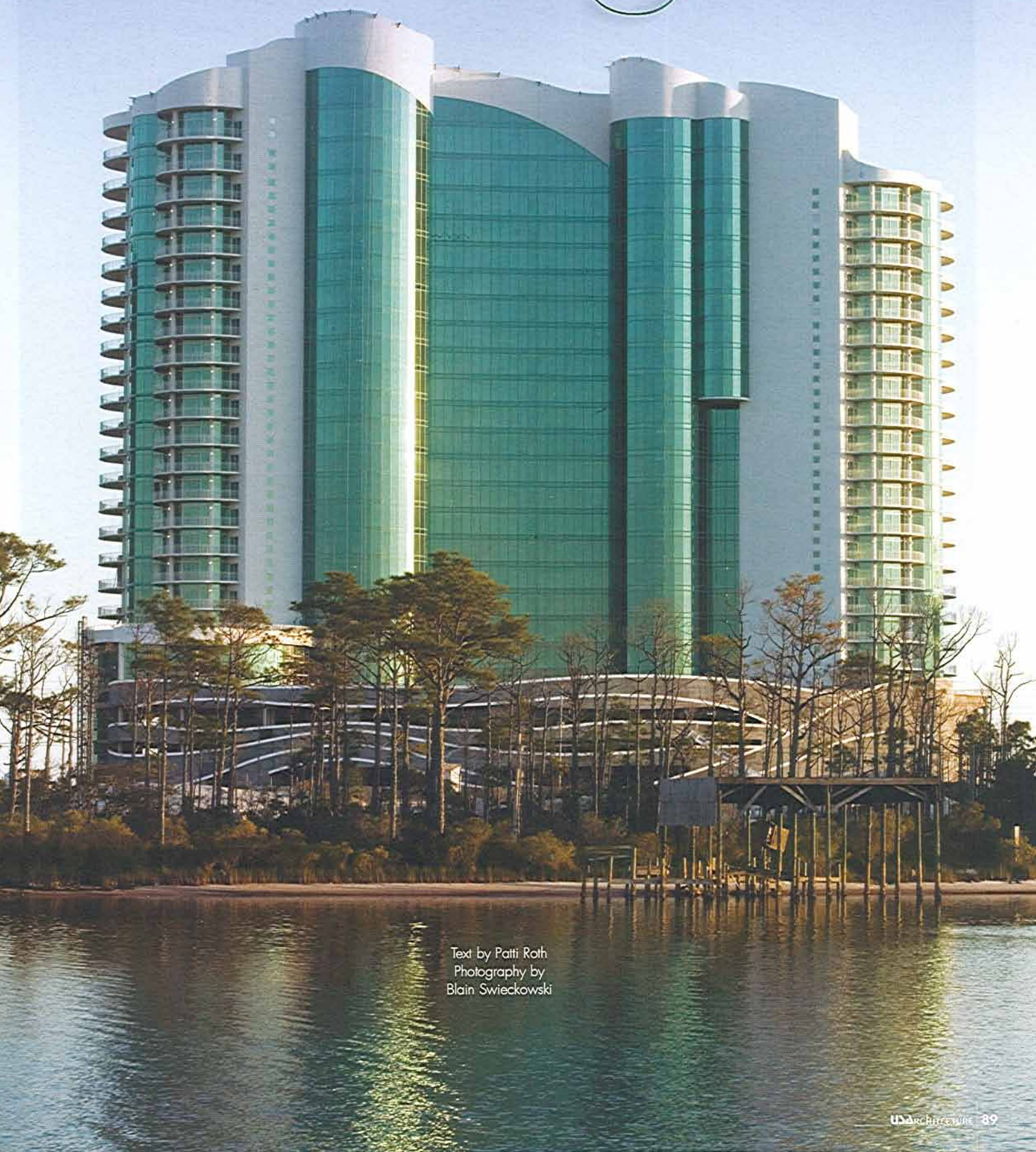
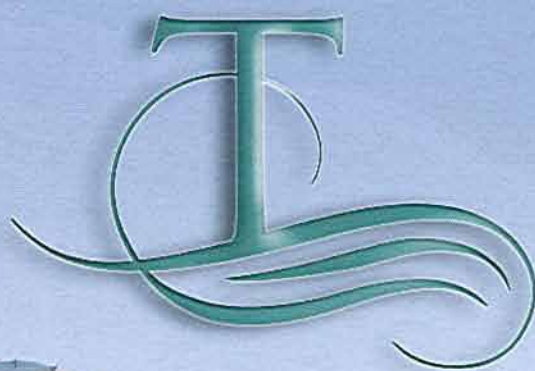


U.S. ARCHITECTURE

Top Projects
2007/2008





Text by Patti Roth
Photography by
Blain Swieckowski



Luxurious residences with fun amenities are part of the draw to this grand pair of undulating glass and steel high-rises. The abundance of glass is a key factor in another attractive feature at Turquoise Place in Orange Beach, Alabama. Panoramic windows and glass elevators allow residents to savor the natural beauty of the area.

For the gulf-front project, Larry Wireman, President of the Development Company, Turquoise Properties Gulf Inc., selected one of the most beautiful areas on the southeastern Seaboard, a highly elevated coastal area in Alabama located directly on the Gulf of Mexico, with beautiful white sugar sand beaches. The site, which is about 14 acres, stretches along about 900 feet of beachfront property with walking paths through dunes with sea oats.



To make the most of the spectacular vantage point, all units face the Gulf of Mexico to the south. The residences that wrap around the sides of the building also look out over a bayou to the north. The six glass elevators provide another vantage point over Cotton Bayou.

The project's distinctive aspects include its soaring stature. The buildings are 24 and 30 stories tall. Previous height restrictions for the area were 14 floors. The Developer from Turquoise Properties Gulf, Inc., worked with local government to increase the height and build taller buildings. The extra height allows for a smaller structural footprint and more green area on the shorefront site, Wireman said.

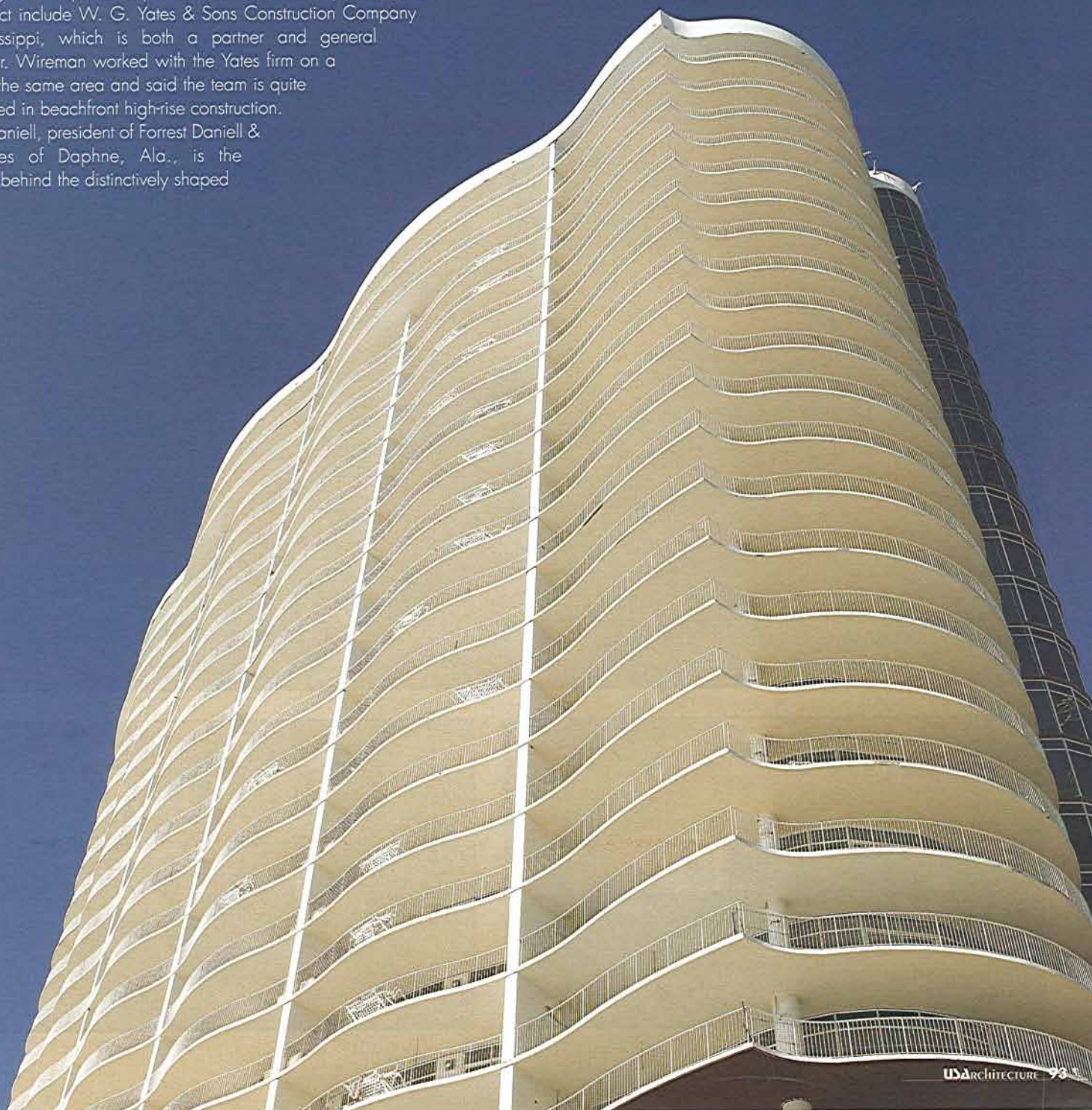


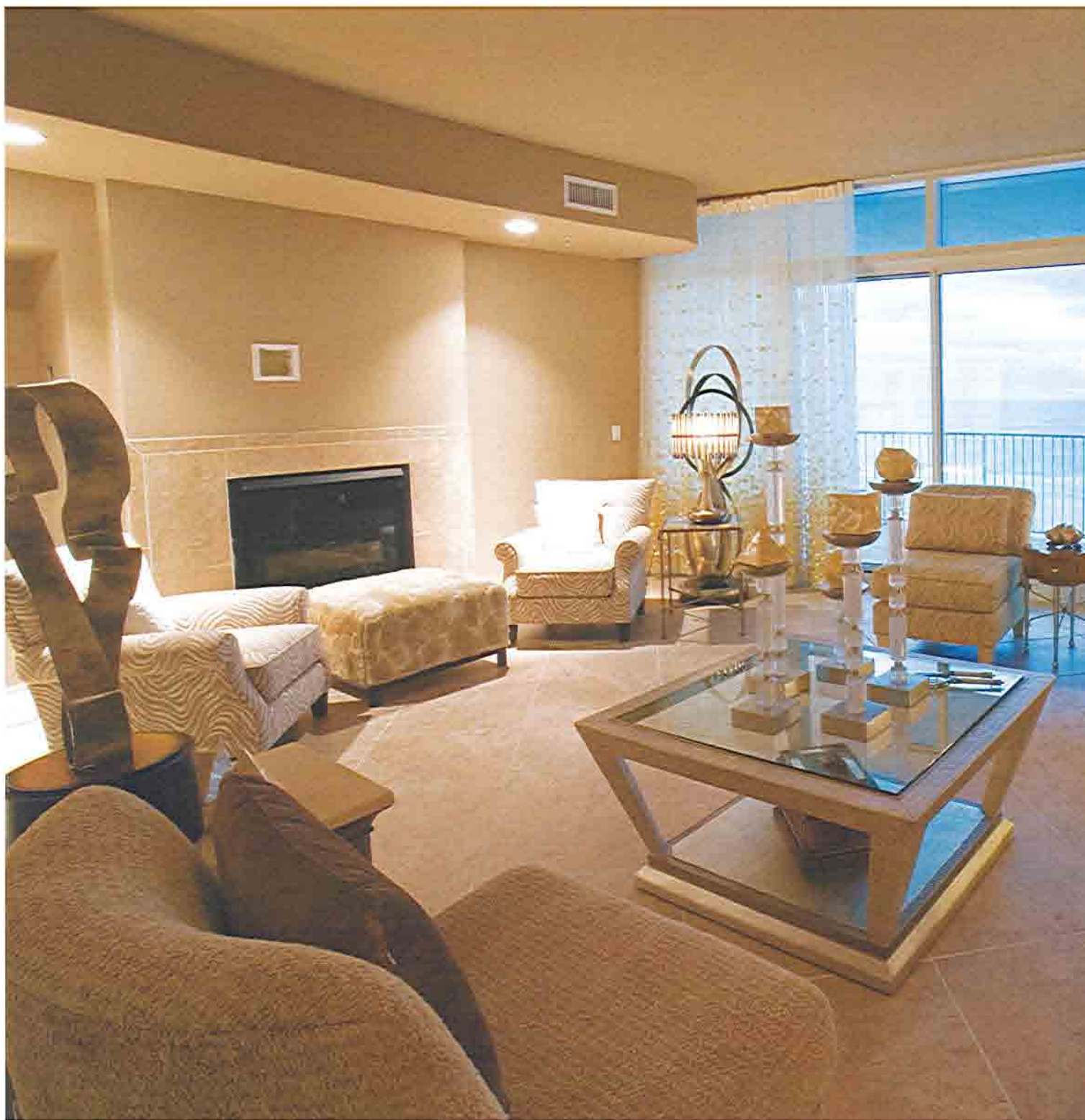
The two buildings house 400 units, ranging in size from approximately 2,300 to 5,900 square feet. Some Penthouse units have five bedrooms with five and one-half bathrooms. Other units are three bedrooms with three and one-half bathrooms or four bedrooms with four and one-half bathrooms. The individual condos include floor-to-ceiling windows, indoor fireplaces and high-definition, flat screen televisions. The contemporary styled, European kitchens are built for the professional who loves to cook, with granite countertops surrounded by Wolf natural gas cook-tops, Wolf ovens and warming drawers.

The exquisite kitchens also include Sub Zero refrigerators and Kitchen Aid dish drawers, ice makers and wine coolers. The glamorous master bathroom suites have Jacuzzi solon tubs with Hans Groghe faucets and showers complete with body sprays to give a true pampered spa feeling.

The luxurious features extend outdoors to the oversized balconies, where each unit is provided with a private hot tub. An outdoor grilling area, also located on each balcony, includes a sink and built-in barbecue grill, which allow residents to cook and entertain outdoors.

Along with Turquoise Properties Gulf Inc., other key participants in the project include W. G. Yates & Sons Construction Company of Mississippi, which is both a partner and general contractor. Wireman worked with the Yates firm on a resort in the same area and said the team is quite well versed in beachfront high-rise construction. Forrest Daniell, president of Forrest Daniell & Associates of Daphne, Ala., is the architect behind the distinctively shaped structure.







"The design of the building is meant to be appropriate for the beach, evoking images and feelings of water and wind without being cliché or trite," Daniell stated. The gulf-front location was a prime aspect in determining the buildings' design and profile. To maximize the area overlooking the gulf, the shape bows a bit to enhance the panoramic display from within the units and from each balcony. The asymmetrically undulating glass and symmetrically undulating balconies are design elements that add visual interest and also augment the scenic vantage points, Daniell explained.

"At Turquoise Place we decided to enclose the common walkways. This gave us the opportunity to use a true curtain wall application, with the glass bypassing the slab. This system is separated from the rest of the building (where there are balconies), by two stair towers and shear walls. Although we continued to use the curtain wall system throughout the building, it is used like a window wall system from slab to slab where there are balconies. This gave me three basic palettes of texture and rhythm to work with. A glass curtain changes color with the sky, stucco, and balconies," Daniell explained.



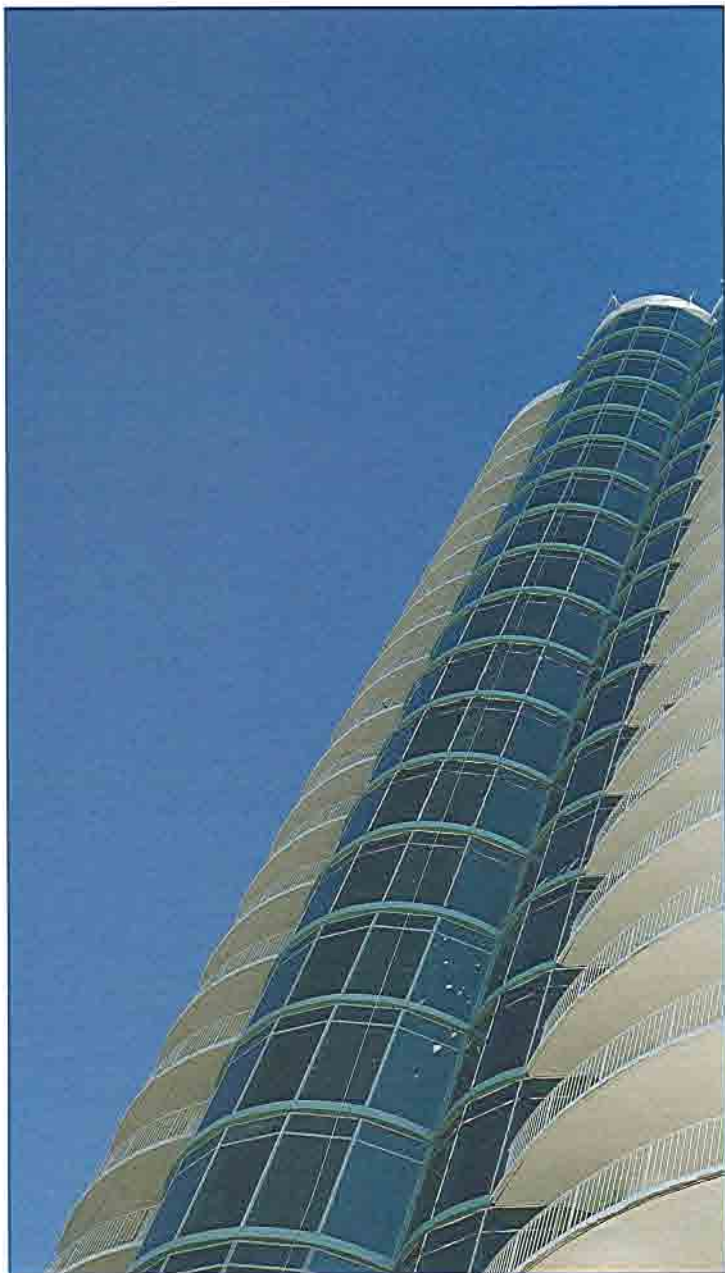
Another key factor in the design was incorporating various venues for fun, including several pools. An indoor pool is among the features on the fourth floor, which is designated as a recreation area that overlooks the gulf, the city and the bayou. Adjacent to the indoor pool is a state-of-the-art fitness center, which also looks out toward the gulf, with a sauna and steam room. Hot tubs are positioned so residents may gaze at the gulf while indulging in the refreshing indoor treat.

Outdoors on the fourth-floor level, the project team took advantage of the open area on top of the parking garage. The landscaped deck, which faces the bayou, showcases the additional amenities. Along with a playground, the deck features one of the highlights of the project – a lazy river. The 8-foot-wide circular water feature winds through lush areas with fabulous landscaping.



The parking garage is designed to be bright and airy, with a spectacular four-story water wall that adds pleasing background sounds. Because the parking structure is part of the building, residents have the opportunity to go direct from their vehicles into the beautiful, contemporary lobby. The lobby features tall windows that showcase the gulf and an outdoor pool. An arching pedestrian bridge over the pool takes residents and guests between the two towers. In the second building, the lobby is designed to open out to pools and cabana decks on both sides of the structure.

The parking garages, positioned at the base of the buildings, provide another advantage. They elevate residential units above minimum standards for beachfront property, keeping the condos safely away from storm waves, Wireman said. With its ocean location, protecting the structure from tropical storms and moisture was a key factor in design and construction.



The team is working to earn certification from the GREENGUARD for Building Construction program. The certification is issued by a non-profit organization which provides third-party evaluations of products and buildings based on factors related to healthy indoor air quality. For buildings, the certification addresses aspects of design, construction and maintenance that focus on healthy indoor environments and safeguarding against moisture and mold. "Working to obtain GREENGUARD certification required the construction team to go above and beyond typical weather protection means to start and continue construction while the mostly glass exterior of the building was being constructed," explained George Yates, senior project manager for W. G. Yates & Sons Construction Company. "In effect, we built a building within the building to control water and moisture intrusion during construction. Additionally we used industrial size dehumidifiers to help control humidity throughout the units and the building."

In addition to the residential units, the project features about 11,000 square feet for commercial uses. Turquoise Place is drawing interest from an eclectic array of shoppers, with units selling for about \$1.5 million to \$5 million. While some buyers are interested in the beachfront buildings as their primary residence, Wireman said, many are from the Midwest and other parts of the nation who are setting up a second home on Alabama's beautiful shore.



Q&A

with George Yates, Senior Project Manager for
W.G. Yates & Sons Construction Company in Mississippi.

USArchitecture: What are some of the highlights of this project from a construction standpoint?

George Yates: From a construction standpoint, the flowing radius theme that carries throughout the project has been very challenging.

The large amount of glass work within a mostly radius building requires a tremendous amount of coordination. The construction of the concrete parapet walls was another exciting challenge. The walls not only radius horizontally but also slope vertically on the top and bottom, while requiring precise alignment to properly receive the curtain wall system from 300 feet below. Due to schedule constraints and in order to dry in the building and elevator shafts, the curtain wall had to be fabricated and installation started prior to top out of the building, limiting the room for error in aligning these walls.

The flowing radius theme carries throughout the interior of the units with radius walls, soffits, and views that are maximized by properly aligning walls and window systems. The units are truly unique with custom doors, casing, baseboards, return air openings, sinks, and shelving. Coordination to provide, protect, and install these items on a large scale project in addition to the high end finishes, appliances, and fixtures has been a challenge that I am proud to say we excelled at.

USArchitecture: What are some of the advantages and disadvantages of working on the beach?

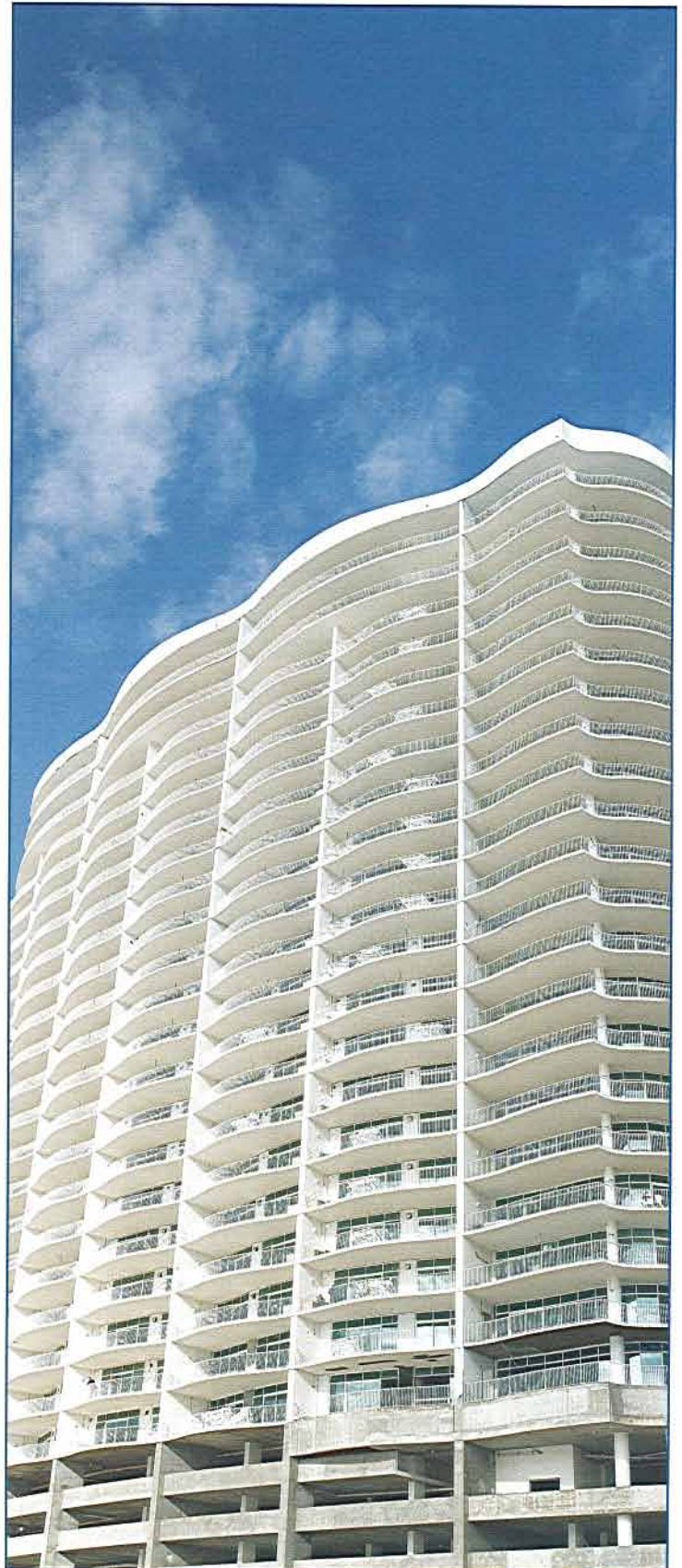
George Yates: Working on the beach in a coastal environment increases the exposure to hurricanes and tropical storms in addition to the everyday issues dealing with elevated levels of moisture and humidity. In an effort to ensure that moisture and humidity would not be an issue on this project Yates Construction and TPGI (Turquoise Properties Gulf Inc.) teamed up with GREENGUARD to inspect and document the construction of the building and ultimately certify Turquoise as a GREENGUARD approved building.

USArchitecture: What were some of the obstacles in working on this project, and how did you resolve them?

George Yates: Due to the location and design of the building the construction of the pools and lazy river were required to wait until the completion of the 4-story parking garage, which could only be started after completion of the tower due to structural requirements. This required the construction team to carefully schedule and execute all work required to build and waterproof the pool and river in order to maintain the overall project schedule.

USArchitecture: What are you particularly proud of with this project?

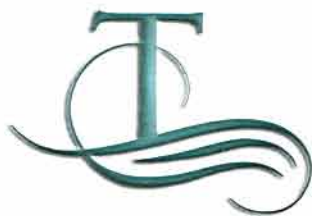
George Yates: Personally I am particularly proud to be associated with a unique building that is far and above the typical condominium, I am equally as proud of the job the Yates team did in working with the owner and designers to accommodate the distinct character and uniqueness of this building while delivering the project ahead of schedule and below budget.





Rendering of the project once completed with the Four Towers





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251-980-9040

www.turquoiseplace.com

Developer — Turquoise Properties Gulf Inc.

28103 Perdido Beach Blvd.,

Orange Beach, AL 36561

251-980-9040

www.turquoiseplace.com

Architect — Forrest Daniell & Associates

8007 American Way

Daphne, AL 36526

251-625-6490

www.fddaniell.com

General Contractor — W.G. Yates & Sons Construction

One Gully Ave.,

Philadelphia, MS, 39350

601.656.5411

www.wgyates.com

Real Estate Sales & Rentals — Caribe Realty, Inc.

28103 Perdido Beach Blvd.,

Orange Beach, AL 36561

251.980.9040 phone

www.cariberesort.com

Developers, contractors and homeowners who want a pool that's not merely a wet hole in the ground, seek out Michael Lovett, President of Cox Pools SE to perform one of their aquatic miracles. Turquoise Place, the luxury condominium towers in Orange Beach, Alabama, is a case in point.

The pools, spas and other aquatic amenities by Cox Pools SE have raised the standards of luxury condominiums for years to come. On the fourth floor, Cox has created an indoors aquatic oasis with a magnificent view of the Gulf of Mexico.

The fourth floor "oasis" is literally an outdoor landscape under glass. A 3,000 square foot heated pool has such features as the Badu® Swimjet System, which provides the swimmers resistance while doing their workout laps. Other pool features include an underwater sound system, slides for the children and two custom spas with hot tubs.

The fourth floor also boasts an amazing 700 linear foot long "lazy river" with custom water jets that spray colored water and other features. Outdoors, right at the shore, Cox Pools SE has constructed two top-of-the-line pools with a rain curtain and a connecting bridge over them; some 10,000 square feet of pools with the new Zero Entry feature which allows the swimmer to enter on a gradual slope without stairs or ladders. The area also includes two spectacular waterfalls.

Contact Michael Lovett at the Cox Pools SE office at 22656-F Canal Road, Orange Beach, Alabama 36561, telephone 251-974-5244, fax 334-974-5344 or at 3496 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze, Florida, 32563. Telephone 850-932-1234 or fax 850-932-1235. They also have an office at 5598 Montgomery Highway, Dothan, Alabama 36303. Telephone 334-983-8303 or fax 334-983-8303. Email michael@coxpoolsse.com. Their website is www.coxpoolsse.com.



To ensure that the Turquoise Place luxury condominium towers on Alabama's Gulf Coast truly lived up to the label "luxury," developer Larry Wireman specified only Jacuzzi Whirlpool Baths be installed in all the units.

Jacuzzi®, a name that defines luxury bathing, has joined the pantheon of internationally recognized brand names that denote quality performance.

The history of the Jacuzzi brand dates to the early 1900s when seven Jacuzzi brothers immigrated to America. Roy Jacuzzi, a third generation in the business, invented and marketed the integrated whirlpool bath in the 1960s - thereby almost single-handedly creating an industry.

Every Turquoise Place residence offers a genuine Jacuzzi® whirlpool bath for complete "home spa" relaxation and hydrotherapy. The luxurious Fuzion™ features overflow technology and fine wood decking. The Amiga™ envelops bathers with its deep bathing well and sculptured armrests. The penthouses at Turquoise Place boast Jacuzzi's Cortina®, a six-foot circular whirlpool with eight massage jets, a contoured backrest and an underwater lighting system capable of 256 colors.

Jacuzzi is a proud partner on the Turquoise Place project and residents and guests.

Jacuzzi Brands is headquartered at 14880 Monte Visio Avenue, Chino, California 91710. For additional information, contact Rene Ruvalcaba, Regional Builder Manager, 281-658-2819, or email rene.ruvalcaba@jacuzzibrands.com. The company website www.jacuzzi.com supplies a wealth of information about their products.



General Contractors and Developers, working in the Alabama Gulf Coast Region and North Florida, know they can rely on Yarco, Inc. to complete the interiors of their luxury high rise condominiums to their demanding standards.

President Carlton Yarbrough estimates that his experienced crews have finished 30 to 35 high rise condominiums, ranging from nine stories to 20 stories, in the burgeoning area.

"In the 26 plus years we've been in business, that's more than any other provider of similar services based on the Alabama Gulf Coast," he said. Yarco employs about 30 hourly workers for a total payroll of around 100 during peak periods.

Yarco provides drywall hanging and finishing, metal framing, Batt insulation, grid ceilings and accessories. Working with General Contractors W. G. Yates and Developer Larry Wireman, Yarco installed some six million square feet of drywall at Turquoise Place.

Turquoise Place had a large amount of radius walls, soffits and ceiling details that are in demand by today's developers and architects. These radius walls require highly skilled framing, hanging and finishing, especially when the project requires a smooth level five finish.

Yarco crews had just finished installing approximately 5.6 million square feet of drywall at Caribe Towers for Yates and Wireman. Turquoise Place is a continuation of their working relationship, and their friendship, with the highly successful builder/developer team.



They were also responsible for installing about 3 million square feet of drywall at The Lighthouse Condominiums at Gulf Shores, Alabama.

Carlton Yarbrough began his 40 plus-year career in drywall finishing with Dixie Drywall in Birmingham, Alabama. After leaving the firm, he began finishing drywall in single family homes, apartments and small commercial projects in the area of his hometown of Decatur, Alabama, and Huntsville.

He moved to the Orange Beach, Gulf Shores, Alabama, area in 1980 and founded Yarco Contracting in 1982. The firm became Yarco, Inc. in 2002.

Contact Yarco, Inc. at 4399 Money Bayou Drive, Orange Beach Alabama 36561. Telephone 251-974-5141 or fax 251-974-5281. Email yarco@gulftel.com.



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In the world of luxury commercial properties, being distinctive is an important factor in success. In keeping with his vow to make Turquoise Place a luxury development in more than name only, Developer Larry Wireman chose Hansgrohe for all of the bath and kitchen faucets as well as the showers in every unit. After all, labeling a Hansgrohe shower system or faucet as "just a shower" or "just a faucet" is like labeling the Taj Mahal "just a building."

"Larry Wireman wanted amenities that set his development apart from undistinguished, run-of-the-mill designs and technology often advertised as 'luxury condominiums,'" says Pascal Powell, Southeast Regional Sales Manager for Hansgrohe. "With our vast array of designs and advanced technology, we could deliver."

Each unit at the Turquoise Place features high-performing Hansgrohe shower systems, making the bathroom a true showpiece. Hansgrohe took all the developers' needs into consideration, including the quality and designs he demanded plus the flexibility to install the best products at the right price. The products include thermostatic shower valves, bodysprays and handshowers as well as showerheads with Hansgrohe's patented AIR-injection technology to enhance performance and feel.

As a testament to Hansgrohe's competency with projects, the company's International portfolio also includes: Trump Towers, Miami Beach; Hard Rock Hotel, San Diego; MGM Casino, Detroit; and the new Hyatt Place, a national chain that emphasizes style and innovation within the reach of everyone.

Founded in 1901 by the young German, Hans Grohe, the company is the worldwide symbol of luxury and quality for upscale shower, kitchen and bath fixtures. Today, Hansgrohe is the world's largest suppliers of showerheads, with headquarters in Schiltach, Germany; customers in over 80 countries; 24 worldwide subsidiaries and 9 operating facilities that include Tokyo, Singapore, Dubai, Shanghai and Alpharetta, Georgia USA.

Reach Hansgrohe USA at 1121 Alderman Drive, Suite 200, Alpharetta, Georgia 30005. Telephone toll-free 800-334-0455 or email info@hansgrohe-usa.com.



The bathrooms also feature Hansgrohe's faucets, especially the minimalist, clean designs from their contemporary lines. The Penthouse at Turquoise Place, meanwhile, boasts bath and shower products from one of Hansgrohe's designer collections, Axor Starck. Created with Axor by famed French designer Philippe Starck, this and every Axor collection represents design at its best by bringing architecture, style and functionality together to perfect the entire room, not just a corner of it.

With the help of Hansgrohe, which is well-known for innovation, German-engineering and design, Mr. Wireman was able to ensure that each resident will enjoy the epitome of showering pleasure and the luxury of our bath and kitchen faucets," International Project Manager Jeff Johnson explained. "It was a natural fit, because to us, the shower, bathroom and kitchen are more than just functional spaces; they are declarations of individuality and places to relax and enjoy life."





The Brim Construction Group, Inc. are a dedicated corps of professionals working together for nearly two decades to provide the highest quality plumbing and HVAC piping to the construction industry in Mississippi, Florida and Alabama.

The group consists of average 90 employees in the office and the field led by four generations of the Imsand family. Ernest L. Imsand, Jr. is President, Joseph C. Imsand, Sr., Vice President and Ernest L. Imsand III, Secretary/Treasurer.

"We supplied and installed all of the plumbing and HVAC piping for Turquoise Place - two towers with 400 condominium units, each ranging from 2,400 to 5,900 heated and air conditioned square feet," Project Manager Joseph C. Imsand, Sr. said. "Our contracts for both towers (Turquoise Phase I and Phase II) were in excess of \$13.5 million."

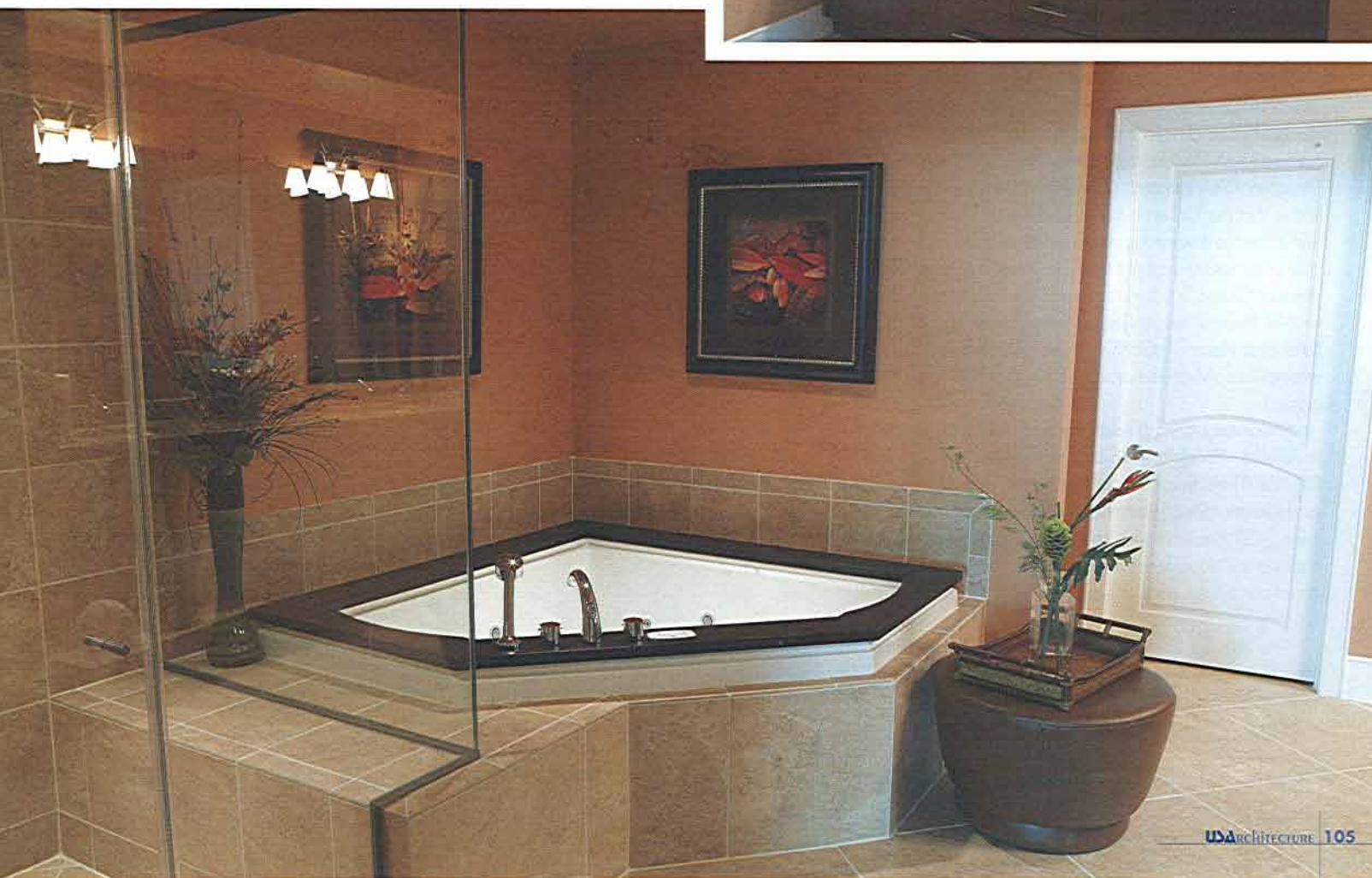
"We had two major challenges on that project," Imsand recalled. "First was the limited amount of working area surrounding the two towers. The second was for our crews to keep the use of the crane to an absolute minimum to enable the other subs to do their jobs."

Brim's capability to fabricate the piping in their own shop, and deliver it to the project on their own trucks - making deliveries to the job site only at the times when the crane was available - greatly facilitated the work and enabled everyone to maintain their schedules.

Brim Construction Group's dedication to providing quality work and product, on schedule and on budget, have kept their crews very busy on multiple projects for leading contractors operating in the Mississippi, Florida and Alabama area.

The Imsand's, and many of their crewmembers, worked for another plumbing contractor which went out of business. They then formed Brim Construction in 1990 and have been in constant demand ever since.

Brim Construction Group, Inc. is located at 1536 Azalea Road, Mobile, Alabama 36693. Telephone toll free: 1-800-727-6862 or 251-660-8374. Fax 251-660-0023. For additional information, email Sharon L. Parlier, Office Manager, at sharon_brim@bellsouth.net or brimconstruction@bellsouth.net.



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The Westye Group Southeast, Inc. is the exclusive distributor of Sub-Zero refrigeration, Wolf cooking appliances and Best® by Broan ventilation hoods and systems. Their wide distribution area includes Florida, Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina and the Caribbean.

"We have supplied the kitchen appliances for the most prestigious condominium developments from the North Carolina Coast, around the peninsula of Florida to Mobile, Alabama," Rob Maxam, Vice President/Sales stated. "Surveys have shown, and developers know, that the kitchen is the most important room. If you're offering the public a luxury high-rise condominium, it's imperative that you offer luxury equipment. The Westye Group represents the 'Best in Class.'"

All three Westye Group brands are in the kitchen of the Turquoise Place on Orange Beach, Alabama. "Turquoise Place exemplifies what we stand for – the best there is," Maxam added.

The Westye Group Southeast operates four high-end showrooms in Atlanta, Charlotte, North Carolina, Hollywood and Orlando Florida. Their two distribution centers are located in Orlando and Duluth, Georgia. These centers and showrooms service over 300 dealers and building suppliers in their area. Each showroom is staffed with a team of appliance specialists to assist consumers, designers, architects and builders select a luxury appliance package customized to their individual needs.

The Westye Group also believes that offering superior service after the sale – and after the customer moves in – is one of the most important aspects of the sale.

Contact Rob Maxam at The Westye Group Southeast, Inc., 1700 Executive Drive South, Suite 400, Duluth, Georgia 30096. Telephone 770-921-9373 or fax 770-921-9312. His email address is rmaxam@westyegroupse.com. For additional information, visit www.westyegroupse.com.



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To reach the sales professionals at Caribe Realty, Inc., located at 28103 Perdido Beach Blvd., Suite 100, Orange Beach, Alabama 36561, call Toll-Free, 888-607-7020 or 251-980-9040, or Fax 251-980-9005. Email Judy Ramey at jramey@cariberesort.com. For additional information about the resort and its amenities log on to www.cariberesort.com.

When planning Caribe Resort and Turquoise Place, Developer Larry Wireman made the successful commitment to offer the ultimate in luxury and quality in every phase of his spectacular operation. Such a commitment requires professional follow-through from landscaping to customer service.

To keep that commitment in the selling of his development, Wireman, along with Broker Judy Ramey, founded Caribe Realty, Inc. An on-site real estate management firm responsible for new unit sales, re-sales and rental management.

Caribe Realty is responsible for the rental management and sales throughout the 30-acre resort bordering over a mile of unconstructed shoreline at Orange Beach. This includes the 600 units in the three 14-story towers at Caribe Resort as well as the 400 units in the two towers at Turquoise Place scheduled to open in April 2008.

"Caribe Resort set a new standard for luxury condominiums," says Judy Ramey, "Hence its catchphrase 'Unlike Any Other.' Advance and pre-construction sales at Turquoise Place, located on the beach with a magnificent view of the Gulf of Mexico, have more than lived up to the motto 'Welcome to the Next Level.'"

Wireman and Ramey also founded Caribe Interiors to advise and cater to owners and renters who want to further customize their condominium units.



Reynolds Ready Mix, LLC has been helping build Baldwin County, Alabama communities since 1947 supplying concrete for schools, homes, businesses, roadways and bridges.

In 1995 Reynolds was sold to Alabama's premier concrete company: Ready Mix USA serving all of the Southeastern United States.

Their mission has always been to be the best in the concrete industry. This begins with superior customer service, on time deliveries and competitive pricing.

General Manager Bobby Lindsey and Vice President Walter Pope head a staff with over 150 years experience

in the field, with a fleet of over 65 trucks and 7 batch plants.

"We are a major supplier of concrete for many of the Gulf Shores and Orange Beach condominiums," Sales Manager Russ Wood said. "We poured over 100,000 cubic yards of concrete at Turquoise Place Tower I & II Condominiums in Orange Beach."

"When pouring on these jobs, the heavy summer tourist, traffic made maintaining on time delivery difficult at times, but with our latest technology - truck tracking, central dispatch/batching system - and our highly experienced quality control staff - we were able to provide our customers with a quality product on time."

One of Reynolds' largest continuous pours was over 2700 yards at the OSB Plywood plant in Thomasville, Alabama. Other recent major projects include the Ace Hardware Center in Loxley, Alabama, the 26-story Island Tower Condominium in Gulf Shores and fifteen Phoenix Resort Towers in Orange Beach and Gulf Shores, also three Caribe Towers and four Beach Club Towers, all over twelve stories tall.

Contact Reynolds Ready Mix, LLC at 2640 South McKenzie St., Foley, Alabama 36535. Telephone toll-free at 800-239-3879 or call 251-943-2985. Fax 251-943-7644. Email Russ Wood at russw@rmusainc.com. Log on www.rmusainc.com for more information.



REYNOLDS READY MIX



Following the hurricane flood damage of the recent past, the construction industry – architects, general contractors, developers – have become increasingly aware of the destructive effects of water and mold to their properties. Concerns in the Southeastern United States, like insurers, are especially affected – in their wallets.

In the wake of this, firms like Water Management Consultants & Testing, Inc. (WMC&T) have grown in importance in the planning and construction of commercial and high-rise condominium buildings.

Three years after Hurricane Andrew, WMC&T President and Founder Jim Parsons found a pressing need to assist architects, developers and general contractors in building watertight buildings. "Lawsuits in condominiums were (and are) a big issue in this part of the country," he says. "We developed a program of preventative maintenance."

"In the period between Hurricanes Ivan and Katrina, WMC&T has been called upon more and more for hurricane assessment. Eighty percent of that business was in new construction," Parsons added.

Before the construction of Turquoise Place began, WMC&T assisted the architect in waterproofing details, doors, window and roof systems as they applied to the building's envelope. Mark Jones, WMC&T Territory Manager and Field Inspector, was on the site from the start. "One of our biggest challenges was the placement of windows. EFCO

Corporation's window system was brand new. We had to develop a specific new caulking and framing system."

Headquarters for Water Management Consultants & Testing, Inc. is at 295 Azalea Drive, Suite 2, Destin, Florida 32541. Phone 850-837-1336 or fax 850-269-1108. Email Jim Parsons at jparsons@watermc.net. WMC&T has territories including Orange Beach, AL, Atlanta, GA, Daytona Beach, FL, Jacksonville, FL, Orlando, FL, Tampa, FL, Baton Rouge, LA, Biloxi, MS, and Raleigh NC that are responsible for new and reconstruction projects.



GREENGUARD Environmental Institute (GEI) is a non-profit organization, independent of industry, which oversees the GREENGUARD Certification Program to establish acceptable indoor air standards for products, environments and buildings. The organization's goal is to improve public health and the quality of life through programs that improve indoor air.

"In 2006, GEI introduced GREENGUARD for Building Construction, a mold risk reduction program that, for the first time, certifies the design, construction, and ongoing operations of newly constructed, multifamily and commercial properties," Carl Smith, LEED® AP and CEO/Executive Director of GEI, explained.

GEI's technical partner on the Turquoise Place project is Air Quality Sciences (AQS), charged with verifying that GEI's standards are met during the design, construction and operation of the towers. "Water intrusion and mold prevention is particularly important at a project like Turquoise Place, in a southern, oceanfront environment," explains Smith.

Taylor Gonsoulin, General Manager of Air Quality Sciences - Building Consulting, consulted with the Turquoise Place developers and W.G. Yates Construction to provide guidance and to register the project with GREENGUARD. AQS-BC will continue to work with the project team throughout the final phases, and following close-out, to assure certification.

"This is a three-step process," Gonsoulin said. "Our preliminary meetings are focused on design reviews. We then conduct periodic on-site observations to make sure that the procedures are being followed during construction, along with

testing for water and moisture intrusion. During the first year of the building's occupancy, we come back to verify that the structure is being operated to keep water and mold out."

GREENGUARD Environmental Institute is located at 2211 Newmarket Parkway, Suite 110, Marietta, Georgia 30067. Telephone: 1-800-427-9681; Fax: 770-980-0072. For more information visit www.greenguard.org, email mold@greenguard.org or contact Taylor Gonsoulin at tgonsoulin@aqs.com.



Just as mighty oaks grow from little acorns, Robert Smith, President of Glass, Inc., has nurtured his company, founded in 1999 with six employees, to become one of the largest and most respected commercial glass companies in the Southeast with 80 employees. They were one of three industries in their class, in the State of Mississippi, to win the prestigious Governor's Cup Award for entrepreneurial excellence and community involvement.

Visitors to Orange Beach, Alabama, will never mistake the towers of Turquoise Place due to the shimmering, turquoise colored glass and curtainwall. This glazing project from start to finish was a team effort involving Glass, Inc., the installer; The Bassett Co., the representative and EFCO Corporation, the manufacturer. Due to the complexity of the project, teamwork was vital to its success.

All of the exterior curtainwall is EFCO's System 5800 E-Wall™. This is a silicone gasket curtainwall system noted for its ability to withstand wind and water even under extreme weather conditions. Glass, Inc. also supplied and installed all of the sliding glass doors at Turquoise Place using EFCO's Heavy Commercial Series 3005 and 3015 doors.

"This was not only the largest single job we've ever done," Robert Smith said, "but it was the largest single span E-Wall job EFCO has ever manufactured. It was a unique but complicated project with all the different radiuses involved." Glass Inc. crews worked 10 to 12 hours a day six, seven days a week, to stay on schedule.

"This was our fourth condo project with the Developer Larry Wireman. He has always been hands-on and great to work with," Smith added. "General Contractor W.G. Yates & Sons Construction is our oldest and biggest customer, and have contributed greatly to our success. We have completed over 100 projects with them. The project's Architect Forrest Daniell is on the cutting edge of building design in the hurricane prone Gulf Coast Region."

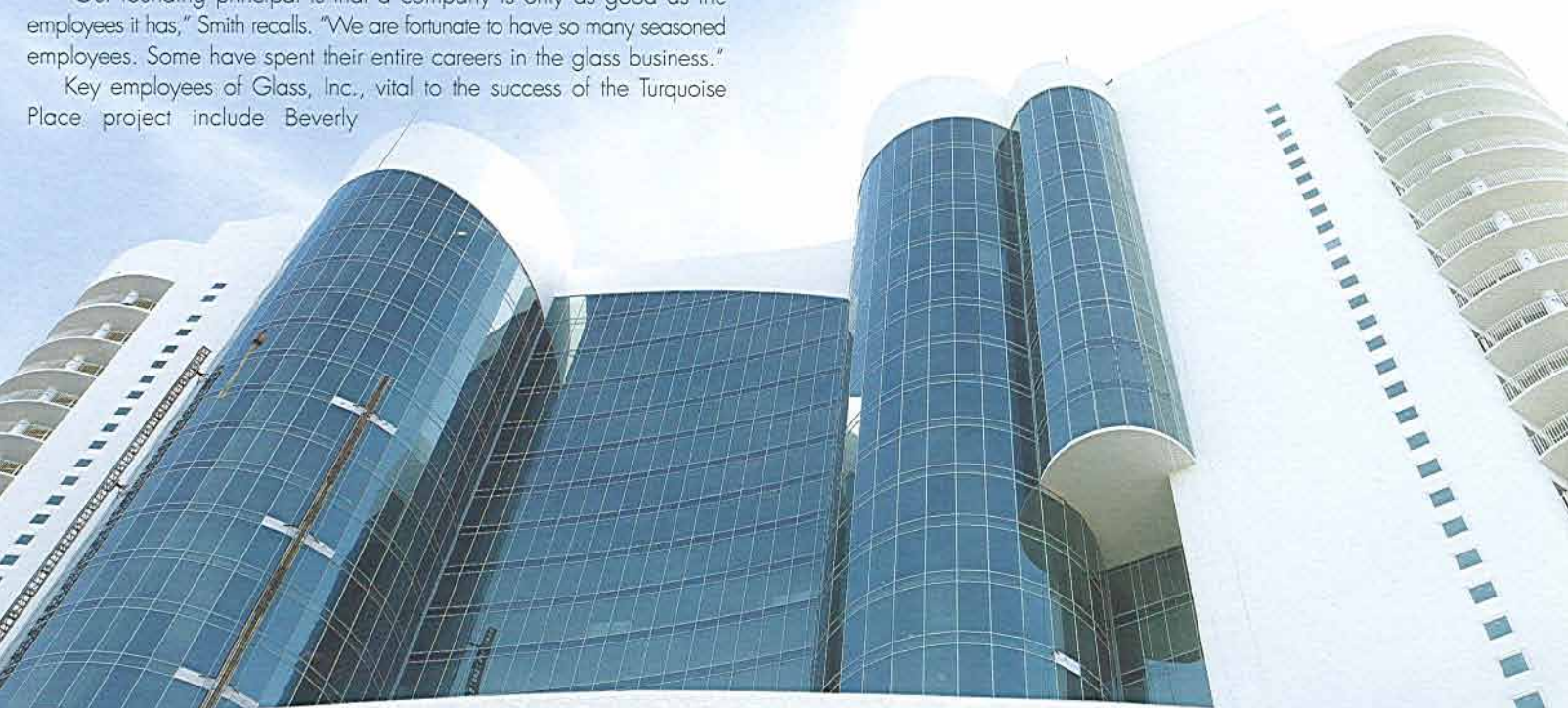
Glass, Inc. enjoys a steady growth with a portfolio of over 1,000 commercial projects for the nation's leading General Contractors, Developers, Architects and Designers. This includes 30 new or retrofitted high rise condominiums including the Beach Club and Caribe Resort. They were also the erector at Bella Luna, on the Alabama Coast, featured on the cover of "USGlass" magazine.

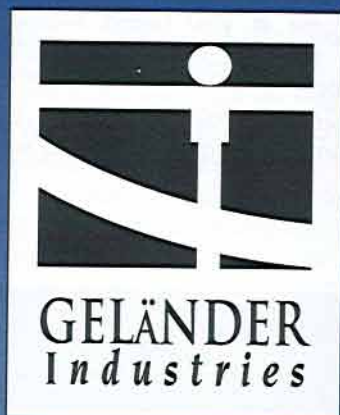
"Our founding principal is that a company is only as good as the employees it has," Smith recalls. "We are fortunate to have so many seasoned employees. Some have spent their entire careers in the glass business."

Key employees of Glass, Inc., vital to the success of the Turquoise Place project include Beverly

Joiner, Vice President/CFO; Mitchel Moffett, Senior Glazing Superintendent; Doyle Bryan, Senior Project Manager; Joe Heiden, Field Project Manager and Paul Barfield, Job Superintendent.

Glass, Inc.'s Corporate Offices are at 210 Grand Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi 39301 with branches in Orange Beach, Alabama and Gulfport, Mississippi. Telephone toll free 1-877-693-9251 or 601-693-9251. Fax 601-485-2436. Email Robert Smith at robert@glassincorporated.net or log on to www.glassincorporated.net for more information.





In German, the word *geländer* means balustrade or railing. In America it means Geländer Industries, architectural aluminum fabricators that design and install precision crafted railing systems, gates, grilles, trellises, sunscreen all with the vaunted German attention to minute detail, engineering and craftsmanship.

Founded in 1986 by its President Kim Sechler and his father Vice President Robert Sechler, their custom designed railings and accessories

are specified worldwide by knowledgeable contractors, architects and developers.

Closer to home, their custom balcony railings at Turquoise Place are a case history on what's right in the industry. Kim Sechler's encyclopedic knowledge of aluminum railing systems helped Yates Construction solve some knotty problems at the Caribe Resort, also on Orange Beach. When Yates was awarded the contract to build Turquoise Place, the developer Turquoise Properties Gulf, Inc., had some rigid requirements and specifications for the balcony railings. Geländer Industries was the only logical source.

"Turquoise Place was pretty much a state-of-the-art project for us," Kim Sechler said. "Part of the challenge was the building design itself

with curved and angled balconies throughout. It was a post-tension slab so sleeves had to be supplied because core drilling was not possible.

We supplied the General Contractor with templates and sleeves that were used to pinpoint the location of the posts, marked on the deck forms with spray paint. We could then fabricate the railings in our shop and ship them to the site, ensuring that each individual balcony would fit exactly."

In addition, the railings, pickets and the bottom closures were all custom designed with AutoCAD with attention to such esoteric detail as designing the pickets in a heavy wall so that the ocean winds howling around them would not cause vibration and unwanted sounds. Three coats of Kynar® resin was applied, which exceeds the AAMA 2605 specifications and carries a full 10 year warranty.

Geländer Industries has contributed to thousands of building projects in 21 years. "Each one has been unique," Sechler says. "Each presented its own set of challenges or unique architectural quirks that called on all of our expertise to solve or improve upon."

Their portfolio includes luxury, high-rise projects such as the Veracruz, Madeira and Cozumel all on Marco Island; the Naples Beach Hotel; the restoration of the Key Largo Sheraton, 3303 Water Street in Washington, D.C.; Royal Pacific Resort at Universal Studios in Orlando and the giant new Orange County Court House in Orlando.

Contact Geländer Industries at 611 Southridge Industrial Drive, Tavares, Florida 32778. Telephone 352-343-3100 or fax 352-343-5158. Email Kim Sechler at kimsechler@gelander.com or log on to www.gelander.com for additional information.





In 1953, there were only three plumbing and HVAC contractors in Mobile, Alabama. Max Mutchnick, an employee of one of the companies, figured that there was enough business for an enterprising young Professional Engineer to warrant some competition, so he started Air Comfort Company. He still goes into the office almost every day at age 82.

Air Comfort Company, guided today by its President, Max's son-in-law Stanley E. Small, employs about 120 employees. Services are divided about 50/50 between plumbing and piping, heating and air conditioning. Although they are dealers for all brands of residential and commercial air conditioning, their main thrust is commercial and industrial construction, replacement and service.

Turquoise Place Towers One and Two, is one their largest projects to date. Air Comfort installers are dealing with about 400 condominium units in two beachfront towers, which doubled the local restrictions previously limiting construction, to 14-stories.

Stanley Small says that "Air Comfort Company, Inc. is installing about one million square feet of duct in the two towers plus supplying and installing the air conditioning units. The project for General Contractor W. G. Yates & Sons has gone very smoothly despite the idyllic oceanfront site, which is ideal for vacationers, but difficult for construction crews and their suppliers to perform their work."



Each of the condominium units has from approximately 2,400 to 5,900 square feet of heated and cooled space. Small added: "As with any luxury high-rise building, but especially those on a weather prone ocean front location like Orange Beach, Alabama, the selection of a experienced air conditioning/heating contractor – using only quality products – is vitally important."

Air Comfort Company, Inc. is a long-time member of the Sheet Metal & Air Conditioning Contractors National Association (SMACNA). In 54 years of service to the community, they are responsible for the comfort in many of Mobile, Alabama's hospitals, schools, industrial and commercial buildings.

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