

Pepper Construction Launches Wisconsin Office

Addition of Jeff Johnson as Senior Vice President of Operations sets tone for growth and service

Chicago, IL – **March 27, 2018** Pepper Construction is expanding their services to clients in Wisconsin, establishing a permanent office in Milwaukee's Historic Third Ward. Pepper has been doing work in Wisconsin for more than three decades and is currently executing more than \$180M of work in the commercial, retail, mixed use/residential, institutional, senior living and industrial markets.

The company announced today that Jeff Johnson has joined the firm as Senior Vice President of Operations leading the Wisconsin office.

"We are excited to have Jeff on our team," said Stan Pepper, Chairman and CEO of The Pepper Companies. "Jeff's expertise in Lean Construction and Integrated Project Delivery, his leadership style and his deep connections to the Milwaukee area make him an ideal fit to serve our clients and grow our operations in Wisconsin."

Jeff is a seasoned industry leader with 30 years of broad construction experience in virtually every market sector, bringing hands-on experience in project management, financial management, technical services, risk management and business leadership. He most recently led business operations in Wisconsin, Chicago and Northern Indiana for another large contractor. As an accomplished Lean practitioner and a recognized thought leader in Integrated Project Delivery, Jeff has served in an executive role on several integrated projects and has successfully worked within all contracting methods, including tri-party agreements. Jeff holds a Bachelor of Science in Construction Engineering from Montana State University.

In a related move, Pepper welcomes Karen Newhouse as Senior Project Manager in the Milwaukee office. Karen comes to the position with 22 years of experience across all markets, including management of projects exceeding \$230 million in value and expertise in the implementation of Lean Construction practices/processes. Karen brings experience across multiple markets with a major emphasis in healthcare, commercial and industrial. Karen holds a Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering with an emphasis in Structural Design from the Milwaukee School of Engineering and is a LEED AP.

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Pepper also welcomes Jonathan Wilch as Project Development Director. Jonathan will lead Pepper's healthcare and health sciences growth strategies throughout the Midwest and will work closely with Jeff Johnson to expand the firm's relationships throughout Wisconsin.

Jonathan is a seasoned industry leader with 23 years of experience on a national level. Previously, he served as Principal-in-Charge for the planning, design and delivery of a wide variety of healthcare projects with a national architecture firm. He also served as a Program Manager and Owner's Representative, leading complex healthcare projects with nationally recognized clients, architects, engineers and construction managers. This diverse background makes Jonathan uniquely qualified to help Pepper's clients better serve their patients and build their vision from preconstruction through construction. Jonathan holds a Bachelor of Architecture degree from the University of Cincinnati and is a LEED AP.

Now in their fourth generation of family leadership, Pepper Construction Group serves clients across the country with comprehensive teams in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio working in markets such as healthcare, education, manufacturing and light industrial, environmental remediation, data centers, entertainment, hospitality and interiors among others. Pepper, one of the Midwest's largest contractors, leads the industry in virtual, lean and sustainable construction. Among the firm's current projects are St. Rita's Senior Living and Silverspot Theater at the Corners of Brookfield in Milwaukee; The 1060 Project at Wrigley Field and The St. Jane Hotel in Chicago; several projects at the University of Notre Dame; Community Hospital East in Indianapolis and IKEA projects in Ohio, Indiana and Wisconsin.

For more information, please visit www.pepperconstruction.com.

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