

Fall 2008 Newsletter



NEWS FLASH:

Jungala wins THEA Award for Outstanding Achievement!

The Themed Entertainment Association (TEA) recently announced their 15th Annual Thea Award recipients at the 2008 IAAPA convention in late November. Among the winners, Busch Garden's Jungala received the award for outstanding achievement (AOA) for a new theme park land. The Thea Award for Outstanding Achievement (AOA) is only awarded to those projects or live events that represent the highest standards of excellence and innovation for creating exciting places and experiences. Congratulations to Busch Gardens for being the recipient of this prestigious award.

During the construction of Jungala, COST was responsible for creating simulated trees, rock formations, waterfalls, earth embankment textures, faux roots and vines, seat walls, and many other custom theme features.

Miami Metrozoo:

Amazon and Beyond



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nd animals from around the world, has expanded to include a new tropical America exhibit titled *Amazon and Beyond*. The \$50 million exhibit showcases over a hundred of the regions most unique creatures including giant river otters, jaguars, harpy eagles, Orinoco crocodiles, and anacondas. The exhibit features three unique areas surrounding the exhibit's point of entry, *Fiesta Plaza*. Each area allows visitors

the opportunity to experience a different ecosystem within the complex tropical rainforest. These areas include the *Cloud Forest*, *Amazon Forest* and *Atlantic Forest*.



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was developed by the Miami-Dade Park and Recreation Department, Miami Metrozoo and the Zoological Society of Florida. According to zoo officials, the *Amazon and Beyond* exhibit alone will be larger than the average American zoo. The exhibit is situated on about 27 acres of land making it the largest exhibit of Tropical America flora and fauna in the United States and possibly the world. Designed by Seattle-based architects, Jones & Jones, *Amazon and Beyond* features cutting-edge exhibits fully immersing visitors in the experience of the tropics. With the help of Lyons/Zaremba Inc., a Boston based exhibit planning and design firm, PCL Construction Services and COST, the unoccupied land was transformed into a lush and tropical oasis for its guests and inhabitants. Miami Metrozoo Director, Eric Stephens notes "Our staff is very excited about the opening of *Amazon and Beyond* as the complex moves the entire zoo forward in its exhibitry standards. The exhibits, the surroundings, even portions of the back of house areas are first class and will set the bar high for our future designs. COST of Wisconsin, Inc. has been a valued member of the team in the creation of these spaces." *Amazon and Beyond* opened to the public in December of 2008.

Lone Butte Casino



The Lone Butte Casino in South Chandler, AZ is truly a gem in the new age of Tribal Gaming. The new casino boasts 850 slots, 24 tables, 6 restaurants and a 750 seat bingo hall. COST was proud to be a member of the Lone Butte Casino construction team that

included Seattle based Group West Companies (architect/designer) and JE Dunn Construction (general contractor). The team selected COST as the design/builder for the casino water features. The project included three separate water attractions within the casino and in the Porte Cochere. The main bar features five acrylic water walls that are staggered in a V-shape. The water wall is approximately 50' long and 20' tall. Programmable LED lights change the coloration of panels to create a unique and exciting gaming atmosphere visible as patrons enter the casino.

The courtyard water feature involves a series of jumping fountains that create an arched walkway. Patrons can pass under the fountains with the utmost confidence as each fountain projects a precisely measured rope of water that is collected in an adjacent pool. The pools and fountain stands are decorated in custom granite to match the finishes within the courtyard. The jumping fountains are up lit to provide a unique focal point during day and evening hours.

The third water feature rests within the Porte Cochere. This feature is more naturalistic with native stone, earthen texture finishes and three fountains that shoot 20' into the air. The intent was to get a more vertical water element without blocking the attractive entry to the casino. A patio extends into the pond area creating a great opportunity for patrons to take photographs of the beautiful water fountains. This area can also be used for displaying automobiles as prizes.

The Lone Butte Casino opened in November 2008.

Snoqualmie Casino



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In 2008, the Snoqualmie Casino brings the thrill and excitement of Vegas-style entertainment to the heart of the scenic Pacific Northwest. Located in Snoqualmie, Washington, the region's unparalleled natural surroundings and majestic views of the Cascade Mountains provide the ultimate location for this one-of-a-kind venue. Comprising over 170,000 square-feet of entertainment space, the casino features a dazzling 51,000 square-foot gaming floor, an 11,000 square-foot Ballroom, five restaurants, three unique lounges and bars, and a plush cigar lounge.

COST's Seattle Office, took part in the development of this dynamic project beginning in spring 2008 under the supervision of Project Manager Greg Marks. Work completed for the casino included an exterior entry water feature constructed of natural rock native to Montana. The stone was hand selected by Greg Marks, and Chris Attanasio from Attanasio Landscape Architecture, the landscape architect. COST provided design assistance through the construction phase of this remarkable water feature. The project also required COST's expertise in mechanical/filtration design and installation, as well as accent lighting installation. Bergman Walls Associates was the Architect for this truly amazing project.

Architectural Innovations: Holiday Decor

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we



approach the holidays, seasonal décor is the perfect way to get your patrons into the holiday spirit. From snowmen and reindeer to Santa Claus and elves, COST can create custom pieces that are sure to transform any space into a winter wonderland. Our creativity, attention to detail, and expertise in many fabrication methodologies, enables us to deliver any type of feature or sculpture, real or imagined.

COST was recently hired by the Becker Group to develop numerous frosty the snowman sculptures to be displayed within fourteen malls this upcoming holiday season. The fiberglass snowmen were made complete with arms, hat, carrot nose, and acorn eyes and a Holiday smile. These units will be shipped just in time for the Christmas shopping season.

COST's Summer Picnic - A Company Tradition

This past September, COST of Wisconsin, Inc. employees gathered for its annual company picnic. It has become a COST tradition at each event to hold a safety drawing as a way to honor and thank employees for making the company a safe working environment. There are three drawings held for each of the company divisions including field, shop and office employees. This year's winners for the safety drawing included field personnel Steve Kosak, Howard Little, and Denton Pitterson; shop personnel Dale Hamilton, Shawn Geis, and Jason Mueller; and office personnel Steve Kroll, Dave Petersen, and Jon Kolar. A big congratulation goes out to all of this year's winners for making COST a safer place to work.

News from Dubai

The Dubai Office has been busy over the past few months working on several projects including two for the Dubai Engineer's Office. These projects include rock and water features, fountains and complicated programmable lighting and jumping jet systems. Due to the project's complexity, the Engineering Office required a complete design and construction scope from COST Middle East. Over the past 4 years, Mohamed Al Sayed, COST Middle East's GM, has been hiring the best and brightest office and field personnel to properly staff projects of this size and intricacy.

The Dubai Office is also getting ready to start work on the new Ferrari Theme Park on YAS Island in Abu Dhabi. The project will require a variety of theme scenes and sets. The project will be fast tracked and ready for park patrons in early 2010.

The Short List

A Few Projects Underway

- ~~///~~ Jacksonville Zoo, Asian Bamboo Komodo Dragon Exhibit
- ~~///~~ Bethworks Casino, cannon water feature
- ~~///~~ Los Angeles Zoo, Phase II Pachyderm Forest
- ~~///~~ Brookfield Zoo, Chicago IL
- ~~///~~ Oklahoma City Children's Zoo
- ~~///~~ Ferrari Theme Park, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Stay tuned for more details on these and other projects.

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