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## News on the Side

### New Book on Successful Construction Management Released

Construction projects can go wrong for a myriad of reasons, such as bankruptcy, increasing material costs and shortage of labor. Across the U.S., condo projects have folded due to lack of funding, and half-built buildings remain abandoned. Yet each year, projects fail more so because of human errors and how the projects are approached.



J.F. McCarthy

Long-time construction manager J.F. McCarthy is helping others in his industry with his solid advice. Many of the problems commercial and industrial construction projects have can be solved with an integrated approach to the many varied aspects of a job. McCarthy releases a new book, "Choosing Project Success: A Guide for Building Professionals," which was recently named a finalist in the business and education/academic categories of the 2008 Next Generation Indie Book Awards.

Designed for both novice as well as experienced architects, building owners, project and facility managers, designers, lenders, and insurers, "Choosing Project Success" is a commercial construction manual that addresses both project and construction management along with the technical aspects of the job site—unlike other construction books which focus on one subject or the other.

"By combining both subjects, my book forms an integrated workable managerial approach that can be used by all members of the project team," says McCarthy.

Organized into three sections, the manual provides guidelines from a project's inception to its completion. The first section explores how to obtain usable facts that allow for communication, planning and analysis. Section two tackles creating a purpose definition for the project and offers personal organization tips and management tools. Section three provides a managerial understanding of the technical

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aspects of construction on topics such as soils, materials, concrete, masonry, plumbing and more.

"You don't have to read the book cover-to-cover to get immediate benefits," says McCarthy. "All subjects are organized by chapter and can be learned in about an hour with no previous knowledge of the subject."

J.F. McCarthy has worked as a general contractor in the U.S. for the past 36 years on projects such as schools, low-rise and high-rise, single-family homes, city halls, fire stations, offices, restaurants, hospitals, veterinary hospitals, municipals and many others. He is a graduate of the trade school Dunwoody Industrial Institute, where he focused his studies on construction management. He earned a Bachelor's degree in architecture at the University of Minnesota and later went on to earn his Master's degree in business at Keller Graduate School.

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