



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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West Coast Contractors makes significant progress on in-water facilities in Newport, Oregon *Facility to house NOAA Marine Operations Center-Pacific*

Coos Bay, OR – June 2011 – West Coast Contractors (www.westcoastcontractors.com) has completed a significant portion of its two-year project to build the new ship pier and small vessel dock in Newport, Oregon for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Marine Operation Center-Pacific (www.noaa.gov). A heavy construction builder for nearly 50 years, West Coast Contractors took on the \$15 million in-water portion of the project with a high level of precision to ensure the ship pier and small vessel dock met NOAA's needs.

The nearly \$30 million joint venture between West Coast Contractors and fellow contractor, Andersen Construction, provides a state of the art facility for NOAA's Marine Operations Center-Pacific. The center provides logistical, engineering, electronics, maintenance and administrative support for the nine ships in NOAA's Pacific fleet, including vessels homeported in Alaska and Hawaii.

West Coast Contractors' President and CEO David Kronsteiner worked closely with his team and NOAA to ensure they met the highest environmental standards to reduce effects on marine life while building the \$15 million, 50,000+-square-foot docks.

NOAA requested underwater sound monitoring to protect the local marine environment, such as the eel grass, where tiny sea life thrive and are vital to the eco-system. West Coast Contractors integrated a precise sonic impact monitoring process during construction activity to ensure there was minimal disruption to the environment. As a contractor with a great deal of expertise in designing marine projects, West Coast Contractors' ability to meet specific requests and comply with environmentally sensitive tasks was highly attainable.

NOAA also required Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified standards to create environmentally sustainable structures for the facility, which the agency has leased from the Port of Newport. The LEED green building rating system, developed by the U.S. Green Building Council, provides a framework of high standards for identifying and implementing practical green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions.¹

¹ <http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CMSPageID=1988>



NOAA's requirements for the \$30 million, 28,000-square-foot center also included office and warehouse space, berthing for four ships home ported at the Marine Operations Center and as many as two visiting ships.

In January 2010, West Coast Contractors began driving steel and concrete test piles in preparation for the NOAA center in-water construction project. The company used its marine construction equipment to drive test piles, monitor pile driving and submit the results to NOAA for its approval. They utilized a hydraulically operated barge jig for precision placement of the piles that enabled rapid installation of the pier to meet NOAA's and the Port of Newport's schedule.

"The in-water work portion of the project, including the dredging, pile driving, demolition, underwater slope protection, small boat dock, fender system, buoy line and the trestle abutments, was a challenging portion of this venture," said Tim Smith, West Coast Contractors construction manager. "Multiple operations needed to occur concurrently and methodically to ensure schedule and quality."

West Coast Contractors also used its proprietary monitoring systems to track progress, communicate with the client and keep up with their tight time table. Krosteiner and his team have developed their Proprietary Control System (PCS) to ensure effective job planning and execution.

"This thorough approach, paired with cutting-edge technology and equipment, both researched, acquired and developed internally, enable West Coast Contractors to ensure effective coordination, targeting and completion of this highly complex and critically important project," Smith said.

About West Coast Contractors

Established in 1962, West Coast Contractors has the experience and know-how to succeed in virtually any heavy construction project. As a general contractor and family-owned company for fifty years, West Coast Contractors has effectively developed the skills and resources necessary to get the job done right the first time. Their team of professionals uses only the finest tools and materials to meet residential, commercial and industrial needs in the Pacific Northwest region. The company specializes in heavy construction projects that can withstand harsh all-weather conditions, from wind-swept ocean fronts to remote mountaintops. Their loyal following of clients includes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Coast Guard, the states of California and Oregon, Chevron, Charter Communications and Edge Wireless.

About NOAA

NOAA's mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage their coastal and marine resources. The agency operates the most advanced weather and flood warning and forecast system in the world, helping to protect lives and property and enhance the national economy. Visit NOAA online at www.weather.gov and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/noaa).

About Christie Communications

Christie Communications is a full-service public relations, marketing, advertising agency dedicated to helping ethical businesses, entrepreneurs, and socially conscious organizations broaden their impact through effective communication services. Christie Communications goes beyond branding and other marketing buzzwords. It is a company based in philosophy, driven by passion, and known



by its results. The Christie CommUnity Foundation creates a "ripple effect" of global betterment through creating and promoting innovative, results-oriented initiatives for the betterment of the world.

For further information about West Coast Contractors or for media related inquiries, please contact Jennifer Johnson of Christie Communications at (805) 969-3744 or via email at jjohnson@christiecomm.com.

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