



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Luevano Hart Construction and Burns & McDonnell Mentor-Protégé Relationship Approved by U.S. Small Business Administration

Kansas City, Missouri – March 23, 2011 - Luevano Hart Construction, LLC and Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc. have received final approval from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) for a Mentor-Protégé relationship. The agreement formalizes Burns & McDonnell's commitment to support Luevano Hart in its continued growth and development as a full-service construction contractor.

Luevano Hart and Burns & McDonnell have worked together on commercial and industrial projects since 2007. The relationship began through the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce Business Mentorship Program. Through the recently approved SBA Mentor-Protégé Agreement, Burns & McDonnell has committed to continue to support Luevano Hart's development and growth as a construction contractor.

"We are excited to have our Mentor-Protégé relationship approved by the SBA," says Hector Luevano, President. "It is so fulfilling to see our company logo next to the Burns & McDonnell logo as we strive to reflect the same commitment to clients that Burns & McDonnell has shown for over 100 years now. This joint venture allows our small, minority-owned business to submit on projects that we couldn't perform on our own, with the backing of a firm with a strong reputation across the country. We hope that this formalization of our mentor and protégé relationship will provide new opportunities for both companies."

Luevano Hart was established in August 2003 in Kansas City, Missouri, as a construction contracting company specializing in commercial/industrial plumbing and pipe fitting services. Luevano Hart is also a certified SBA 8(a) Business Development Program Participant. The company's mission is to provide services through a wide range of commercial/ industrial applications to clients using a highly skilled professional team working together, with common sense and excellent work ethics. The company founders are engineers with over forty years of experience in the business, construction and automotive industries.

In 2010, Luevano Hart Construction was honored by the MidAmerica Minority Business Development Council (MAMBDC) as Supplier of the Year. In 2009, the firm was the recipient of a Contract Award Recognition from the MAMBDC, recognizing meaningful contract opportunities formed with Burns & McDonnell. Also in 2009, the Minority Enterprise Development committee honored Luevano Hart Construction by naming the firm "Construction Company of the Year". Finally, the Kansas City Small Business Monthly featured Luevano Hart in a publication and listed them as one of Kansas City's "Smart Companies To Watch".

Founded in 1898, Burns & McDonnell is an internationally recognized architectural, engineering and construction services firm headquartered in Kansas City, Missouri, with regional offices across the United States and worldwide. With over 3,000 employee-owners, Burns & McDonnell ranks in the top 10 percent of the 500 largest U.S. design firms and the top third of design-build firms by the *Engineering News-Record*. Burns & McDonnell was also recently listed in the top ten of mechanical/electrical firms by *Consulting-Specifying Engineer*.

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