

Press Release

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Skanska Reveals Secrets to Lincoln Memorial East Plaza Renovations

WASHINGTON, D.C. – More than 3.6 million people visit the Lincoln Memorial every year. That adds to at least 14.4 million feet walking up and back on the monument's East Plaza. And a renovation project is making sure these feet have a smooth place to tread.

Skanska USA Building Inc. is on schedule to complete an historic renovation of the Lincoln Memorial East Plaza in time for the swearing-in of President-elect Barack Obama and for the year-long Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial celebration.

Skanska started the \$3.7 million renovation earlier this year. The project is expected to be complete January 9. Skanska employees and subcontractors are placing more than 14,000 pavers – 100-pound concrete pavers that make up the plaza's walkways – between the Lincoln Memorial and the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool that leads to the Washington Monument.

Completion of the project on-time required the clever problem-solving abilities and dedication of Giancarlo Bulfon, Skanska Assistant Project Manager, and his team.

“At first the project was a bit of a puzzle. We knew when we started there would be challenges to solve along the way,” Bulfon said. “We spent the first two weeks cutting the stones using every saw or machine we could think of but it just didn't work. We couldn't get a straight line.”

The difficulty with the project is that square pavers had to be placed in long, curving lines that are not uniform.

After some trial-and-error and much tinkering, the Skanska team created a walk-behind saw that will be used only on this project. The saw is placed on a set of rails to guide a perfect cut and carefully shape each paver to its unique curve. The solution resulted in a faster workflow and has put the project on schedule to finish early.

The Lincoln Memorial will be rededicated with a public program on May 30, 2009. The President has been invited to give an address. Additionally,

Skanska's work will be complete in time for the January 20, 2009 Presidential inauguration.

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Skanska USA Building Inc. is a leading national and local provider of construction, pre-construction consulting, general contracting and design-build services to a broad range of U.S. industries including science and technology, healthcare, education, high-tech, aviation, transportation and sports and entertainment. Skanska USA Building also provides pharmaceutical validation services to clients. The company, part of the Skanska AB global group of companies, is headquartered in Parsippany, New Jersey, and has approximately 4,700 employees.

Skanska is one of the world's leading construction groups with expertise in construction, development of commercial and residential projects and public-private partnerships. The Group currently has 60,000 employees in selected home markets in Europe, in the U.S. and Latin America. Headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden, and listed on the Stockholm Stock Exchange, Skanska's sales in 2007 totaled \$20 billion.