

for simple miscommunications, such as missing an email or phone call.

“We operate as a well-oiled machine, and the old reasons why you can’t get an answer to a question just dissolve, because you’re sitting with the very people who are designing the building,” Williams said. “It all leads to rapid problem-solving. Problems are solved in real-time, in-person, on white boards, in rooms that we’ve set up. I couldn’t put a dollar figure on the savings brought about by this rapid problem-solving.”

“This team environment allows everyone to pull in the same direction towards a common goal, which drives value for the owner and maintains the overall project budget,” Williams explains. “These lean tools enable us to optimize the whole. Southland can work with the team, and make schedule adjustments to optimize installation schedules for the entire team. There is give-and-take in this environment. We meet once each week to determine the overall course for the project.”

HVAC brands to be installed include York open-drive centrifugal chillers, York custom supply and exhaust air handling units with Thermotech heat recovery wheels; controls by Schneider Electric; and Evapco cooling towers. **CB**

American Combustion Service Wins MCA Safe Workplace Award

American Combustion Service, Inc. (ACSI) in Mokena, Ill. was recently awarded The Mechanical Contractors Association of Chicago’s (MCA) 2017 “Safe Workplace Award” in the category of 50,000 hours or less.

MCA is a membership organization that represents more than 400 union contractors who service and install technologically advanced and energy-efficient heating, air conditioning, refrigeration and process piping systems across the region.

“This award is most important to ACSI,” said Frank Lacny, ACSI’s president. “As a company, we want our clients to know that we are proactive with safety. This ensures them that there are no problems on the job site when using our services. I am very proud of all our employees, who made this safety recognition attainable.”

American Combustion Service, Inc. was founded by Frank M. Lacny in December 1984. The company has always been based in the southwest suburb of Mokena, Ill. Its building is home to corporate offices, stock room and shop for in-house fabrication and repairs. The company is made up of three divisions: Service, Mechanical Installations (Piping), and Refractory.

According to Dan Bulley, MCA’s senior vice president and safety expert, the association’s safety committee looks at a company’s OSHA Days Away, Restricted or Job Transfer (DART) Rate for this award.

The DART rate is a safety measurement that helps employers calculate how many workplace injuries and illnesses force employees to miss work, do restricted work activities or transfer to another job within a year.

To qualify for this award, a company’s DART rate has to be less than half the national average, Bulley explained. ACSI and other companies that applied for this award in different hour categories had a DART rate of zero, which means that there were no days away from work or serious incidents for a whole year.

For more information, please visit ACSI at acsigroup.com or call (773) 737-9200. **CB**



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