

# AMERICAN STRUCTUREPOINT, INC.

*Making Impossible Projects a Reality*



In the early 1960s, while America was launching a space program to realize President John F. Kennedy's dream of putting an American on the moon, two Indianapolis engineers were having dreams of their own. Jim Wurster and Bill Gervasio envisioned a full-service civil engineering firm committed to quality work and client satisfaction. In

November 1966, they realized that dream with the founding of American Consulting Engineers (ACE). The challenges faced by the partners (the business was launched in the basement of Wurster's home with him and Gervasio as the only employees) served only to inspire them to grow and expand their venture through the addition of specialized services for an ever-increasing client base.

Quickly outgrowing its original location, ACE went through a series of moves into progressively larger accommodations. Today the firm is headquartered in 59,500 square feet of office space in Shadeland Station Office Park in Indianapolis. Keeping pace with its physical growth, the company's corresponding expansion in the scope of services it offers led to a new branding effort and logo in 2006. To celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, ACE officially became American Structurepoint, Inc., a move which not only redefined the firm, but also recast its future.



American Structurepoint is now a multi-disciplinary firm employing upwards of 275 people focused on providing a broad range of in-house services that complement each other to provide a complete, personalized solution for each of the firm's clients. Those services now include:

- ▶ Civil Engineering
- ▶ Transportation
- ▶ Land Surveying
- ▶ Architecture
- ▶ Planning
- ▶ Forensics/Investigative
- ▶ Construction Inspection
- ▶ Structural Engineering
- ▶ Environmental
- ▶ Information Technology

## A POSITION OF LEADERSHIP

When Gervasio retired in 1986, Wurster realized that maintaining the firm's preeminent position in the industry would require placing exceptional people in key positions. Pursuant to that

sixteen at ACE, Conner had risen through the ranks into positions of increased responsibility.

Under Conner's leadership as President and COO, American Structurepoint has evolved into a multi-million dollar company that was ranked in 2011 by *Midwest Construction* magazine as among the "Top Ten Midwest-based Design Firms." American Structurepoint currently maintains offices throughout Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois. While overseas projects have given the company an international reach, the majority of American Structurepoint's domestic work is in Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky, and Tennessee.

"The cornerstone of our success has been exceeding our clients' expectations through our vision, creativity, enthusiasm, responsiveness, and dedication to quality," Conner explains. "We take pride in improving the quality of life for the people in the communities we serve. We do this through American Structurepoint's commitment to providing everything necessary to achieve our client's goals in the built environment."



*Willis Rick Conner*

goal, he appointed Willis Rick Conner into a co-ownership position at American Structurepoint. Having begun his engineering career as an apprentice drafter, blueprint boy, and deliveryman at age

Conner is joined by a senior management team of diverse backgrounds that share one common attribute—their commitment to excellence and total client satisfaction. In addition to Conner, other co-owners of the firm include Gregory L. Henneke, Marlin E. Knowles, Kenton Moore, and Jack Lashenik. Rounding out the senior management team are Vice Presidents Cash Canfield, James Kovacs, Christopher Murphy, Randal Sage, Charles Unterreiner, David Mohler, and Scott Scoville.



has helped design and build, American Structurepoint employees each maintain a personal focus on being good corporate citizens. The generosity of staff members is evidenced in a wide range of civic and charitable projects that benefit organizations such as Riley Children's Hospital, United Christmas Services, D.R.E.A.M. Alive, Inc., the Noblesville School District, the Indianapolis Public School District, Behavior Corps, The Thirst Project, Breast Cancer Awareness, Habitat for Humanity, and a host of others.

**... AND TOMORROW**

While the construction industry has been especially hard hit during the downturn in the economy over the last few years, American Structurepoint is poised to thrive even in this difficult new environment. Increased diversification, expansion into new markets, and new strategic partnerships have led to financial strength and improved business practices.

"I believe in our strategy, our company, and each and every one of our employees," Conner notes. "It's a perspective that looks beyond the obvious—to bring each client's vision to life."

**TODAY...**

The combined efforts of its management team and the expertise and dedication of its employees have led to the development of a key specialty for which American Structurepoint has become nationally recognized—that of designing and engineering roundabouts. A boon to the environment by reducing emissions, idling time, and noise and pollution levels, roundabouts also

within a five-mile radius, many of which were designed by American Structurepoint.

That success, along with other innovative design and construction initiatives, has led to a long list of awards for the company over the years. American Structurepoint has been cited by the American Council of Engineering Companies, the American Concrete Institute, the American



allow for freer vehicular flow, reduce vehicular accidents, eliminate the need for traffic signals, and improve travel time. Since 1996, American Structurepoint has helped develop more than 100 roundabouts. The City of Carmel, now dubbed "Roundabout City," boasts over 80 roundabouts either in place or under construction

Society of Civil Engineers, and numerous other organizations and magazines for engineering excellence in projects ranging from bridge design and construction to traffic interchanges and wastewater treatment facilities.

Desiring to return something to the communities the company

*All photography by Above All Photography, Ltd. and American Structurepoint, Inc.*



*Carmel: 'round about right*