

# SOLUTIONS



A NEWSLETTER FROM LESCO RESTORATIONS, INC.

DECEMBER 2002

## Investigations Determine the Future for Historic Railroad Roundhouse Museum in Savannah

Savannah is the site of the Roundhouse Railroad Museum, and Lesco was called upon to help determine its future.

The historic railroad roundhouse, a National Historic Landmark Site, is operated by the Coastal Heritage Society, with the support of the City of Savannah. Built and operated by the Central of Georgia Railway from 1838 to 1963, the site contains the oldest and most complete railroad repair shops in the US. The site "remains a brilliant tribute to the 19th century Industrial Revolution."

The Savannah Railroad facility is considered by the US Department of the Interior to be "the most important complex of antebellum railroad structures in the US, if not the world."

Lesco, along with Sutton-Kennerly & Associates, was chosen to perform a structural investigation of the museum's roundhouse. Work included



Photo by Canon Consulting and Engineering Co., Inc.

copper sulfate half-cell measurements to determine evidence of corrosion activity, testing to determine depth of carbonization, and removal of concrete cores for petrographic examinations and strength testing.

At the conclusion of the field

investigations and laboratory testing, Lesco's written report to the Society summarized the investigations and testing tasks performed along with conclusions and recommendations.

Email: [Don Ford / dford@lesco.net](mailto:Don Ford / dford@lesco.net)

## SouthTrust Bank Is New Facilities Maintenance Client in Virginia, South Carolina, And North Carolina

SouthTrust Bank has come aboard as a new Lesco facilities maintenance client.

Headquartered in Birmingham, SouthTrust will rely on Lesco for services to their branch locations in South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia.

Lesco will handle routine maintenance and property evaluations and, via Lesco's LAMA System, will provide on-line reporting and facility photographs for SouthTrust property



managers. Lesco will also provide 24/7 Help Desk coverage for service dispatch and problem resolution.

Lesco accounting will provide invoice verification and payment, and will reduce the hundreds of invoices

SouthTrust processes on these locations down to 12 annually, bringing SouthTrust management not only savings but also the ability to focus on core competencies.

Email: [Scott Smith / ssmith@lesco.net](mailto:Scott Smith / ssmith@lesco.net)

## In Billion Dollar Mergers, What About the (Not So) Small Stuff?

The recent merger of Wachovia and First Union created the fourth largest bank in the U.S. Among the challenges was getting updated FDIC and "truth-in-lending" signage delivered and installed in 2,000 locations from Georgia to Connecticut.

Enter Lesco to manage the inventory of signs, take care of logistics of delivery, and dispatch teams to remove outdated signs and properly install the new ones.

Billion dollar deals have countless small details. Lesco serves clients by handling the big and the small.

## LESCO PEOPLE, THEN AND NOW

# For Scott Smith, Baseball Runs in the Family

In the category "I bet you didn't know," Scott Smith of Lesco played collegiate baseball at the University of South Carolina, and watched proudly as his two sons grew up to play college baseball. Said Scott:



Scott Smith, 1968

When I was a kid, the Major League teams would break camp in Florida and travel north by train. They would stop along the way to work out or play exhibitions in Spartanburg. Seeing those games with my Dad and Grandfather was the start for me, and I never have been able to get away from baseball.

Later, baseball was a way to connect with my kids and spend time



Alex Smith

together. They have had the good fortune to enjoy success on the field, but I am most proud of the way they understand and embrace the game. My sons, Matt and Alex, have both played college ball. Matt's team was ranked as high as #1 nationally in 1996, and Alex's college finished #2 in their national tournament last year.

Baseball is the greatest game for kids. There is no clock, so if you can keep the inning alive, you can succeed. That's a lesson you can take to any area of life. I coached about 900 games in the last 25 years, and I

learned a lot more from the 300 I lost than from the 600 we won.

Here is a list I gave to every kid that played for me:

The 10 Commandments of Baseball:

- 1) No one ever got better by walking.
- 2) No one ever hit .300

with the bat on their shoulder.

3) Don't give up, don't ever give up.

4) Don't complain about the bad hops; anyone can catch the easy ones.

5) If you start to slide... slide.

6) Don't give up, don't ever give up.

7) A pitcher, who hasn't control, hasn't anything.

8) Don't complain about the umps too much. Not everyone is as perfect as you.

9) You will look stupid standing at home plate on a pop up, when one is finally dropped, so have your answer ready.

10) Don't give up, don't ever give up.



Matt Smith

Email: [Scott Smith / ssmith@lesco.net](mailto:Scott Smith / ssmith@lesco.net)

## Lesco Providing Leadership to ICRI Carolinas Chapter

Professional expertise is enhanced by involvement with professional organizations.

The annual convention of the Carolinas Chapter of the International Concrete Repair Institute held in October was the occasion for Lesco's Mike Morse to take the helm as chapter president for 2002-2003.

In addition to Morse, Lesco's Don Ford became a member of the chapter's board for the coming year.

Continuing education and professional expertise are a major

focus of the ICRI. This year's convention included educational presentations on:

- repair of joints and cracks in industrial floor slabs
- correct floor slab construction
- sponge jet blasting technology
- dustless equipment
- joint nosing repairs
- reinforcement of concrete slabs - carbon fiber
- epoxy joint fillers

Keeping up with technology helps Lesco provide the best solutions to customer needs.



Mike Morse  
Raleigh Manager



Don Ford  
Charleston Manager

Email: [Mike Morse / mmorse@lesco.net](mailto:Mike Morse / mmorse@lesco.net)  
[Don Ford / dford@lesco.net](mailto:Don Ford / dford@lesco.net)

### TECH TIP

#### Cloudy Windows

Have the windows in your building been washed recently? Do they still look dirty? Well don't blame the window washer. Many buildings built in the past 20 years have alternating horizontal bands of masonry and glass.

If rainwater is allowed to wash over unsealed brick, block, or precast concrete and then run down over your windows, the dissolved salts in the rainwater can actually etch the glass.

This etching creates a cloudy finish to the glass.

Lesco's tech tip: Seal or coat the exposed masonry or wash the windows frequently, at least once a month. Etched glass can be cleaned, but it is extremely expensive.

## Maintenance Reorganization Puts You in Better Touch with The Right Lesco Person

Improved service and more personal attention are the goals of a recent reorganization within Lesco's Facilities Maintenance Division.

The North Region, headed by John Ambrosi, RPA, regional manager, covers Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut. Operations manager is Bob DeAntonio.

The Central Region serves North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia, and is led by regional manager Mary Anne Martucci, FMA, who has recently returned to Lesco. She originally joined Lesco in 1994, and served as field technician, customer service supervisor, and field manager for Georgia. Scott Butcher is operations

manager.

The South Region is under the direction of Jeff Miro, regional manager. It covers South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. Joe Thomas is operations manager.

Each region also has project managers to assist with construction upfits.

Email: [Scott Smith / ssmith@lesco.net](mailto:Scott Smith / ssmith@lesco.net)



John Ambrosi, RPA  
Regional Manager  
North Region



Bob DeAntonio  
Operations Manager  
North Region



Mary Anne Martucci, FMA  
Regional Manager  
Central Region



Scott Butcher  
Operations Manager  
Central Region



Jeff Miro  
Regional Manager  
South Region



Joe Thomas  
Operations Manager  
South Region

## Roofing Crew 'Waits Til the Midnight Hour'

Lesco's roofing division was recently called upon to complete a difficult task – removing the roof from a six-story building in downtown Wilmington.

Adding to the challenge was the fact that three sides of the building were inaccessible to construction equipment. The accessible side was the parking lot. Our crews gained access to half of the parking lot at noon

Friday and proceeded without interruption until 7 pm Saturday. This 26-hour period of non-stop effort was entirely dedicated to the removal of the old roof. Roofing supervisor Lee Davis led the Lesco teams through a schedule as demanding as they come.

Construction resumed on Sunday morning at 4 am. The Lesco crews worked until 2:30 am Monday morning installing the special fire retardant EPDM roof membrane. Rain began to fall Monday morning and construction

was halted until Tuesday at 10 pm.

Our crews then worked until 10 pm on Wednesday with only a three-hour break. At this point, the building was "dried-in." Crews later returned to complete the metal coping cap installation and finish flashing detail work.

According to the branch manager, the work was completed with no disruption to operations.

Email: [David Stultz / dstultz@lesco.net](mailto:David Stultz / dstultz@lesco.net)

## Lesco Customer Service Group Adds Trainum

Lesco's Customer Service Group, led by Maria Santos, welcomes Connie Trainum as new customer service supervisor. Connie will be handling all day-to-day issues surrounding Lesco's highly regarded Help Desk operation.

Connie brings tremendous experience to Lesco, most recently having spent 12 years with Binswanger Glass.



Maria Santos  
Manager, Customer  
Service Group



Connie Trainum  
Supervisor, Customer  
Service Group



Friday and the remainder at 6 pm. A 60-ton crane with an arm 135 feet in length was required to load materials onto the roof and unload construction debris. The debris which was removed filled six 30-yard construction dumpsters.

Work on the roof began at 5 pm on

# 'What Can I Do About Blisters on My Built-up Roof'

**Q**. A section of my building has a flat built-up roof and is covered with blisters. How do I repair them?

**A**. Blisters are common on flat roofs. Water has at some point entered beneath the roof surface. During the hot summer months this water turns to vapor, and the resulting pressure of the vapor trying to escape forms a blister.

With age and exposure to the sun, the oils in asphalt-based roofing products evaporate, and roof membranes become brittle. Accidentally step on a blister at this point, and it is likely to break open.

The recommended repair is:

Cut an "x" into the blister across its perimeter. Fold the flaps back, exposing the area beneath the blister. Coat this area with roofing cement,

and then fold the flaps back into position. There will be some overlap of the flaps and some bleed out of the roofing cement. Install additional layers of roofing cement and fiberglass mesh

across the areas of cut membrane. After a few alternating plies have been installed, the blister is repaired.

By the time that blisters develop, in most cases the entire roof surface has weathered. That is a good indicator that further analysis is needed.

Please note that the presence of one or two unbroken blisters should not be a cause for



alarm. Unbroken blisters should be left alone. Unless a large number of blisters are present on the roof surface, no work should be completed.

Please, watch your step.

Keep in mind that many building managers call Lesco as their "Plan A" for roof maintenance.

## Small Problems Become Bigger When They Go Undetected or Ignored

## Do It Yourself? Lesco Will Fix Your Roof, and Stand Behind the Repair

Email: [David Stultz / dstultz@lesco.net](mailto:David Stultz / dstultz@lesco.net)

LESCO RESTORATIONS, INC.  
1341 Nazareth Church Road  
Spartanburg, SC 29301-5928

## SOLUTIONS

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Lesco Restorations, Inc.  
1-800-669-5950  
[www.lesco.net](http://www.lesco.net)



### CONTACTS:

#### Restoration and Waterproofing

Pat Lauro / [plauro@lesco.net](mailto:plauro@lesco.net)

#### Construction Services

Richie Lancaster / [rlancaster@lesco.net](mailto:rlancaster@lesco.net)

#### Maintenance

Scott Smith / [ssmith@lesco.net](mailto:ssmith@lesco.net)

#### Charlotte / Greenville

David Stultz / [dstultz@lesco.net](mailto:dstultz@lesco.net)

#### Raleigh/Richmond

Mike Morse / [mmorse@lesco.net](mailto:mmorse@lesco.net)

#### Nashville

Pat Lauro / [plauro@lesco.net](mailto:plauro@lesco.net)

#### Charleston / Columbia

Don Ford / [dford@lesco.net](mailto:dford@lesco.net)

#### Philadelphia

John Ambrosi / [jambrosi@lesco.net](mailto:jambrosi@lesco.net)

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