



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Monday, June 14, 2021

**CONTACT**

Caroline Wellford

[Caroline@cstrategies.com](mailto:Caroline@cstrategies.com)

901-216-7657

**ACCEND CONSTRUCTION WINS CORENET 2020 INNOVATION REAL AWARD IN  
CONSTRUCTION FOR WORK THROUGHOUT COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

*Firm recognized for adaptive responses to COVID-19 disruptions*

**CHICAGO** – 100% employee-owned ACCEND Construction is pleased to announce that it has been awarded [CoreNet's 2020 Innovation Real Award in Construction](#), which recognizes individuals or organizations who have demonstrated agility and responsiveness in the built environment to support the greater good.

A member of the Skyline Family of Companies, ACCEND took a creative approach to working through the pandemic that was powered by the firm's COVID-19 Think Tank. The COVID-19 Think Tank is a national taskforce comprised of leaders from Skyline companies across the country which leveraged technology and construction expertise to resolve three critical issues facing the real estate and construction industry: infection control and prevention; schedule implications caused by supply chain disruptions; and physical distancing constraints on jobsites.

"We are so thrilled to be recognized by CoreNet for the work we've completed amidst the COVID-19 pandemic," said Andy MacGregor, President of ACCEND Construction. "This last year has upended business operations in every industry around the world and has fundamentally changed the construction industry. Through the dedication of our employees and our national COVID-19 Think Tank, we were able to develop innovative solutions to help keep our clients and team safe and our projects moving despite the constraints brought on by the pandemic."

CoreNet recognized ACCEND for its immediate recognition of the serious implications of a positive COVID case on a jobsite, including the potential for project closures and large schedule delays that would result in increased project costs and the associated health risks of workers and clients alike. Within two months of Illinois' shelter in place order, the firm introduced a Disinfection Fogger and a Protective Shield solution that would later be used by their entire family of companies across the United States on all types of spaces including job sites, occupied offices, elevators, building lobbies and even local retail stores and restaurants.

Another significant concern facing construction companies across the world was scheduling delays and supply chain disruptions. In early January 2020, ACCEND operations executive Jim Melachrinakis identified several adverse supply chain predictions and elevated the issue across the firm. Recognizing the need to act quickly,

ACCEND enhanced their existing meeting structure to follow the SIPP method, which focuses on schedule, issues, procurement and planning during each meeting. This planning method helps identify any obstacles that may arise during a project and allows the team to proactively plan around them.

Finally, CoreNet acknowledged ACCEND's creative solutions to social distancing requirements on job sites. When travel became difficult and unsafe, the firm's in-house technology training team worked side by side with OpenSpace to develop best practices and a custom process to keep projects running smoothly and on-time, while giving high visibility to clients and project partners.

Through controlling and preventing infection, proactively addressing scheduling implications and supply chain disruptions, and instituting best in practice physical distancing requirements on job sites, ACCEND was able to adapt to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and continue work in a safe and productive manner.

### ***About ACCEND Construction***

*ACCEND Construction LLC is a general contractor with a fresh philosophy and approach to commercial construction. Led by industry veteran Andy MacGregor, ACCEND is catapulting the industry forward. It brings energy and vigor for full project optimization, streamlined processes, thoughtful ideas and a sincere desire to make the construction experience fun. ACCEND is one of the very few general contractors in Chicago that is 100% employee owned through an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP). For more information, visit <http://www.accendconstruction.com>.*

### ***About CoreNet***

*CoreNet Global is the premier association for corporate real estate professionals and the only one capable of convening the entire industry. CoreNet has nearly 7,000 members around the world and is a place where colleagues, partners, competitors & future employers come together to share ideas, do business, learn and socialize. Learn more about CoreNet at <https://chicago.corenetglobal.org/home>.*

**###**