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ASSOCIATION: MODULAR BUILDING INSTITUTE

Modular Building Institute (MBI)



MBI is the voice of commercial modular construction

Provided By: MBI | Thu Jan 13, 2011

TAGS: commercial modular construction, Modular Building Institute, Tom Hardiman, trade associations



Modular Building Institute

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Founded in 1983, the Modular Building Institute (MBI) is the international trade association representing the non-residential modular construction industry. Currently serving nearly 300 companies in 11 countries, MBI is widely recognized as the voice for commercial modular construction. It is MBI's mission to grow the industry and its capabilities by encouraging innovation, quality, and professionalism through communication, education, and recognition.

Regular members are manufacturers and dealers of commercial

STATISTICS >

Name: Modular Building Institute

Country: United States

Est: 1983

Revenue: N/A

Website: www.modular.org

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modular structures, while associate members are companies supplying building components, services, and financing. The Association represents two segments of modular builders: permanent modular construction providers and manufacturers and providers of relocatable buildings. The industry provides all types of building space, from temporary storage units to complex multi-story permanent buildings. The most commonly served markets are education, healthcare, general office, retail, commercial housing, industrial, construction site and emergency space.

MANAGEMENT

Executive Director: Tom Hardiman

MBI works with its members to offer networking, training, legislative advocacy and business opportunities. In addition, through its enforceable code of ethics, MBI promotes integrity and quality in the modular industry by having their member subscribe to the MBI Code of Business Ethics & Conduct.

MBI's hallmark event is World of Modular, the only industry annual trade show and the commercial modular construction industry's largest event. The event seeks to provide those in the industry a place to network, exchange ideas, learn from experts, and display new products. The conference also includes the premier awards contest for the industry, The Awards of Distinction. MBI's contest reviews commercial modular building entries submitted by MBI member companies. The projects demonstrate the quality, and value that modular construction has to offer builders, owners and developers.

MBI also recently formed an alliance with Associated Builders and Contractors, Start Today and Rebuild Together (START), to leverage the resources of the construction industry, nongovernmental organizations, and government agencies to respond quickly and efficiently with relief and rebuilding efforts following natural disasters. The first joint initiative was START Haiti and MBI has been working with its members over the last year to supply much needed buildings and supplies to the people of Haiti.

The Association also administers the MBI Educational Foundation (MBIEF), the only organization established specifically to provide educational opportunities in the form of training and scholarships to individuals with an interest in commercial modular construction. MBIEF has trained over 1,000 industry professionals through its "Essentials of Commercial Modular Construction" educational series, has begun intensive development of a modular buildings installation certificate program, and provides training on project management, BIM and green building. MBIEF also sponsors student design competitions to help educate young architects about the industry.

As the voice of the industry, MBI promotes the speed, environmental, safety and cost advantages of modular construction.

Commercial modular buildings are non-residential structures, 60% to 90% completed off-site in a factory and transported and assembled at the final building site. This can comprise the entire building or be components or subassemblies of larger structures. The term "modular" describes a construction method or process where individual modules stand alone or are assembled together to make up larger structures.

Unique to modular construction, multiple trades are capable of working simultaneously on a project in a factory, whereas on site, one task, or trade, or floor must be substantially completed before starting the second. This process often allows modular construction times of half that of site-built construction.

The resource efficiency of the process requires less labor and fewer materials to be wasted. In addition, there is a reduced environmental impact which allows for less site damage, less material exposure and less waste in landfills.

One other unique aspect of modular construction is that it is more readily designed for deconstruction. The fact that the building is assembled in modules means that it can be disassembled at the end of its useful life. In many cases entire buildings are repurposed and reused for secondary needs and at secondary locations. There is simply not a more sustainable concept than reusing an entire building for a new purpose.

In addition, the quality-controlled process also creates a safer environment for construction workers due to the decreased exposure to construction site hazards.

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The cost savings of using the modular construction process comes from shortening the construction schedule, recycling and reusing materials and creating a higher quality product. In addition, modular buildings are built with the same materials as site-built construction, and are designed to meet all building codes. Once completed, the buildings are indistinguishable from site-built projects.

MBI is proud to represent the commercial modular construction industry and strives to help the industry live up to its label as "the future of construction."

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