



Dissen & Juhn Company looks to 2018 with an award-winning year in the rearview mirror- Stevensville, MD



Dissen & Juhn engineering manager Raymond McMaster, left, accepts an award from Hall Chaney, right, board chair, ABC Chesapeake Shores Chapter.

Like all businesses success in marine construction can be measured in a variety of ways. For some having a healthy backlog waiting in the wings is a start. For others winning competitive bids for diverse projects that demonstrate their technical competency to an impressive client list is another. Still others have the unique opportunity to be acknowledged among their peers for award-winning work. Dissen & Juhn Company of Stevensville, MD, can check off all of the above. And when it comes to the award-winning part, it can check off that box twice.

In addition to completing some impressive projects in 2017, the Stevensville company walked away with two awards at the recent Excellence in Construction & Safety Awards ceremony, hosted by the Chesapeake Shores Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC). Both projects were acknowledged with an Excellence Award.

The Excellence Award in the category of Other Construction Less Than \$2 Million acknowledged the Riverfront Redevelopment Pier, which was built for the City of New Castle, DE. The Excellence Award in the category of Other Specialty Construction Less than \$10 Million acknowledged the timber pedestrian bridge, which Dissen & Juhn Company built for Stevenson University. In all, 16 Excellence Awards, 12 Merit Awards and 28 Safety Awards were honored at the awards ceremony.

Although both projects varied greatly from each other they each solved an issue or problem, helping the respective client achieve a pivotal goal. For Stevenson University, the task was to find a safe way to connect its Owings Mills multi-campus properties in a seamless manner. The City of New Castle wanted to not only



A temporary 20' wide x 680' long "corduroy road" was built to provide a foundation for the heavy equipment while building the Stevenson University pedestrian bridge.

rebuild its pier, which was destroyed in Hurricane Sandy, but also reconnect to its heritage as a riverfront city, which welcomed tall ships to its docks.

"Both these projects were immensely challenging as well as rewarding," says Gilbert W. Dissen, president of Dissen & Juhn Company. "As a history buff the City of New Castle was definitely an attractive project. It also it provided a creative departure from the timber pier construction that we are known for. When the City of New Castle moored the 1600s replica ship the Kalmar Nyckel at the official ribbon-cutting ceremony it was majestic," adds Dissen.



The Kalmar Nyckel docks in historic New Castle, DE

Stevenson University Pedestrian Bridge

As for the Stevenson University bridge, it was no easy feat. "It literally had to be cut through the woods, wrapping around trees and spanning a 25-mile long stream, but when the job was completed the client, not only had a functional solution, but also an esthetically pleasing one," he concludes.

Constructed primarily of solid-sawn timbers on timber piles, the bridge is designed for pedestrian traffic and light duty vehicles up to 3,000 lbs. gross vehicle weight rating and measures 586' long x 12' wide. The bridge features two cantilevered lookouts. A timber railing runs the full length of the structure on both sides.

New Castle Riverfront Redevelopment Pier

The pier extends 174' out into the Delaware River, and features a 100' long "T" head. It is constructed primarily of steel – steel framing members on steel pipe piles. A unique feature of the pier's construction is the steel frame, which lends itself to being prefabricated, or "panelized." The "panels" were pre-fabricated and galvanized at the supplier, trucked to the job site, then installed with a floating crane. The pier was built from barges in very shallow water. The crew only had a few hours each day to do the shallow water work before the tide went out.

For Gil Dissen and his team, the awards made a good year even better. "This past year we completed several signature projects, and started some others like Harbor East Marina, one of the major redevelopment projects currently taking place in Baltimore. When we finish Harbor East later this spring, the mark that we leave in Baltimore's Inner Harbor like in other towns and cities where we work, will be a permanent a reminder of how Dissen & Juhn helps build communities," he adds.