



Corporate Contractors, Inc.

# NEWSWIRE

INSPIRATION, SENSIBILITY, PURPOSE

## CCI Recognized For Construction Excellence

**B**oth the Beloit College Powerhouse and the NorthStar Medical Radioisotopes Phase 2 projects located in Beloit, Wisconsin are being recognized as two of Wisconsin's most impressive and unique construction projects in 2020.

Corporate Contractors, Inc. (CCI) received Gold Projects of Distinction Awards from the Associated Builders & Contractors (ABC) of Wisconsin for its work on both projects.

Recognized as the "Most Forward-Looking Concept in the World," the Beloit College Powerhouse renovation project reimaged a 100-year-old decommissioned coal power plant into a unique student gathering and recreational facility. This project was a result of brilliant design work



*NorthStar Medical Radioisotopes - Beloit, Wisconsin*

along with the tenacity and construction expertise of CCI and the build team. Despite many challenges, including being located on a riverfront site, the incredible efforts by all involved resulted in a brilliantly-designed open floor concept facility. Featuring multiple fitness areas, an elevated three-lane indoor track, batting cages, an eight-lane competitive pool, a polycarbonate-enclosed fieldhouse with

artificial turf, and a 180-foot pedestrian bridge that spans above the highway connecting the center to campus, this project is a marvel.

Construction of an Isotope Processing Facility for NorthStar Medical Radioisotopes required on-going collaboration, tenacity, and flexibility to meet stringent regulatory requirements. NorthStar is the first U.S.-based company in 30 years to begin producing molybdenum-99 (Mo99), the parent isotope to Tc99m. The 26,000-square-foot, three-level facility features dissolution hot cells, filling lines housed in an ISO class 8 clean room, an automated packaging line, clean-in-place (CIP) systems and specialized storage vaults. CCI and the build team worked closely with NorthStar's physicists and nuclear engineers to create labs, quality control rooms, and radiation production lines.

The winning projects were judged in a

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*Beloit College Powerhouse - Beloit, Wisconsin*



Corporate Contractors, Inc.

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## Grins & Giggles

A police officer was interviewing a bank teller after the bank had been robbed three days in a row. The officer asked, “What did he look like?”

The teller responded, “He looked better every time he came here.”

A man is wandering through the desert with his horse and his dog. After several hours under the heat of the sun, the dog sits down and says: “That’s it. I’m not taking another step until I get some water.”

The man gasps and says: “I didn’t know dogs could talk.”

The horse looks at the man and says, “Me neither.”

A retired man went to the doctor and said, “Doc, I ache all over. Everywhere I touch it hurts.”

The doctor replied, “OK. Touch your elbow.” The guy touched his elbow and winced in genuine pain.

The doctor, surprised, then said, “Touch your head.”

The guy touched his head and jumps in agony. The doctor asked him to touch his knee and the same thing happened. Everywhere the guy touched hurt a lot.

The doctor was stumped and ordered a complete examination with full-body X-rays. He told the man to come back in two days.

Two days later the man came back and the doctor declared, “We’ve found your problem.”

“Oh, yeah? What is it?” asked the retiree.

“You’ve broken your finger.”

## The MBA: Is It A Wise Career Investment?

An MBA degree can certainly enhance your skills, but it represents a substantial investment in time and money. Is the sacrifice worthwhile? If you’re contemplating the pursuit of an MBA, consider these factors:

- **Goals.** What do you hope to accomplish with your degree that you can’t do now? Be clear on your expectations before taking the plunge. Are you looking for increased career options, higher pay, or a new academic challenge?
- **Alternatives.** Find out whether you may be able to achieve any of your goals through some other route: training programs, individual college courses, independent reading, etc.
- **Obstacles.** Take an honest look at your career prospects and how an MBA will affect them. If your age has been a barrier to advancement, for example, how will an MBA help you contribute more to an employer?
- **Finances.** Does your employer offer tuition reimbursement or any other kind of financial support for education and professional development? Find out what kinds of loans or other financial assistance may be available to you.
- **Programs.** Not all MBA programs are alike. Do some research to find out which ones meet your specific needs.
- **Advice.** Don’t make a big decision like this without seeking some advice first. Talk to business school officials as well as alumni of the programs you’re considering. Find out as much as possible about how an MBA can change your life and your career.

*“Don’t make money your goal. Instead, pursue the things you love doing, and then do them so well that people can’t take their eyes off you.”*

—Maya Angelou

## Find Greater Passion At Work And In Life

What can you do to be more productive and passionate about your work and your life? Good question. The answer can be found in asking these questions at the beginning of every day:

- Why is it vital for me to involve myself in my work fully and passionately today?
- How can my attitude affect the way I respond to stressful situations?
- When do I feel most passionate: When I’m working with a customer, solving a problem for a family member, working on a project for myself, or some other time?
- Where can I best put my passion to work? With colleagues? Customers? My family?
- With whom do I need to spend time in order to do my best work?
- How can I effectively align my interests and passion with what I have to do today?
- Who am I called upon to be today to best express my passion for life and work?

## What Feeds Your Inspiration?

Where do you find your inspiration? The *Refinery29* website surveyed its readers on where and when they feel most creative. Here’s what they said:

|                      |     |                 |     |
|----------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| • At night           | 62% | • Nature sounds | 33% |
| • Daytime            | 38% | • Salty snacks  | 52% |
| • In a coffee shop   | 35% | • Sweet snacks  | 48% |
| • At home            | 65% | • Running       | 55% |
| • Outside            | 77% | • Yoga          | 45% |
| • Inside             | 23% | • In a group    | 28% |
| • Listening to music | 56% | • Alone         | 72% |

# Create A Spirit Of Innovation On Your Team

Sparking innovation in a team or organization depends on a number of factors. Concentrate on these to get the most from everyone's creativity:

- **Challenge.** Bored people don't come up with great ideas. Look for tough problems to solve or difficult projects to accomplish—as long as they're not too overwhelming.
- **Autonomy.** Allow as much freedom as possible to get things done. People are more creative when they can make their own choices.
- **Recognition.** Make sure to praise good ideas when you hear them. Even if they don't work out, you'll reinforce people's innovative spirit.
- **Debate.** Encourage open discussion. Don't let meetings run too long or turn into arguments, but do make sure everyone feels free to explore ideas honestly.
- **Support.** Team members should help each other develop their ideas. The more support people feel, the more eager they'll be to make suggestions.
- **Collaboration.** Ideas may come from individuals, but they usually require a group effort to bring to life. Establish common goals so everyone feels a stake in coming up with the best ideas and making them work.

SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly



# How To Compose Emails That Readers Will Actually Open And Respond To

The ability to ensure that your emails get opened and read is becoming increasingly important in today's communication-heavy business environment. You'll boost responses—and your career—by following these tips from the *Fast Company* website for writing subject lines that get attention and action:

- **Don't ask questions.** Phrasing your subject line as a question reduces the open and reply rate, especially if the reader doesn't know you. Recipients may feel put on the spot if they're already busy, and delete your message or save it for later.
- **Get to the point.** Skip personal greetings like "Hi, Bill" in your subject lines. Again, if people don't know you, attempts at familiarity may turn them off. Use personal material in the body of your email, but use the subject line to describe a benefit up front.
- **Use numbers.** Readers tend to trust hard data, so putting numbers in your subject line will usually catch their attention and increase open and reply rates. Metrics offer credibility that most people will respond to.
- **Use capitals.** No, don't go for ALL CAPS in your subject lines, but capitalize key words: "Increase Your Profits" instead of "Increase your profits." This conveys authority and gives your email a more formal tone that recipients will respond to.

## Odd Jobs Of Future Famous Writers

Few great authors spring up overnight. Most work odd jobs while they struggle to create. *The Literacy Site* shares stories of these writers before they became famous:

- **Langston Hughes.** The would-be poet worked as a busboy at a prestigious Washington, D.C. hotel. One day the well-known poet Vachel Lindsay came to lunch, and Hughes worked up enough courage to show her some of his poems. Lindsay was impressed by his talent, which led to him being discovered and going on to lead the Harlem Renaissance.
- **Kurt Vonnegut.** The future author of *Slaughterhouse-Five* and other classics owned the first Saab dealership in the U.S. He went on to serve in the United States Army during the World War II, which had a major impact on his later writing career.
- **J.D. Salinger.** Before breaking onto the literary scene, the author of *The Catcher in the Rye* and other classics worked as entertainment director on a Swedish cruise ship.

## Speed Limit

A state police officer parked by the side of the highway spotted a car driving only 22 miles per hour. He started up, turned on his lights, and pulled the car over.

As he approached the car, he saw the driver was an elderly woman with three friends, one next to her in the front seat and two in the back. "What's the matter, officer?" the driver asked. "I wasn't speeding."

"No, ma'am," the officer said, "but you were driving much lower than the speed limit, and that's just as dangerous."

"But the sign back there said 22," the woman said.

The officer chuckled and explained that 22 was the route number, not the speed limit, which was 65. Embarrassed, the woman apologized and thanked the officer.

Then he peered into the car. "Ma'am, are your friends all right? They all seem a bit frightened."

"Oh, they'll be all right in a minute, officer. We just got off Route 119."

# The Daily Reporter Honors Two CCI Team Members As 2020 Newsmakers of the Year

**H**onored at a virtual celebration, two Corporate Contractors, Inc. (CCI) team members were recognized by *The Daily Reporter* at their annual Newsmakers of the Year awards program.

## *Leader Of The Year*

Celebrating his 30th year at CCI, Terry Russell is a proud Army veteran who continues to go above and beyond for CCI.



He is a true example of what it means to love what you do and take pride in a job well done. As a leader, Terry believes in the importance of constant communication with his team, treating them with the same respect and professionalism that he wants them to show clients, subcontractors, and each other. He often encourages his associates to grow both professionally and personally to achieve their goals

and expand their skills. Investing in his team through time,

training, and mentorship have led them to be a strong and unified group at CCI.

## *Unsung Hero Of The Year*

Now more than ever, people are feeling stress and uncertainty. Pastor Jim Melvin's listening and encouraging support helps associates process their emotions and lean into their faith. His constant words of support and reminders of the importance of faith offer our associates the personal comfort that they may not be getting elsewhere in their life. He is never pushy with his approach or conversations, but rather he strives to provide resources that will resonate with an associate when and where they need the message. View his blog and podcast at [www.jmfaithatwork.com](http://www.jmfaithatwork.com).



## The CCI Difference

At our core, CCI is about building positive relationships while bringing your vision to life. As a trusted, single-source provider for your building needs, the dedicated and hardworking professionals at CCI are uniquely qualified to provide a full range of innovative solutions. Why wait? If you are expanding, renovating, or building new, contact our team today!

## Reflecting On 2020

The events in 2020 have reminded us to have gratitude and be thankful for what we have, to treasure our time together, and to cherish those close to us. We are incredibly thankful for those who have helped to shape our business—our associates, business partners, and, of course, our clients. The entire team at Corporate Contractors, Inc. extends their gratitude and wishes you peace and joy throughout the new year. Here's to a happy, healthy, and prosperous 2021!



## Excellence... *continued from page 1*

rigorous process by a panel of construction experts based on a number of criteria, including safety, quality, owner satisfaction, execution and coordination, budgeting, difficult and unusual challenges, as well as overall distinctiveness.

The Projects of Distinction Awards Program recognizes projects that are built on merit by skilled employees. The awards will be presented during an online event on January 28, 2021.

Corporate Contractors, Inc. (CCI) is a leading general contracting firm in Southern Wisconsin. For nearly four decades, we have offered our clients unique insights and valued construction solutions on a vast number of projects of all types, sizes, and complexities. Visit [www.cciwi.com](http://www.cciwi.com) for more information.

Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) is a national construction industry trade association established in 1950 that represents more than 21,000 members and was founded on the merit shop philosophy. Visit their site at [www.abcwi.org](http://www.abcwi.org).

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