

Local 26 Members Build A Fírst-Class Resort Using Skills Second to None

ising along the banks of the Potomac River in Prince George's County, Maryland, is a project unlike any the county has seen in quite some time. In fact, this project is unlike any the entire Washington, DC area has witnessed in quite some time. Drive in and around the Woodrow Wilson Bridge, Interstate 295 or Oxon Hill, Maryland, and you are sure to be impressed by the construction site well underway on this 300-acre plot of prime real estate. Proudly working on site are hundreds of talented Local 26 members as they make their mark on this revolutionary mixed-use project.

Robert

Villiam



From left, Clovis Ennis, Business Representative Mike Hoyt, Dan DiCamillo, Truland General Superintendent Dean Filomena, Randy Carpenter and Business Representative Walter Carroll

From left, Maria Alvarez, Anderson Nunez and Tech Inc. Superintendent Paul Henriques

When the National Harbor Project is completed in 2008, it will include over 4,000 hotel rooms from five hotels and a timeshare property; state-of-the-art convention facilities; 1 million square feet of retail, dining and entertainment space; 2,500 residential units; 500,000 square feet of office space, the National Children's Museum; four piers and 10,000 on-site parking spaces, to name just a few of the remarkable features. Not be forgotten, of course, is the 1¼mile stretch of the Potomac River which will afford this site one of the most breathtaking views in the Washington, DC area.

The single largest project underway has been the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, a centerpiece of the National Harbor Project. Gaylord Hotels, based out of Nashville, Tennessee, and known for grand hotel and convention properties, is creating a facility true to their unique style at the National Harbor site with magnificent glass atriums and convention space second to none.

Local 26 members have been working

diligently to bring the Gaylord property, complete with 2,000 hotel rooms and 470,000 square feet of convention space, to fruition. Since early 2005, Local 26 members working for Truland Systems have been installing the electrical distribution system; an on-site central utility plant and lighting control, power distribution, audio/visual, security and fire alarm systems throughout the massive hotel and convention center.

Under the leadership of General Superintendent Dean Filomena, Convention Center General Foreman



Working in the main ballroom, from left, Robert Dawkins, Antonia Robinson and Benjamin Clemons. In lift, Aaron Young.

Paul Merryman and Business Representative Mike Hoyt.

Donald Jacks, Hotel General Foreman John Peyton, Shop Steward Linwood Sherman and 60 sub-foremen, 460 electricians (480 at peak) have put their talents to work on this project. By the time the hotel and convention center are completed, Truland estimates that nearly 1 million manhours will have been logged and the electrical package will total approximately \$100 million. The work on the hotel has also included three restaurants, a spa, a salon, a sports bar, a nightclub, two ballrooms and meeting rooms. General Superintendent Dean Filomena stated that the project was unique in its shear size, volume and tight schedule. He added that it is Truland's single largest project. "It has been a very challenging job with the time schedule and trades all working at the same time in the same places," he said. "However, everyone has pulled together and in the end will have a job they can be proud of."

Working for Truland Systems, from left, Marc Alexander, Demetrius Simuel and Mazen Shakra

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Brian Thomas



From left, Zane Green, Frank Walsh and Tyree Phillips



Darren Duckett



Ronnie Allen and Daniel Adjei

Nearly 60 Local 26 members working for Tech Inc. have also been on-site at Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center. Periodically working two shifts, they have logged more than 50,000 manhours installing telecommunication and data wiring, CCTV cabling, AV cabling and cameras. The Tech Inc. crew has been working under the leadership of General Superintendent Paul Henriques, Hotel Foremen Agustin Nunez and Damonic Griggs and Convention Center Foremen Mahindra Singh and Tariik Morny.

The size and scope of the job was also a unique challenge to the Tech Inc. team in addition to the on-going changes made each day. General Superintendent Paul Henriques gives a lot of credit to Local 26 in its ability to staff the project. "Considering Tech Inc. is working on the two largest jobs in the area (Gaylord's and the DC stadium), I think Local 26 has done well in filling our manpower needs, while still serving its other contractors," he stated.

The National Harbor Project has already been deemed a success well in advance of its scheduled completion as many large groups and conventions have committed to hosting events on the site. It has been reported that the Gaylord National Hotel already has more than 880,000 room nights booked through 2012.

When the project is completed and the Gaylord National Hotel and Convention Center opens it doors for business, it will be thanks, in large part, to the dedication and skills of hundreds of Local 26 members. Not only will the new Gaylord facility and the entire National Harbor Project make the Washington, DC area an even more desirable convention and meeting destination, it will stand as solid proof of the talents that lie within Local 26.



Bryan Bogle





Duri Abulghaith





Kevin Wilson



Kurjuan Kirkpatrick and Daniel Newkirk



From left; Mike Coquet, Henry Regis, Gilmer Dowdy, Chris King and Doug Carr