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Pepper Construction Announces Key Promotions

Leadership advance to lead growing team

INDIANAPOLIS, IN – January 30, 2023 To support its continued growth across the market, Pepper Construction of Indiana announced the promotion of several key leaders to Senior Vice President and Vice President roles within the firm's operations.

As **Senior Vice President, Chris Rayner** leads construction projects in the higher education sector as well as projects for Indiana Department of Administration while also expanding Pepper's presence in the aerospace industry. Rayner also leads Pepper Indiana's diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives. He holds a Civil Engineering degree from Purdue University, is LEED Accredited Professional and has been active in the construction industry for 33 years.

As **Vice President of Accounting, Wendy Curry** oversees business planning, financial projections, and financial controls. She will continue to support Senior Management and the Operations team with valuable guidance on profitability and cash flow. Since beginning her career at Pepper in 2007, Curry has become a respected leader across the entire company. She earned her degree in Finance from Ball State University.

As **Vice President of Field Operations, Dave Podlogar** assumes full oversight of the company's field operations and leads the scheduling of Pepper's superintendents and foremen. Podlogar joined Pepper in 1982 in Chicago before transferring to Indiana as Superintendent. He primarily works in the company's healthcare market on the most complex and challenging projects, most notably, IU North Hospital, Riley Hospital for Children, St. Vincent Healthcare Campus Redevelopment, and Community Hospital East Campus Redevelopment. Podlogar was a founding member of Pepper's Indiana operations and serves to collaboratively train and develop Pepper's field supervision, ensuring the company's reputation for quality endures.

As **Vice President of Preconstruction, Paul Riehle** leads Pepper's preconstruction team. Riehle joined Pepper in 2004 and holds a Construction Engineering and Management degree from Purdue University. He brings to the role a deep understanding of client needs and the critical considerations that ensure those needs are efficiently met through the project budgeting process. A well-known thought leader in the higher education world, Riehle consistently volunteers to better the preparation of our industry's future leaders.

As **Vice President, Heather Siemers** will continue providing executive level oversight of the firm's largest Life Science project, a new \$300 million pharmaceutical glass manufacturing facility; the anchor project of the Fisher's Life Science and Innovation Park. After serving several years in project management, Siemers launched Pepper's Quality Management department and now leads the firm's Lean Construction efforts. Siemers joined Pepper in May 1998 and is an advocate for women in construction. She holds a Construction Management degree from Purdue and her industry involvement includes

serving as-Chair for the Core Group of the Lean Construction Institute (LCI), Central Indiana Communities of Practice, where she has spoken about Lean Thinking & Technology. She serves on the steering committee for the Wabash Valley Lean Network, is a council member of the Top Notch Lafayette advisory board and serves on the board of Rebuilding Together Indianapolis. Heather is involved with the ACIG peer groups for lean and quality. She is also involved with Purdue's Building Construction Management (CM) program, where she has served as a guest lecturer and advisor and participates in Purdue's Construction Advisory Council.

About Pepper

Now in their fourth generation of family leadership, Pepper Construction serves clients across the country with comprehensive teams in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Wisconsin. Ranked by ENR (Engineering News Report) magazine as one of the top builders of sustainable projects in the nation, Pepper serves clients in a variety of markets such as aerospace, healthcare, pharmaceuticals and life sciences, education, manufacturing and industrial, data centers, entertainment, hospitality and interiors, among others. Pepper's High Performance and Sustainable Construction group is part of their Integrated Construction Services (ICS) team, which represents some of the most advanced thought leadership in our industry – investigating new technologies, evaluating new methodologies and integrating innovative solutions in the field. Some of the firm's current and recent work includes the new production plant of Stevanato Group in Fishers, Ascension St. Vincent's new Women's Hospital and Brain and Spine Hospital, the Hoosier Park Casino, the Butler University's new Science Building, Purdue University's new Veterinary Hospital, Allison Transmission Innovation Center and the Mohr Logistics Park. For more information, please visit www.pepperconstruction.com.

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