



Tutor Electrical Service, Inc. Reaches New Heights in Electrical Construction at the City of Bedford Public Library

The Independent Electrical Contractors, Inc. (IEC) announced that Tutor Electrical Service, Inc. in Mansfield, Texas, received an IEC Award of Excellence in Commercial Electrical Construction during the 54th Annual IEC National Convention and Electric Expo in Louisville, Kentucky, for its work on the Bedford Public Library.

DESIGN: In 2010, in order to meet the needs of a growing community, the City of Bedford began the conversion of an abandoned grocery store into a new, and much larger, public library. At just over 40,000 square feet, the new location contains approximately 15,000 more square feet than the current facility, providing ample space for multiple collections as well as space for new services including a Computer Lab, a Children’s Puppet Theater, a Community Conference Room, and several personal reading spaces.



OBSTACLES OVERCOME: One of the many challenges faced by the design/construction team was to incorporate as many ‘green’ technologies as possible within a tight budget. When municipal funding is scarce, the challenges faced by a committed design and construction team to employ state-of-the-art technology and methods while promoting good stewardship of both public and environmental resources can be daunting.



THE NUTS & BOLTS: As a state-of-the-art learning center, the library acts as a bridge for the digital divide by providing public computers, online databases, e-books, free wireless Internet access, online book requests, and computer classes. The facility is served by a high-speed fiber optic data link to the City of Bedford’s fiber network that not only connects it to every other municipal building, but also allows for remote access to, and management of, critical building operation systems. The library is also the ‘greenest’ building in the city’s history.

UNIQUE FEATURES: Taking advantage of utility company bonus programs, and state and federal matching funds and grants allowed the inclusion of systems that not only make the library energy-efficient, but environmentally friendly. While not officially a LEED project, the library nevertheless meets United States Green Building Council objectives for site sustainability and energy efficiency.

Awards of Excellence in Commercial Electrical Construction are given each year at the Annual IEC National Convention & Electric Expo for work on office buildings, institutions, banks, restaurants, retail facilities, churches, and more.