relay data analysis to other military facilities, through 2-D and 3-D videos and images.

“The KAVE will help solve warfighter problems by enhancing situational awareness to improve decision-making, enhance intelligence analysis, and provide on-site training for the military,” stated Major Hull.

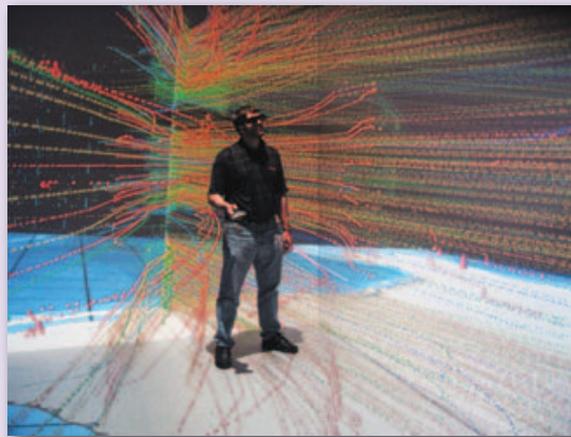
All of the new space USJFCOM and GSA have developed will support integrated training, experimentation (computer simulation), intelligence, special operations training, and provide overall assistance to the

on-going military operations in countries such as Afghanistan and Iraq. USJFCOM believes that working with GSA over the years on space acquisition and build-out has helped their facility remain focused on its important mission.

“Coordinating with GSA on new lease construction and renovation projects has been smooth and effective,” stated USJFCOM representative Ronald Klutz. “GSA continues to be engaged in our lease issues here at USJFCOM, and their ability to adapt and work quickly helps us remain focused on our vital mission.”

GSA's Federal Acquisition Service (FAS) worked closely with USJFCOM to provide modernized equipment for the campus. To date, FAS has procured over one million dollars in systems furniture for the command center.

GSA continues to work together with USJFCOM to deliver modernized office and laboratory space that the command center utilizes in its efforts to provide our troops with the knowledge necessary to complete their initiatives.



State-of-the-art computer graphics and multiple data feeds delivered through screens on all four walls and floor converge to create a three-dimensional environment inside the KAVE.

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GSA has worked closely with USJFCOM over the past several years to complete a number of projects that have updated and improved intelligence capabilities:

- ❖ A 43,000 square foot facility, added in January 2005, provides space for Joint Experimentation.
- ❖ The new Consolidated Security Office was renovated in 2006, enhancing security as part of an expanded Joint Training & Analysis Simulation Center.
- ❖ In June 2007, a new lease was awarded to renovate an existing facility, providing consolidated shipping and receiving services for the complex, in compliance with DOD antiterrorism standards.
- ❖ Design is complete for the Capstone Joint Operations Module on the USJFCOM Campus, which will convert existing warehouse space into a training center and auditorium. The Capstone Module teaches newly selected flag and general officers the fundamentals of joint doctrine, and how to integrate the elements of national power to accomplish national security and military strategies. Work on a large multipurpose space, the Knowledge Exchange Center, is also underway.
- ❖ Additional antiterrorism force protection projects are currently underway to bring the USJFCOM Campus into compliance with the DOD Unified Facilities Criteria. 

Ask a RAM

QUESTION:

What are the latest changes to GSA's Reimbursable Work Authorization (RWA) Form 2957?

ANSWER:

On June 6, 2008, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) submitted guidance to all Chief Acquisition Officers on the use of interagency acquisitions. The guidance helps agencies achieve the greatest value possible from interagency acquisitions, provides information to help agencies make sound business decisions to support their use, and strengthens the management of assisted acquisitions.

Based on this guidance, the GSA RWA Form 2957 has been revised to include additional legal language as advised by the OMB and PBS Office of General Counsel. The change most noteworthy is the addition of the General Terms and Conditions on page 3, which include instructions on what the Requesting Agency (RA) must provide to GSA to perform the work, that work will be performed in full compliance with the Competition in Contracting Act and other applicable laws and regulations, and identifies responsible parties for legal issues that arise out of GSA's performance of the work.

Other significant language added includes:

- ❖ The responsibility of the RA to provide funding to cover costs associated with RA changes to the work
- ❖ GSA's responsibility to provide the RA with periodic updates, billing statements and, upon contract completion, to return to the RA any unused funding
- ❖ Establishing the RWA effective date and termination rights
- ❖ Disputes between the RA and GSA regarding funding that remain unresolved for more than 90 days will be referred to the respective agency Chief Financial Officers for resolution

Through signing of Form 2957, both the requesting agency's funds certifying official and the GSA authorizing official ensure that the respective agencies are in compliance with the requirements listed on page 3.

You can visit www.gsa.gov/rwachange to find the revised GSA Form 2957 as well as other helpful RWA information.

Please contact **Sean McWilliams**, Mid-Atlantic Regional RWA Policy Subject Matter Expert, at **(215) 446-2848** or sean.mcwilliams@gsa.gov for more information regarding the GSA RWA process, or feel free to contact your PBS Regional Account Manager. 

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GSA Secures Office Space to Support Census 2010

The U.S. Census Bureau conducts a count of everyone living in the United States once every ten years. In March of 2010, questionnaires will be distributed to every American household in order to facilitate the mandatory participation required by law. The government uses the data gathered by the Census Bureau to distribute Congressional

“This successful collaboration enables the Census Bureau to focus on the massive effort of counting every person living in the United States, and we look forward to celebrating the best census to date with GSA.”

— *Monica Davis, Media Specialist*
U.S. Census Bureau

seats to states, make decisions about what community services to provide, and distribute \$400 billion in federal funds to local, state, and tribal governments each year. The General Services Administration (GSA) is supporting the mission of the U.S. Census Bureau by locating 520 Census Offices across the United States.

The GSA Mid-Atlantic Region worked with the U.S. Census Bureau and National Broker Contractor, Equis, to acquire 45 temporary leased spaces within the Mid-Atlantic Region for the upcoming 2010 Census. In order to support the Census mission of serving as the leading source of quality data about the nation's people and economy, GSA established one office in each Congressional District throughout the Mid-Atlantic Region.

The uniqueness of the Census Bureau's mission meant GSA was tasked with acquiring these leased spaces for only a short period of time until Census 2010 work is

complete. In 2007, GSA acquired space in Center City Philadelphia for a 30,000 square foot Regional Census Center. GSA then secured space throughout the Mid-Atlantic Region for 14 Early Local Census Offices (ELCO) in the fall of 2008, and 30 Local Census Offices (LCO) in the fall of 2009. The GSA Mid-Atlantic Region also partnered with GSA's Northeast and Caribbean Region and the National Capital Region to deliver an additional 2 ELCOs and 3 LCOs.

Tom Mesenbourg, Deputy Director and COO for the U.S. Census Bureau, commented on GSA's contributions saying, “Without GSA, we would have had to find the wherewithal to go out and negotiate these leases...we would be in trouble, I think without GSA...they have done a fantastic job.”

The GSA team accomplished numerous milestones over the two year process to deliver these locations and aid the U.S. Census Bureau in achieving their goals for the 2010 Census.

“The Census Bureau has partnered with General Services Administration to locate and lease local census offices for 2010 Census operations,” said Monica Davis, Media Specialist with the U.S. Census Bureau. “This successful collaboration enables the Census Bureau to focus on the massive effort of counting every person living in the United States, and we look forward to celebrating the best census to date with GSA.”

United States™
Census
2010

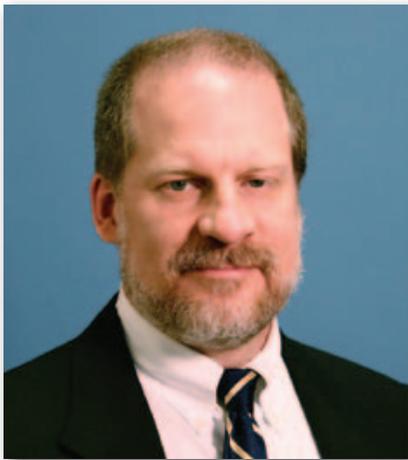
A view inside the Regional Census Center located at 1234 Market Street in Philadelphia, PA, which serves as regional headquarters for Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, Maryland, and the District of Columbia.



Rick Spencer and Mike Riviello

Named Branch Chiefs in PBS Mid-Atlantic Design and Construction Division

Rick Spencer and Mike Riviello have been promoted to Branch Chiefs of the new Public Buildings Service (PBS) Mid-Atlantic Design and Construction Division. Rick Spencer is the South Branch Chief and Mike Riviello is the North Branch Chief.



Rick Spencer
*South Branch Chief
Design and
Construction
Division*

Rick Spencer brings 25 years of professional experience to the organization. He began his career at the General Services Administration (GSA) as a co-op. He attended Drexel University, and later graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

Rick has held numerous leadership positions with GSA throughout his career. He was promoted from project engineer to the role of team leader in the Philatlantic Service Center in 1999. Two years later, Rick joined the Project Management Division, where he led a team to renovate the historic Post Office and Courthouse in Pittsburgh, PA.

Most recently, Rick has been the Technical Group Supervisor in the Allegheny Service Center. As a licensed PE (Principles and Practices of Engineering), Rick brings exceptional technical skills to create an empowered learning environment for GSA professionals.

"I look forward to working with Division Director Tom Lyman and Mike Riviello as we shape and develop the new Design and Construction Division," says Rick. "I feel extremely fortunate to be able to continue to work with the GSA architect, engineering, and space planning community. They are such a great group of people, with a strong knowledge of the business and a commitment to GSA and our clients."

Mike Riviello also worked at GSA as an engineering co-op student during his junior year of college. Mike graduated from Widener University with a degree in Civil Engineering in 1993, and then returned to GSA to begin his career. Mike served as a project manager on numerous projects before being promoted to Operations Manager in the Delaware Valley Field Office in 2002, where he was able to contribute his technical and project management skills.

In 2005, he moved to the East Philadelphia Field Office in the same capacity. Mike was presented with new opportunities in 2006 as PBS went through an organizational transformation that brought him back to the Regional Office as the Technical Group Supervisor in the Philatlantic Service Center.

Mike's wide-ranging experience in PBS Service Centers and Field Offices supplies a great opportunity for him to share his knowledge and enthusiasm in his new position. "I am looking forward to working with Tom Lyman and Rick Spencer in our new Design & Construction Division," says Mike. "We have some big challenges ahead of us in our department which include filling our vacant supervisory positions, supporting our acquisition and real estate team members, and training many new Contracting Officer's Technical Representatives."

These are exciting times in PBS. Moving forward, both Mike and Rick have the confidence that they can successfully support GSA and our clients in every way necessary. 



Mike Riviello
*North Branch Chief
Design and
Construction
Division*

Mid-Atlantic FOCUS



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