



BALDRIDGE &  
ASSOCIATES  
STRUCTURAL  
ENGINEERING  
1164 Bishop Street  
Suite 600  
Honolulu  
Hawaii 96813

Contact  
Serena Humay  
Marketing Director  
Baldrige & Associates Structural  
Engineering, Inc.  
Phone: 808.534.1300  
shumay@baseengr.com

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### HAWAII CONSTRUCTION AND DESIGN FIRMS WELL REPRESENTED AT 2010 NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS IN WASHINGTON, DC

HONOLULU, HAWAII – June 14, 2010 – On May 23-25 the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) held its annual National Business Week celebrations in Washington, DC where SBA award winners from across the country were recognized for their achievements. Hawaii winners in the fields of construction and design were well represented by Baldrige & Associates Structural Engineering, Inc., Healy Tibbitts Builders, Inc., and Makai Ocean Engineering.

Steven Baldrige, president of Baldrige & Associates Structural Engineering, Inc., is the 2010 SBA Small Business Person of the Year for the state of Hawaii. In the late 1990s, BASE began practicing a relatively new engineering service known as Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection (AT/FP) design. While BASE understood the significance of this work to its military clients, it was difficult to fully comprehend its importance until September 11, 2001. 2010 marks the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BASE and within those years the company has seen its revenue grow from \$40,000 in 1995 to nearly \$5 million in 2009.

Aiea-based Healy Tibbitts Builders, Inc. received the Dwight D. Eisenhower Award for Construction, an award that recognizes large prime contractors that excel in utilizing small businesses as suppliers and subcontractors. Representing Healy Tibbitts Builders in Washington was its President, Richard A. Heltzel.

Makai Ocean Engineering of Kailua, Oahu was awarded the Region IX Prime Contractor of the Year Award that honors small businesses that have provided the government with outstanding goods and services as prime contractors. Makai Ocean Engineering was represented in Washington by its ocean engineer Patrick Grandelli.



## Hawaii Construction and Design Firms Well Represented at 2010 National Small Business Awards in Washington, DC

2 of 2



From left to right: Richard Heltzel, Steve Baldrige, and Patrick Grandelli on the front lawn of the White House for National Small Business Week.

Baldrige & Associates Structural Engineering, Inc. (BASE) is an internationally recognized full service structural engineering and forensic consulting firms with offices in Honolulu, Guam, and Chicago. Projects in its vast portfolio include government, commercial, and residential work. Since its inception, BASE has encouraged the evaluation of each project from the client's point of view with emphasis on schedule, economy and detail as reflected by the unique needs of the client and their project. This commitment has guided BASE in the successful completion of projects both large and small not only in Hawaii, but also in India, Guam, Korea, the U.A.E., and the U.S. mainland. BASE also operates BASE Testing & Inspection (T&I) and BASE Research & Development (R&D). For more information, please visit [www.baseengr.com](http://www.baseengr.com).

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