

2009 Excellence in Construction - Awards



Specialty Project of the Year



J. D. James, Inc.

St. Regis Hotel and Residences

General Contractor: Bovis Lend Lease, Inc.

Architect: Hirsch Bedner Associates

Millwork Manufacturer: Mortensen Woodworks Inc.

The arrival of Tropical Storm Faye made an already difficult job even tougher. The storm brought with it a great deal of water, which damaged much of the millwork J.D. James had already put in place at this high-end hotel.

One of the water damaged rooms, where crews had already installed millwork, was the St. Regis Bar. J.D. James had been working in this room for two weeks and all its tools and materials were stored there. With two inches of water standing on the floor, there was no way to work safely or pull electricity from the temporary junctions. The decision was made to stop work due to safety issues and finish the roof before completing any further interior work.



Six weeks later, crews were permitted to return to St. Regis and begin working again. Because the wall panels were installed several inches off the floor, they were saved from water damage. However, the main ceiling beams did not fare so well due to the water infiltration from above. The water caused swelling in the wood beams and destroyed the finish. These beams had to be carefully removed and new ones fabricated and installed.

Left to right: Kim Catlin-Superintendent, J. D. James-President, Stephen Thomas-Project Manager and ABC National Chairman-Jerry Gorski Division 6 category

This setback cast J.D. James' crews two months of lost time with no change made to project completion dates. The millwork contractor added more manpower and sped up material production and deliveries in order to meet the schedule.