

SLS LAS VEGAS OPENS | BUILDING A BETTER EDUCATION PROCESS | WHAT IS VISIONING?

WELCOME

PUBLICATION



THE ADVISOR (jba)

Dear JBA Clients, Fellow Colleagues and Industry Associates,

My name is Jennie Bowman and for those of you who haven't met me, I was hired in July as JBA's Director of Marketing and Business Development. Prior to JBA, I worked for 9 ½ years for a large commercial general contractor. My experience, relationships and passion for this industry will add value to JBA. I look forward to implementing my skills and working with the JBA team, as we continue our journey of becoming Worldwide Trusted Advisors.

Historically, JBA is known as a mechanical, electrical and plumbing (MEP) consulting firm. What I want you to know is that JBA is a full-service engineering firm, offering a wide range of specialty design services, in addition to MEP.

Moving into the new year, we will continue to expand our focus on non-traditional engineering services, marketing the design capabilities and experience of our new dedicated business units:



jbaae.com



jbace.com/services/fire-protection



coherentacoustics.com



jbatechnology.com





jba360.com

Don't forget, our Worldwide Trusted Advisors also have extensive experience in Building Information Modeling (BIM), Central Utility Plants, Data Centers, Master Planning, Security and Surveillance. Did I mention I was in Marketing!

As a business development professional, it's a dream to promote a global company that offers so many services for a wide range of market sectors. JBA's portfolio includes Education, Entertainment, Healthcare, Hospitality, Public Works, and Tribal Projects, to list a few. I encourage you to visit jbace.com for a complete list.

In this issue of the Advisor, we feature the renovation of an iconic Las Vegas strip property, the technology behind cutting-edge hospitality services and the vision of a new law school facility. We also celebrate the legacy and success of JBA's Chairman of the Board.

Be sure to follow us on social media for news and information on our projects and the additional discipline focused services we offer.

One of my goals this year is to develop relationships which will foster growth, innovation and collaboration in support of JBA's mission to improve and protect the human environment.

I'm excited to be a part of the JBA team and I look forward to meeting and working with you.

lennie Bouman

Jennie Bowman Director of Marketing & Business Development jennie.bowman@jbace.com

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CONTENTS

4 **STYLE & SUBSTANCE** SLS Las Vegas® opens on the Vegas strip



HIGHER LEARNING JBA helps Arizona Law

School envision a better educational process

10 ASK AN ADVISOR How visioning plays a role in project planning

11 THE LIFE OF LUXURY

Creating the ultimate hotel guest experience

14 ANNIVERSARY

More than four decades of fine leadership at JBA with Ed Butera

16 LENDING A HAND JBA employees making a huge difference in our community

18 in the news

Making the grade in great work environments



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find out if you have what it takes.



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Theresa Tincher Resource Planning Manager Las Vegas

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the Sanaras reborn

TRUSTED ADVISORS HELP IN THE TRANSFORMATION THAT IS NOW

SLS LAS VEGAS®

It was just the sixth resort to open on the Las Vegas Strip, and at one time the most famous for its celebrity entertainers and guests.

The Rat Pack appeared regularly, as did Judy Garland, Jack Benny, Tony Bennett, George Carlin, Don Rickles, and Wayne Newton. The Beatles stayed there. The original Ocean's 11 was filmed there. Abbott and Costello did their last performance together there.

It was the Sahara Hotel and Casino, closed in 2011 but now reborn as SLS Las Vegas, dramatically different in many ways yet still paying homage to its storied past.

JBA engineers have worked extensively on the property, starting with founder Ralph Joeckel, who led the team who designed the MEP systems for the Tunis Tower when it was remodeled in the 1980s. Most recently, teams headed by Rick Reyburn and Allyn Vaughn designed all of the electrical and life safety systems for the extensive remodeling that turned the property into SLS Las Vegas.



Bringing Buildings To Life Since 1966™



"A casino is much more complex than a typical commercial project, especially in regard to electrical and life safety systems." - MATT WOODMANSEE, PENTA BUILDING GROUP



The Strip's Newest Casino Resort

SLS Las Vegas, owned by sbe Entertainment Group, is known for its appeal to a younger, hipper clientele than the Sahara in its last years was able to attract.

Gensler, the Architect of Record, and interior designer Philippe Starck have transformed the property into a beautiful, sleek, eclectic modern resort. They completely redesigned the casino, restaurants, kitchens, and two of the three guest towers, taking them down to the concrete and steel structure, and turned what had been the Sahara's theater into a new night club. "I really like how they turned the swimming pool into an entertainment venue," Reyburn says. Today there are two pools with a bar in the center plus an outdoor stage. It was a centerpiece in the allnight party that was the hotel's grand opening.

While ultra modern, the designers integrated elements that pay homage to the old resort and its history, even in images of the old Sahara and the stars who visited displayed in photos, paintings and tapestries on the walls and woven into its carpeting.

Because the crowd is younger and perhaps less established financially than at some other Las Vegas resorts, SLS bills itself as "approachable luxury." In general, nearly all of the building's public areas were gutted and rebuilt, but many back of house systems and the entire Tangiers tower, which was the newest, were retained and upgraded. The cost of the 2.2 million square foot resort was \$415 million (including design, construction and furnishings), low for a project of this size and caliber.

"Architecturally, sbe is very creative in how they approach projects," says Matt Woodmansee, Project Executive for the PENTA Building Group, who was the general contractor for the project. "They are very effective in creating eye-popping designs, yet they emphasize efficient and costeffective construction methods and materials. They are not afraid of



keeping a piece of equipment or an element that will function, and so they asked all of the consultants to analyze what was there and keep what still had a reasonable lifespan left in it."

That created an interesting challenge for Reyburn and the JBA team. "The Sahara grew over time," Woodmansee explains. "There were over five decades of construction, and we had only so much information in the as-builts. When we got onto the jobsite and started demolition, we discovered all sorts of things that we didn't know were there." For example, he says, at one point they opened a wall and found a stairway behind it. "It was simply sealed off and abandoned."

Fortunately, Reyburn had an in-depth knowledge of the older building. In addition to working on its electrical systems in the 1980s, he had led a team in 2009 that spent 16 days pouring over the original plans and the actual site. "We started with the drawings submitted to the building department before 1952, then went through each successive remodeling," Reyburn explains. "We ended up with a good set of single-line diagrams plus a chronological database of all of the electrical installations, confirmed by our inspections on site." Reyburn's team was able to access these documents as he rejoined the project in 2011, now as a subcontractor to Bombard Electric, which did all of the electrical installations in the remodel. "Because of that earlier work, I probably knew more about the existing building than anyone else involved in the project."

The latest standards

Reyburn says that, while the team reused many of the transformers, distribution boards, breaker panels and wiring installed in the old hotel, they still designed to meet or exceed International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) standards. The interior lighting designer, Lighting Design Alliance, used LED in almost all of the interior public spaces, making SLS one of the first large properties in Las Vegas designed specifically for this technology. "Where we would normally have circuited for 150-watt fixtures, we were now using seven and nine-watt fixtures," Reyburn notes. "That of course offered a huge savings in power and infrastructure, and it made it much easier to reuse existing equipment without adding a lot of new circuitry."

One potential problem with keeping existing systems in place is how the building department would interpret their compliance with the building codes. "I called a meeting and asked them to confirm that, if we used an existing system, that the code in effect when it was installed should apply, rather than current codes," Reyburn recalls. "They agreed that should be the case, and that saved the owner a lot of money."

Another was in the Tangiers Tower, where the interior designers proposed turning the decor 90 degrees so the headboards of the beds would be on the window walls. "That was a problem for us because we needed to accommodate table lamps, alarm clocks and cell phone chargers, yet there were no AC receptacles located on those walls." The team suggested having headboards built with electrical strips included, rather than cutting open the walls to install new conduit. "That one change also resulted in huge savings."

Woodmansee says he appreciates the contributions Reyburn's team made to the project. "PENTA has worked with JBA on many projects, and we have really enjoyed each experience. A casino is much more complex than a typical commercial project, especially in regard to electrical and life safety systems. JBA knows how they need to be designed and how they need to function. They also have in-depth knowledge of high-rise structures."

Woodmansee adds that "This project offered unique challenges in regard to the three existing high-rise hotels. Two were taken down to structure. JBA had to design the new electrical systems around these existing structural constraints. The third, and largest of the three towers, was a heavy remodel. Existing systems needed to be retrofit to the new design and all systems had to be modified as required to meet existing code. Not an easy task with respect to both design and construction. JBA's vast experience in this kind of project is unique, and they're great to work with."

Photo credits: top left & top right by David Becker/Getty Images for SLS Las Vegas; bottom left by Ethan Miller/Getty Images for SLS Las Vegas

Chipping Away at the Ivory Tower

JBA HELPS ARIZONA LAW SCHOOL ENVISION **A BETTER EDUCATIONAL PROCESS**

"Do you remember the movie, The Paper Chase? We watch a law professor using the Socratic dialog to prod his students into thinking through a case. It's a great method, and it has been very effective in training some great attorneys, but it doesn't work for everyone."

That's Thomas Williams, Chief of Staff and Assistant Dean of Operations and Information Technologies for the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University (ASU Law). "Not everyone learns in the same way," he explains. "Some people need to visualize new concepts, others need to talk them through; many will benefit from the chance to teach others. We're trying to find ways to engage more students than traditional methods do."

Over the last few years a small team of administrators at ASU, led by Dean Douglas Sylvester and IT head Williams, have been rethinking legal education. Their unofficial goal is to move ASU up from its current top-30 ranking into the top 20 law schools in the nation. To do so, they believe they need to engage students with educational technology much more than they have in the past — and much more than tradition-bound Ivy League law schools are likely to.

Helping them in this quest is a team from JBA Consulting Engineers, led by Director Michael Shafer, armed with a process Shafer calls visioning.

Envisioning a new law school facility

ASU Law is a relatively young law school, founded at Arizona State in 1965, yet it quickly established itself as one of the nation's best. Among its innovations are America's largest and best-known Indian Law program and the nation's oldest and largest center for Law, Science and Technology.

Part of the impetus for change is the opportunity to build a new facility in downtown Phoenix, which will place students within minutes of Arizona's judicial, political and economic centers.

This new six-story building, called the Arizona Center for Law and Society, will include 18 classrooms, a law library, a bookstore and cafe, space for two think tanks, and the offices of the world's first teaching law firm, the ASU Alumni Law Group.

"From the beginning of the planning process, we've looked for ways to integrate technology into our building to better teach our students, better engage the community, and present ourselves to the world in ways law schools traditionally don't," Williams explains.

ASU's planning architect, Facility Programming and Consulting, originally engaged Shafer early in 2013, before he joined JBA, to help plan the new building. "At our first meeting," Shafer recalls, "I pointed out that the use of the Socratic dialog in the study of case law goes back to 1854, with the founding of Harvard Law School, and that law education has changed very little since. It tends to be a solo pursuit, with law students working independently to be smarter, faster and better prepared than their fellows. But when they graduate, most will go into a practice where they must work as a team with other attorneys."

Shafer says he outlined many of the new technologies used in higher education, emphasizing those designed to help students become more engaged with their professors and each other. Shafer says he could see he hit a nerve with Williams.

"After Michael made his initial presentation, I asked him for a copy of his PowerPoint," Williams recalls. "Armed with that, we ran a number of additional meetings with professors and administrators, asking which of his ideas might best apply to the teaching of the law."

Williams says the planning committee had begun visiting other law schools looking for new ideas. "We didn't see much that excited us, although there was a video wall at Stanford that made us think about engaging students and the public in a different way."

Shafer took the group on a tour of the new Health Sciences Education Building at the University of Arizona Medical School, where he led the technology design team. "We saw classrooms called learning studios where students would



"We also began walking up to faculty and students, asking, 'What do you think about this technology?' or 'How useful has this been for you?'" - Thomas Williams



work in six-person pods, each with its own large screen display," Williams recalls. "Instead of lecturing, the faculty members would give students group assignments and ask them to present to the class."

Williams says that after they began meeting with Shafer their approach to these visits changed. "We might see something interesting and say, 'Oh that was in Michael's presentation.' We also began walking up to faculty and students, asking, 'What do you think about this technology?' or 'How useful has this been for you?'"

At this point the planning process, to a large degree, fell off the tracks. Shafer left ASU's original consulting firm, and the architect switched to another firm. "We didn't really like them," Williams says. "They didn't listen enough. So after a few months we fired them and asked the architect if they could bring Michael back."

By this point, Shafer had joined the staff at JBA, and ASU Law brought the firm on board in March 2014. "By now we were a little behind the eight ball, with the groundbreaking just five months away," Shafer recalls. "The main reason that Tom *(continued on page 16)*





WHAT IS VISIONING How do you decide on the technology you'll need for a new building?

The best technology decisions are based on a process I call visioning. It's a practice familiar to most architects yet rarely used by technology consultants, in which we ask questions like: "Why do you need this new classroom or conference center? What will happen in it? What purpose will it serve?" These are crucial questions to consider before we can start to recommend the technology that should go into the new space.

If I'm talking to an educational customer, I will start a visioning session by asking what administrators and staff think of major educational trends. Are they interested in active learning, learning studios or the flipped classroom? These are ideas that are changing the dynamic of education in a profound way, but do they have a place in this school or university?

If I'm talking to a business client, I might ask how the trend towards physical dispersal of staff has affected them. Do all of their people still come into the same office every day? Are they scattered around the country or the world? Do many or most of them work from their homes?



If I'm talking to a hospitality client, I'll ask, what is the experience they want their guests to have? Would they, for example, want to have a room set up with the temperature a particular guest is known to like, the music they prefer or the TV channel they most often watch when they first walk in the door? Would it be beneficial, in other words, if the guests feel like they're coming home when visiting the property?

Only when we've talked through these questions does it make sense to talk about technology. If a whiteboard will satisfy the needs of a client, I'll recommend a whiteboard and stop there. Yet for a business or educational model designed to satisfy the needs of today's workers, students or guests, technology becomes the driver. We will need to explore the best ways to use technology to enhance the working, learning or leisure experience.

In short, before we can have a meaningful discussion about the best kind of technology to include in your project, we need to discuss how you will work, meet, learn or play in this new space. 💠

Michael Shafer is Director - JBA Technology. With over 28 years of experience in AV system design, he is helping the JBA technology team learn new ways to approach and serve its clients.

Major properties and resorts rely on JBA to help them develop and deliver unique guest experiences.

TEL

THE

IJF

The guest experience at four and five star hotels is taking a giant leap forward.

Today, Trusted Advisors like Jeremy Barndt are helping several leading properties develop the next level in guest services and interactive marketing, while taking advantage of next-generation Wi-Fi networks. These networks quadruple the bandwidth and speed of the 802.11n technology installed in most hotels.



[HOTEL OF THE FUTURE]

"We are helping our clients upgrade their networks, while at the same time developing mobile apps that add immensely to the guest experience," explains Jeremy Barndt, a Senior Design Consultant for JBA.



HERE'S A PREVIEW OF WHAT YOUR STAY AT A HIGH-END RESORT MIGHT LOOK LIKE NEXT YEAR.



$m{\lambda}$ oom control and location-based amenities

The experience starts when you reserve your room on the resort's website. "You'll have a chance to preset the room just the way you like it," says Barndt. "Lights could be set to medium, shear drapes drawn but the blackouts open, temperature set to 72 degrees and a music style of your choice is playing." You will also be invited to download the resort's Apple, Android or Windows app, with an explanation of how it will enhance your experience.

Once you get on property, the app will know you are there and send a greeting like 'Welcome. You are already checked into Room 262. You have the option of picking up a set of keys, or you can use your smart phone as your room key, if you desire.'

In your room, you'll have control of the room's technology from the app; at a minimum, you'll be able to select TV channels, pay-per-view movies, other videos, audio sources and volume levels. In the upgraded rooms or suites the app will operate the stereo system, shades, draperies, lighting and temperature as well. "A lot of guests now bring content with them on their smart devices, and we're working on ways to play it on the room's TV and sound system," Barndt adds. "That's actually one of the most difficult problems we've bumped into, because the manufacturers do not want to release the proprietary codes we need to make that happen." In most cases the hotel will need to install a third party device that will allow, say, an iPhone to communicate to a Samsung TV.

All of the hotel's services will be available from the app, including the valet, bellboy, luggage pickup, concierge and room service. "One property we work with is going so far as to partner



Wi-Fi is the #1 technology that guests expect in their hotel, more important to them than in-room entertainment.

- 2012 American Hotel & Lodging Association Survey



with theaters, museums and golf courses in the neighborhood. You'll be able to buy tickets, set a tee time, and order a limo all from the one app, like a digital concierge."

As you walk through the resort, if you have trouble finding the pool or the gift shop, the app will give you directions. Since it will utilize the geolocation services available on your smart phone and intelligent Wi-Fi location, it will be able to tell you to walk down this hall, take this elevator to the second floor, then take the third door on the left. It can even show you your progress.

The app will inform you about what's going on at the resort, and since it will have enough intelligence to know your location and learn your preferences, it will show you offers of real interest. For example, it will notice that you've eaten twice at the Italian restaurant and ask if you want to make a reservation for tonight. If you have not made a reservation yet, and are stepping off the elevator at dinner time, it will send you a notification saying; 'we have immediate seating in the steak house.'

Will guests be receptive to these kinds of offers and services? A survey by the American Hotel & Lodging Association found that 23% of its members were already offering a mobile app, and a 2012 AHLA survey suggested that Wi-Fi is the #1 technology that guests expect in their hotel, more important to them than in-room entertainment. "A number of properties already control guest room TVs and pay-per view movies with their mobile apps," Barndt explains. "We're simply taking that concept and extending it property-wide."

It's important to note that the app will include privacy features, so that if a user feels the notifications are too intrusive, they can be turned off. The fact is, though, that services like Pandora and Netflix that tailor product offerings to users' preferences have proven very popular with the public.

Jim Gist, Chief Sales and Marketing Officer for JBA, is excited about the marketing opportunities the technology offers resorts. "The way hotels market to clients has traditionally been bracketed around the generation they belong to. They see Baby Boomers as different from Millenniums, yet almost everyone belongs to what I would call Gen Tech."

"For example the app my mom uses at Caesars Palace is the same one I use, but the property is smart enough to target each of us by our own interests. This type of technology gives the resort an unbelievable opportunity to stay in touch with guests and to personalize their offerings." These technologies and the data they offer the hotels allow the hotels to take input from guests and modify the way they do business to better serve them.

JBA is involved in this service and marketing revolution on several levels. "First, we offer consulting on the network and data center design, helping our clients make sure their network and servers are robust enough to handle the requirements of a heavily-used smart phone app," Barndt says.

"You also need to have the right servers in your data center to support the necessary applications," he explains. "We can provide these kinds of digital amenities from the cloud, but in that case your connection must be very strong. If the app doesn't respond instantly, even at peak times, your guests won't use the service." It's all about catering to each guest individually, and now there's technology available to do just that. *****

INTEGRITY & DISCIPLINE EDBUTERA CELEBRATING 40 YEARS AT JEA

HOW DID JBA BECOME THE COMPANY IT IS TODAY?

A large part of it was the work of Ed Butera, the firm's key leader for more than 25 years and now the chairman. "The big thing," says Dwayne Miller, current CEO, "is that he loves engineering, he is passionate about it, and his enthusiasm is infectious."

"He literally lived and breathed JBA, working 70 – 80 hours a week for his whole career," adds Brad Geinzer, COO. "It was to the point that we would sometimes say, he's only been here 40 years, but he has at least 80 years of experience."

"We worked hard, but we had a lot of fun, too," recalls Howard Poe, Senior Project Manager. For example, "Ed loves Formula One, and so when Cox Cable came to town, he was disappointed that I could get the Speed Vision channel where I lived, but he couldn't. So we'd get together for breakfast every Sunday at 4:30 a.m., then watch the races starting at 5:00."

Ralph Joeckel adds that "Producing complete and accurate drawings was always Ed's forte, resulting in very high ratings from local contractors. Consequently, JBA's reputation soared during the 1980s and 1990s."

His effort and intensity made Butera an incredible engineer, a legend in Nevada and throughout the hotel and gaming industries. "He can be unintentionally intimidating," Miller adds. "He just doesn't realize the impact he has on a room."

Engineer of the Year

Mr. Butera has impressive credentials. His original degree was in electrical engineering, but he is licensed as a mechanical engineer in seven states and is a past president of the Southern Nevada Chapter of the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE). In 1997, Butera was named Southern Nevada ASHRAE Engineer of the Year. He has taught at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and has served as an instructor for the State of Nevada Public Works Board and the Cabrillo Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. He is also a member of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE) and the American Society of Plumbing Engineers (ASPE).

Butera's success is only partially explained by his credentials – more is due to his candid and outspoken approach. "He has always instilled client confidence and the confidence of building departments," Miller says. For example, after the 1980 MGM fire, the Las Vegas fire chief invited him to tour the devastation with him to learn what he could. Years later, Mr. Butera was appointed by the Governor of the State of Nevada to preside on the Fire Retrofit Board, which reviewed upgrades proposed for high-rise buildings under Nevada's strict new retrofit law. Clark County also asked for his help to write its quality assurance standards for fire protection, and, with his leadership, JBA was the only firm in the county allowed to do quality assurance testing for its own designs.

"When he speaks, it's obvious that he knows what he's talking about, and he's very straightforward," Miller adds. "He's always believed that if you can't tell the truth when you make a mistake, you should be in another business."

A Disneyland for Engineers

Butera's hard work and honesty was a key factor in JBA's ability to move into the design of large casino megaresorts, which became a major source of the firm's expertise and growth.

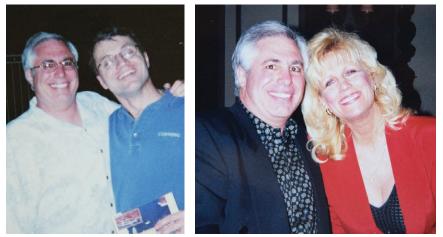
It was Ralph Joeckel who brought JBA into the gaming industry with his work at Caesars Palace, but Butera built on that by winning the bulk of the engineering for the Mirage Resort and Casino. "The Mirage was the first of its kind," Geinzer recalls, "the most important project that ever happened here, that led to everything afterwards." After the Mirage, JBA worked on the Treasure Island, the Bellagio, New York New York and more than 80% of the properties on the Strip, each larger and more complex than the one before. Each offered the opportunity to learn and build on what would be needed in the future.

"Las Vegas is a Disneyland for engineering, with all the cool new hotels, the casinos and the new Cirque theaters with their special effects," Geinzer explains. "These are





top: Ed Butera, Ralph Joeckel and Dwayne Miller; middle: Ralph & Ed; bottom left: Ed & Dwayne; bottom right: Ed and his wife, Nancy



projects that, for most engineers, come once or twice during a lifetime, but we do them routinely."

The firm's success in Las Vegas led directly to its expansion into projects across the country and then into the Middle East and Asia. "Ed was probably the most comfortable when JBA was about 40 people," Miller adds, "because he could have personal relationships with everyone here. We were a lot like a team of Navy Seals, close-knit and at the top of our field. But he realized we would need to expand and scale what we had."

That, Miller says, is the big challenge JBA faces now, adding employees, offices and clients while keeping its culture and integrity intact. Still, "Ed's belief has always been that we can't sit back and wait for something to happen, we have to drive the process," Geinzer adds.

"What drives Ed is that he wants to do the best engineering, give the client the best product and give them the best value as well," Poe says. If JBA can continue to do that, it will always do well. �



ARIZONA LAW SCHOOL

(continued from page 9)

wanted us on board was that he felt he needed a team that could lead and guide the design process."

Among the suggestions the JBA team made was to outfit one of the new classrooms as a learning studio similar to the ones they had seen at the medical school, and to create an infrastructure in the other classrooms capable of supporting this type of technology in the future.

The JBA team helped them to work out the design parameters for the Great Hall, the largest of the classroom spaces that will also serve, from time to time, as a courtroom for the Arizona Supreme Court, the Federal Court of Appeals and the Navajo Supreme Court.

JBA integrated design standards for the building's advanced, high speed wired and wireless networks.

They set up the technology for a series of informal learning spaces throughout the facility, ideal for impromptu student-to-student and student-to-faculty meetings.

They added lecture capture systems to almost every classroom with the idea of making class sessions available online for review and, potentially, the use of flipped classroom teaching methods throughout the law school.

Williams says that, "historically when we've worked with a technology consultant, we started with what we had done in the past and asked, 'What's the next improvement? What will 'highresolution' mean, and how fast should our network be?' This time we stopped, took a long step back and said, 'Never mind what we've done before. How do we want to engage with our students as we move forward?'"

"JBA is a great fit for us because we agree, at a very basic level, that law schools should be constantly engaged in looking at themselves and making conscious choices in how they do things," Williams adds. "We had been engaged in that process for some time, but the opportunity to design the new building has allowed us to focus our thoughts in ways we had not done before." \diamondsuit

ALWAYS HELPING TO BUILD STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Two years ago, JBA established the Community Action Team (aka CAT) to organize and administer JBA employees to be socially active and to volunteer their time to improve the wellbeing of the communities where they live and work.

Year to date, JBA has participated both financially and through volunteered time in 38 different community programs.



Make A Wish Southern Nevada 5K



Take Your Kids To Work Day 2014



Run Away with Cirque du Soleil 5K

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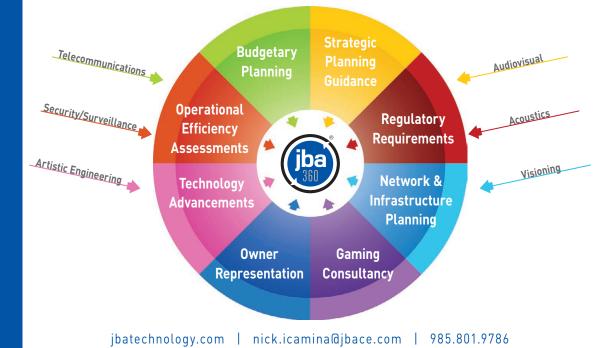
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Twin Arrows Resort & Casino · Flagstaff, AZ

AN EXCERPT FROM NEVADABUSINESS.COM | AUGUST 2014

BEST COMPANIES TO WORK FOR: TAKING CARE OF PEOPLE

Written by Tarah Richardson and Lilian Shen



JBA CONSULTING ENGINEERS, Las Vegas^{*}

JBA Consulting Engineer's employee philosophy is best summed up by the company's president, Allyn Vaughn who said, "We don't sell product; we sell professional services. Our biggest asset is our people. They can make or break the company. Our people are the most important part of our professional service."

Founded in Las Vegas in 1966 by Ralph Joeckel, JBA is an engineering company with offices all over the world. The company prides itself on its transparent environment where employees are encouraged to talk to management.

"Our offices are based on open 'bull-pen' cubicles," said Vaughn. "Our CEO, chairman, founder and myself all sit on the open floor. We try to be as transparent as we can with everything. If somebody wanted to know how we're doing financially in the company, they can walk right up to the CFO on the open floor and ask."

Perhaps JBA's open-door policy is responsible for the longevity of their employees, some of whom have been with the company for over 40 years. The company also foots the bill for both employee's and their spouse's health, dental and vision insurance and provides opportunities for voluntary, supplemental insurance. Tuition reimbursement, community giving, company picnics and employee appreciation lunches are par for the course at JBA. One of the most beloved traditions at the organization is JBA's annual "Take Your Child to Work Day".

"We get anywhere from 25 to 40 kids in here and it's a big event," said Vaughn. "We make them go through interviews and come in like they're going to join the JBA team."

Focusing on the wellness and happiness of their employees has proven successful for JBA who now has nine offices both domestically and internationally.

"I like to think that, while we have a business that needs to be run, I can see things from the employee's perspective," said Vaughn.

*http://www.nevadabusiness.com/2014/08/best-companies-work-taking-care-people/

2014 RANKINGS

ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING PRIVATE COMPANIES*

JBA Consulting Engineers is proud to have ranked nationally among the Top 500 Design Firms of 2014 and the Top 100 Green Design Firms of 2014 by Engineering News Record (ENR). We're committed to creating a great work environment year after year.





*Per the September 2014 issue of Inc. magazine





Master Planning – project planning for technical infrastructure and cross discipline coordination

Project Management – providing global project management for resorts, gaming, entertainment, and themed attractions for nearly five decades

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JBA Consulting Engineers is proud to announce the launch of

CoherentAcoustics[™] by jba

Creating Sound Environments[™]

Room Acoustics Noise Isolation between Spaces HVAC Noise & Vibration Mitigation Plumbing Noise & Vibration Mitigation Diesel Generator Noise Mitigation Outdoor Noise Mitigation Privacy Analysis

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WHERE: YOUR OFFICE TIME: NOON-1PM (LUNCH PROVIDED)

FIRE

Means Of Egress – IBC HSW

This 1-hour presentation outlines the basics of means of egress and provides an understanding of how these systems are developed and what the requirements are. The presentation has been tailored based on the requirements of the IBC, but may be similarly formatted to match California Building Code (CBC) references.

Interior Finishes and Decorative Material – HSW

This course outlines the requirements set forth in Chapter 8 of the IBC. In addition, requirements related to plastic are included as part of the program. Attendees will have a greater understanding of how interior finishes are to be applied within a building, how they are tested and ways to implement a desired design if not strictly code compliant.

Nick Moriarty

Director of Fire Protection, JBA Consulting Engineers

Nicholas Moriarty brings over 10 years of experience in Fire Protection and Life Safety. He is experienced in hotel/casino, residential, correctional and educational projects. Mr. Moriarty's experience as a Fire Protection consultant has provided him with knowledge of building codes, fire protection systems and the integration and application of concepts to building construction.

ACOUSTICS Architectural Acoustics - HSW

A 1-hour course designed for architects to address common design and remedial issues as they relate to sound/noise in the built environment. After this presentation attendees will have a greater understanding of how sound interacts with the built environment, how to design sound insulating walls, the shortcomings of the STC rating system, what the IIC really means, and how speech intelligibility can be improved. This program is registered with AIA/CES for continuing professional education. Completion of the course will provide one HSW CEU per person.

Michael A. Schwob, PE, INCE Director of Acoustical Engineering, JBA Consulting Engineers

Michael Schwob brings over 18 years of experience as a consultant and 15 years of experience as an Acoustical Engineer. He is passionate about the science and application of architectural acoustics to improve the built environment. His knowledge of building materials and systems allows him to effectively address the full spectrum of building acoustical issues including room acoustics, privacy, noise mitigation and vibration mitigation. He has been a guest lecturer for university architecture classes in the US and China.



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE YOUR LUNCH & LEARN CONTACT: JENNIE BOWMAN AT 702.362.9200 OR JENNIE.BOWMAN@JBACE.COM