

CHAMPION CHRONICLE

Champion controls, inc.

In the swing of things



One of the major advantages of being located in the heart of Fort Lauderdale, Florida is having tons of work and projects going on right in our backyard. Champion Controls, Inc. is consistently called on to provide control systems and panel work for these projects. The most recent is the restoration of the historic S.W. 11th Avenue

Swing Bridge that connects the historic neighborhood of Sailboat Bend to Riverside Park, just south of Broward Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale. Beginning August 11th, the 78-year old bridge will undergo electrical, mechanical and general repairs designed to extend the life of the structure for at least another 20 years, preserve the historic

significance of the bridge, and continue to provide automobile and pedestrian access to the Sailboat Bend neighborhood. Heading the project includes the City of Fort Lauderdale, General Contractor Quinn Construction, Quality Electrical Contracting, and E.O.R., Hardesty & Hanover.

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August 1, 2009

Special points of interest:

- * Project Profile
- * Upcoming Champion Charity Day

Champion Charity Day

Thanks to the generosity and involvement of our friends and associates in this industry and other fields, Champion Controls, Inc. can continue to hold Champion Charity Days in an effort to raise money for non-profit charities and organizations. We have had such

great success with our past events, raising over \$1,000 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Southern Florida and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Our next event will take place on Friday, September 25th at 12 p.m. Details about the charity that will benefit from this event

and other details regarding this upcoming Charity Day will be made available soon. We hope you can join us for a fun time for a great cause. Feel free to e-mail us your thoughts and suggestions for future charity events to: marcel@championcontrols.com

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Project profile

After almost a century of service, the bridge is showing signs of natural wear and tear, making the bridge subject to breakdown, often affecting the residents' daily activities. Because the electrical and mechanical systems are the two components that have been most affected over the years,

Champion plays a significant role in the rehabilitation of this bridge. Champion Controls, Inc. will provide the controls systems and panels needed to make the whole operation function. Among many things, Champion will provide the Variable Frequency Drives, a Motor Control Center, double-ended shafts on all

motors requiring motor brakes, and control house. The project has been estimated at 1.8 million dollars. While it undergoes the overhaul, the bridge will be closed to vehicular and pedestrian traffic for approximately one year. The bridge is anticipated to reopen mid-August of 2010.



Champion challenge Trivia

1. What was the first city to be leveled by a plutonium-based atomic bomb?
2. In what century did Alexander Cummings issue the first patent for a flush toilet?
3. What's the only metal that's not a solid at room temperature?
4. Hertz are used to measure what?
5. What is an eolic power station powered by?
6. Which was the first city in the United States to institute chlorination of its water supply in 1908?
7. What does the term HMI stand for in process control?
8. What is the world's most widely used non ferrous metal?
9. Saturation Temperature is more commonly called what ?
10. China recently released a 300kph bullet train - this train does not run on wheels - what does it run on?

* Answers to this month's trivia will be shown in our next issue!

Editor's note

We all knew things had to get worse before they could get better. Now, after years of falling stock markets and soaring unemployment numbers, we may actually be starting to see things taking a turn. From our industry's point of view, commercial and industrial projects continue to keep us busy and bid activity is starting to pick up again. The amount of money circulated into these projects not only keeps us in business, but keeps the economy running. Let's continue to stimulate this economy with bid requests and competitive bidding!



In the news

U.S. Court approves Gulf of Mexico oil drilling plan

(Reporting by Tom Doggett; editing by Jim Marshall)

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - In a big win for oil companies, a federal appeals court said it will allow the U.S. Interior Department to move forward with oil and natural gas leasing plans for the Gulf of Mexico that were drawn up by the Bush administration.

The department in May sought clarification of a court decision that struck down the Bush administration's five-year (2007 to 2012) offshore oil and gas drilling plan based on the court's findings that a proper review had not been done on how the drilling would affect the environment.

The initial dispute focused on offshore drilling in Alaskan waters, but the department wanted to know whether leases in the Gulf of Mexico would also be affected.

In a ruling on Tuesday, the U.S. District Court in Washington said leasing plans for the Gulf could continue, as could drilling off Alaska, but the department would have to conduct a review of the environmental risks before approving significant energy development activities.

If the department fails to carry out the risk analysis, the court said it may throw out the leasing plan.

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar said he was pleased with

the court's decision and will go forward with a Gulf of Mexico lease sale planned for August 19.

President Obama has made clear that a comprehensive energy plan that reduces America's dependence on foreign oil must include domestic production, and the Court's ruling allows us to move forward in a balanced way," Salazar said.

"The court made the right decision by allowing the continued production of oil and natural gas from Gulf of Mexico," said the American Petroleum Institute, which sued to allow drilling in the Gulf to continue. "The nation's energy security depends upon these resources."

The trade group encouraged the department to quickly conduct new environmental reviews of offshore leases in Alaska so future exploration and production of the state's vast oil and gas resources can take place.

The Alaska Wilderness League said the court will keep "strict oversight" of the department as it conducts a new environmental analysis.

"This drilling plan and the associated seismic testing, increases in vessel traffic, proposed large onshore and offshore infrastructure projects, and projections of oil spills in our unindustrialized homelands is extremely stressful," said Caroline Cannon, president of a native Alaskan village who sued to block the five-year drilling plan.

((Article Courtesy of reuters.com))

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employee spotlight



Ian Carvalho (left), with son Ian Jr.

One of Champion Controls, Inc.'s most valued employees also happens to be our most unique. Ian Carvalho, who handles most of our shop's bending, welding, and cutting, is also almost completely deaf.

Carvalho developed his hearing impairment as a result of bad allergies at the young age of just 10 years old. Since then, he has relied mostly on reading lips and faint sounds to help him communicate with others: an obstacle that has never been stopped him from achieving all of his goals and dreams.

Originally from New York City, New York, Carvalho used to take trips down to South Florida with his family every summer for the warm weather and beaches. It was only a matter of time before his whole family decided to stay here permanently. In 1981, Carvalho moved to North Lauderdale. Five years later, after earning his Machining Certification from a vocational school, he took on a job with Acutec, Inc. as a metal fabricator. His main challenge was to prove, against all odds, that he was more than capable to make the

cut just as well as anyone without a disability. Carvalho was recruited to Champion Controls, Inc. in 2003 where he now runs most of the shop's metalwork and panel assembly. Almost six years later, Carvalho has proven that there is nothing he can't overcome, excelling in both his career and his family life.

Carvalho is happily married to Monica, who is completely deaf, and has a 10 year old son, Ian Jr (who is not deaf at all). And while this special family uses sign language to communicate with each other, Carvalho says his family lives the same, normal life as most other people. Despite all the odds that he had to face, Carvalho has been able to serve as a productive member of the Champion Controls Team. His disability has become nothing more than a unique characteristic.

Quote of the day:

Science is the study of what IS.
Engineering builds what WILL BE.
-Theodore VonKarman



Look for:



- * SCADA Real-Time Learning Center Coming Soon
- * Champion Challenge Trivia Answers
In Our Next Issue!