

Spotlight on Commercial Contractors of Southwestern Illinois

S. M. Wilson & Co. brings buildings to life that are recognizable regionally and statewide

Some of the most recognizable buildings throughout the Metro East and throughout Illinois were brought to life through the workmanship of S. M. Wilson & Co. A top construction management firm with 100+ years of experience, S. M. Wilson has built a strong reputation of quality and smooth delivery of projects that enrich the lives of those who live, work, heal, learn and play in the spaces they build.

Municipalities, school districts and businesses in numerous communities on the Illinois side of the river — Alton, Edwardsville, Godfrey, Highland, Springfield and more — have trusted legacy projects with the firm.

Among those most recently completed: City of Highland Public Safety Building, City of Edwardsville R.P Lumber Center, and previous Alton and Blessing projects.

“The overwhelming response from the community has been great,” said Edwardsville Mayor, Art Risavy about the new state-of-the-art R. P. Lumber Center, which provides year-round ice skating, exercise and other recreational activities. “In all the interactions I had with S. M. Wilson at the rink, I was really impressed

with their demeanor and the way they went about their business. On a job like this, you have so many union contractors there at one time. To see everyone doing their job and S. M. Wilson on top of everything was pretty impressive.”

S. M. Wilson takes a People First approach that extends beyond hiring the best talent for their team to working with subcontractors in the local community and helping them grow their skills and connections.

S. M. Wilson also goes Beyond the Build to invest in local youth through the SKILLED program. On many projects, the construction site is transformed into a real-world classroom for area students to visit at key points to learn from workers in the field about the construction process and construction careers. Students of schools under construction are often able to make their mark on the new building and create lifelong memories by adding handprints to beams and attending groundbreaking, steel topping and ribbon cutting celebrations.

Serving the Illinois region from its Edwardsville office, S. M. Wilson provides a complete range of services, including pre-construction, construction management, general contracting and design/build. For more information and to view local projects, visit www.smwilson.com/illinois

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Poettker Construction continues its facilities improvement partnership with KC

Poettker Construction, an award-winning family-owned construction company, is proud to continue our partnership with Kaskaskia College as their construction manager for a network-wide facility improvements initiative.

This 5-year program kicked off in 2020 and is one of Poettker’s most significant construction management programs in Southern Illinois this year. The goals for the program are to help Kaskaskia College accomplish sustainable energy improvements, increase student engagement through enhanced learning environments and attract and retain students and faculty.

As the construction manager, Poettker is overseeing the master facility planning, renovations, and maintenance repairs to the entire college network, including six education center facilities. Additionally, the program addresses water infiltration, site drainage improvements, roof replacements, and parking lot upgrades to ensure the college meets its structural and deferred maintenance goals in a fiscally responsible and efficient manner.

Building quality relationships and buildings in the safest and most cost-effective way possible has been Poettker’s mission since 1980. “We have proven to operate by this statement, as ninety-five percent of our business comes from repeat clients and referrals,” says Ryan Poett-



Shown is an aerial view of Kaskaskia College, where Poettker Construction is serving as the construction manager for their facility improvements initiative.

ker, president of Poettker Construction. “Kaskaskia College is a longtime valued client of Poettker. We are honored to be a part of this major initiative to support the college’s mission and commitment to provide an outstanding educational opportunity at an affordable cost.”

Poettker is nearing the completion of the first phase of the major, multi-year interior renovation to the connected Health & Business and Library buildings. This facility serves as one of the primary administrative and public space facilities on Kaskaskia’s main campus in Centralia, Ill. To achieve this project’s goals with limited impact to the students and faculty, Poettker and the college elected to phase the project over two summers. Phase I renovations entailed significant asbestos abatement, HVAC system replacement, and interior finish upgrades to the second floor. Phase II renovation work will focus on the first floor and will take place during the summer of 2023.



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