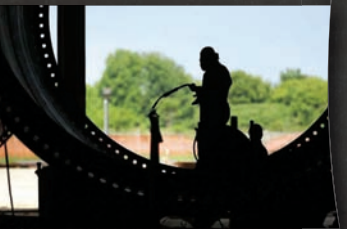


THE IRONWORKER



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CS WIND SHOP EMPLOYEES UNIONIZE

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McGregor Stair Systems Rise Above The Rest

Every business has its ups and downs, but McGregor Industries has managed to make those ups and downs a towering success. Originally founded nearly a century ago in the midst of Northeastern Pennsylvania's coal and steel heyday, McGregor quickly became known as the company that could do "anything" with steel.

The company built its sturdy reputation on fabricating and installing metal components for buildings, and anything requiring cutting, bending, welding and finishing of metal, including stairways and railings. Four generations later, the company has set itself apart in the fabrication and installation of tower stairs for residential and office buildings in urban areas.

With a team of 75 employees, 50 of whom are unionized ironworkers, the company has developed McGregor Stair Systems into a dependable resource for America's architects, general contractors and construction managers. "Ironworkers are integral to the success of our company. They form the backbone to all of the work that we do," said Bob McGregor, president and chief executive officer.

AISC-certified, McGregor manufactures three types of stair systems at its Dunmore, Pennsylvania facility. Vertically integrated, every step of the production process is completed in-house, beginning with BIM 3-D design and detailing. BIM experts create a model that integrates the stairs into the core of the building and ensures a perfect fit at the jobsite.

"A typical McGregor project starts by using TEKLA—a BIM software platform," explained McGregor. "The model is then fed into our CNC machinery and is fabricated by our union ironwork-



A screenshot of a BIM model of a McGregor Stair System created using Tekla. Tekla is used to detail all McGregor Stairs in house.



McGregor Top Tread Stair being installed at the One Riverside project in Philadelphia by James McGovern, Local 489 (Scranton, Penn.) and Ken M. Stagemyer, Local 401 (Philadelphia).

ers. Upon completion, it is shipped to the jobsite where it is installed by union ironworkers. Our field ironworkers are all equipped with tablets so they can view models and prints in real time and can coordinate with project managers back at the shop.”

McGregor Stair Systems include PermaStep, which is the heavy duty version that has a solid feel and attention to acoustics. EasyStep is a lighter version of PermaStep with a non-slip surface and ease of installation. The most economical system is TopTread that is usually specified for spaces that are not as acoustically demanding and acts like a steel tread.

When customers buy a McGregor Stair System they know they are getting a quality product, installed safely, on time. That’s why they return again and again; particularly architectural firms designing high-rise buildings and towers.

“A challenging project we are currently working on in Philadelphia is a 51-story building that will house a W hotel. We are supplying our TopTread stair system for all of the stair towers. If you stacked all of the stair towers we are supplying

for this job on top of each other—it would be 233 stories!” noted Grace McGregor Kramer, estimating and project manager.

In addition to being a large job, it is also very complex. It involves a large amount of duct work penetrations that have to be coordinated with other trades. “With big, complex jobs like this, strong relationships with both our inside and outside ironworkers, along with our vertical integration, are crucial to our success and really set us apart from our competitors,” she added. The company regularly works on multiple projects at one time, and can manufacture full stair towers quite quickly.

What’s new at McGregor Industries? Both McGregors have noticed that more and more customers are requesting design assistance on monumental stair projects that feature interesting components like high end glass railings, which McGregor also fabricates and installs. The company is currently providing such assistance for stairs in several spaces in the new Comcast Building in Philadelphia. These fitouts include the local NBC News Studio and



A McGregor Stair System installed and in use at the Cira Center in Philadelphia.

the Four Seasons Hotel on the 60th floor. “Our team works with the design team, the construction manager, and the customer to develop an architectural feature stair that achieves the desired design while hitting the budget. It is a collaborative process that works very well for everyone involved,” McGregor Kramer said.

In addition to being AISC certified in both shop and field operations, the company was recently recognized by OSHA as a SHARP organization for its commitment to safety, quality and improvement.

What’s ahead for McGregor Stair Systems? Maintaining its excellent safety record, continuing to offer outstanding service and value, and calculated growth that translates into adding to the company’s significant amount of stair tower work in Philadelphia and New Jersey while expanding into other high-rise markets like New York and Chicago.



Members of Shop Local 521 (Scranton, Penn.) standing at the McGregor shop with finished stairs ready to ship to jobsites. Top row: Charles Suchecki (shop steward), Jeremy Black, Joshua Schwarzauber, David Callis (president), Brian Florovito (recording secretary), Basil Kutch, George Kilonsky and Gerald Kilonsky. Bottom row: Ryan Torbeck, David Maurer, Jimmy Wallo, Jacob Schwarzauber, Kelly Haggerty and Michael Phillips. Not pictured: Michael Carrotto (treasurer) and Joseph Otto.