

BASE Line

The quarterly newsletter of BASE
Summer 2020



A Message from Steve Baldridge, President



Adjusting to the new normal!

Despite today's uncertainty, BASE has weathered the last several months well. Our offices welcomed back employees in June after closing them on March 17 and we're working staggered schedules to limit occupancy and promote social distancing. Our staff has been working remotely for years so shifting completely to work-from-home didn't slow us down. Our firm is large enough to have diversity in geography and skill sets, yet small enough to be nimble and agile. The toughest part has probably been for our employees who have had to balance child care with their work. I am really proud, but not surprised, by how our team has handled this. We're a resilient firm, we were built for this.

During these trying times it's always nice to get some good news. BASE was recently recognized as one of the Best Structural Engineering Firms to Work For in the US. We placed 4th and are the only structural firm to make the list 10 years in a row! The ranking compiled by Zweig Group is based on over 2 million data points collected from management and staff surveys that evaluate an AEC firm's culture, workplace practices, and more. Zweig Group CEO Chad Clinehens says, "Add the current pandemic to the mix and it is even more critical to find measurable ways to reinforce the culture and the good things they are doing and creating." BASE is honored to be one of the best firms to work for and I'm thankful for our employees and clients who contribute to making BASE a great place to work.

Fulton East: Post-COVID-19 Office Building

COVID-19 is impacting building design. Fulton East is one of the first buildings in the US designed for a post-pandemic world. BASE is the engineer of record on this 12-story office building in Chicago that includes features such as hands-free elevators and clean air technology that reduces viruses and bacteria in the air and on surfaces. <https://bit.ly/37ZKGMu>



Owner:	Peoria Green Owner, LLC
Architect:	The Lamar Johnson Collaborative
General Contractor:	Clayco
Concrete Contractor:	Pepper Construction Company

1125 W Van Buren Going Up Fast Despite Pandemic

The pandemic hasn't slowed down the construction of 1125 W Van Buren, a 23-story mixed-use project located between West Van Buren Street and South Tilden Street in Chicago. Going up at one floor every three days the structure will be topped off this summer. The approximately 186,000 SF building includes retail and lobby on the ground floor, amenities on the second floor, and residential units on floors 3 - 23. The rooftop deck will feature a pool, hot tub, fire pit, and amenities room.



Owner:	Tandem Inc.
Architect:	Antunovich Associates
General Contractor:	Tandem Inc.
Concrete Contractor:	Adjustable Concrete Construction



Essential Inspectors

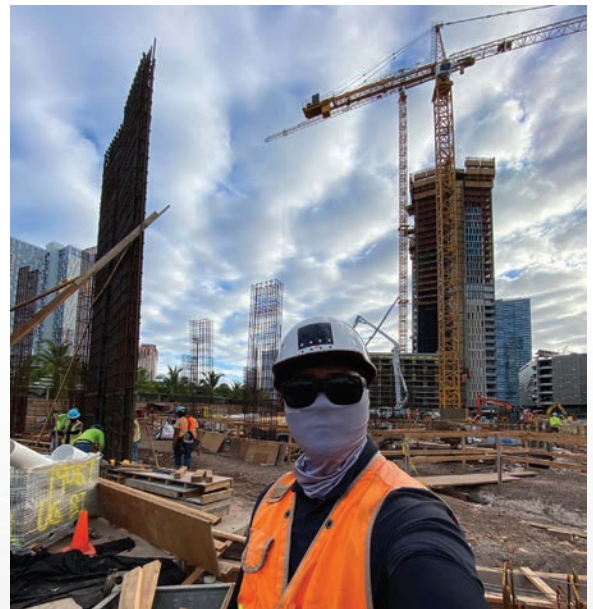
While most of our staff were working from home our special inspectors have been working non-stop throughout the shutdown and stay-at-home orders. They continue to inspect projects in Hawaii and Guam while complying with contractors' safety guidelines such as temperature checks and wearing face coverings.

Our special inspectors aren't "essential" only during this pandemic but they are essential to the success of the built environment by acting as inspectors for the building department to help ensure that construction materials and workmanship are in compliance with approved plans and specifications.

What else is so "special" about our inspectors?

Our qualifications

- » ICC Special Inspectors
- » AWS Welding Inspector
- » ACI Field Technicians
- » ACI Strength Testing Technicians
- » CCRL inspected, AASHTO accredited, and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) compliant testing laboratory



Special Inspector Edgar Gongora at the Koula construction site.



Your "One Stop Shop"

BASE is a one-stop shop for structural engineering, special inspection, and materials testing in Hawaii and structural engineering and special inspection in Guam. We also perform special inspection, Quality Control Structural Engineer (QCSE) and Special Inspector of Record (SIOR) functions for DoD projects. Our team of licensed engineers and certified special inspectors help keep projects operating on schedule and in compliance with contract documents and specifications.

Increased efficiency and savings

When BASE is engineer of record and the testing and inspection company, all coordination is in-house. The ability to have close communication and relationships between our engineers and inspectors helps keep projects operating on schedule. We create increased efficiency and better coordination to address field issues directly, which in turn results in cost savings for our clients.

Meet Mike Southard, Testing & Inspection Manager

Mike began his career in the construction industry in 1995 and is an accomplished quality control supervisor and construction project manager. Mike's extensive project experience includes both public and private sector work in Hawaii, California, Washington, and Alaska.

An outdoorsman who enjoys hunting, fishing, and diving, Mike joined BASE from Alaska where he's lived off and on for 20 years. Not only does Mike hold multiple inspection certifications, he is also a licensed ship captain who's worked on cruise and fishing vessels.

