

SITE: Aerovox

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Client, Project and Location USACE New Bedford Resident Office New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site New Bedford, Massachusetts USACE Contract Number DACW33-03-D-0006	<h2>Project Note</h2>	Delivery Order/Task Order TO 0001 Project No. 35BG0108
	Note No.: 005	

Confirmation of <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project note-P1 <input type="checkbox"/> Client Meeting-P4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other	Date: 01 March 2007 Issued Recorded: Mike Anderson By
Subject: Aerovox Safety Issues	Issued By <u>Mike Anderson</u>  Jacobs Project Manager

Item	Remarks	Action Required By
1	Purpose: This project note is intended to distribute a memorandum provided by a Senior Structural Engineer (Peter Lalas) regarding safety concerns within the Aerovox Facility. This information has been discussed verbally among Jacobs, EPA, and NAE personnel since immediately following his inspection, however this provides another written record of his observations and recommendations.	
2	Background: Based on observations by the Jacobs field team during recent Aerovox Facility inspections and anticipated future sampling events within the Aerovox building, it was decided to invite a Senior Structural Engineer to inspect the facility and assess its structural integrity. Accordingly, Peter Lalas inspected the facility on 2/1/07 and made observations that have since been discussed in various weekly calls and other meetings since that time. The attached memorandum from Peter Lalas reflects his observations and recommendations.	
3	Input Data and Assumptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See attached memorandum from Peter Lalas 	
4	All Jacobs employees and subcontractors will follow the recommendations in the memorandum. Because Jacobs does not control access to the Aerovox Facility apart from its own employees and subcontractors, this memorandum is also intended to help EPA and NAE communicate safety concerns with other entities that may enter the Aerovox Facility on occasion. If there are any questions or if further discussion is needed, please contact Mike Anderson at 617-994-4456.	

Attachment: AerovoxInspec-VPL020107

Distribution: USACE Gary Morin, Paul L'Heureux, Maurice Beaudoin, Mark Anderson; EPA: Jim Brown, Dave Dickerson; Jacobs: Mike Anderson, Ira Nadelman; Sean Healey; Fred Stuart, Mark Gouveia, Ken Gaynor, Carl Wilson, Josh Cummings, Steve Fox, Anita Rigassio Smith, Caroline Roberts, Bill Pencola, Mike Dumont, Alison Hutchinson, Jackie Connor, Lonnie Fallin, Kirk Morris, Peter Lalas, Project File, Document Control File



Memorandum

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Date February 16, 2007

To Michael Anderson

From Peter Lalas (peter.lalas@jacobs.com)

Subject Job Number 35B0108 / A020100
Inspection of Aerovox Building New Bedford Massachusetts
Performed on February 1, 2007

Background

The Aerovox Building in New Bedford, Massachusetts is a three story, 100-year (or older) mill-structure that is slated for demolition in the near future. The building structure is comprised of brick exterior bearing walls, wood columns, steel girders, wood beams and wood flooring. There are relatively new additions that are constructed of concrete masonry units (CMU). There are no original design drawings available.

Since environmental testing will be performed prior to demolition, concern arose regarding the structural integrity of the building and thus the safety of persons who will be performing material sampling and other related task prior to demolition.

Peter Lalas, P.E. (Senior Structural Engineer, Jacobs Boston) accompanied by on-site Jacobs employees Josh Cummings (Environmental Chemist) and Carl Wilson (Site Safety & Health Officer) performed a visual inspected the exterior and interior of the building on February 1, 2007 between approximately 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM.

Observations

1. The brick masonry exterior walls are in surprisingly good condition with the exception of the southeast corner of the building where cracks were observed and on the north side of the building where mortar has deteriorated significantly in the general vicinity of the bottom of the wall; these deficiencies notwithstanding, the "short-term" structural integrity of the exterior brick bearing walls is good, i.e. there is no immediate safety issue that could be considered a hazard to staff working in the building under normal conditions.
2. The boiler room near the southwest corner of the original building appears to be relatively new (compared with the original building). Though probably not in eminent danger of collapse, the condition of exterior CMU walls is poor.
3. The interior of the 1st Floor Storage has extensive water damage. Portions of the ceiling have collapsed. Staff working in this area should be cognizant of the possibility of the ceiling collapsing in any or all areas.
4. Observations in the Shipping Stock Room included columns that seemed to be out of plumb. No other signs of distress were apparent. Heavy machinery including and vibratory equipment in particular should be avoided or, if unavoidable, should be used cautiously.
5. The roof structure of the Cardboard Box Room, although not sagging or exhibiting any visible sign of distress, did not appear to be robust to this writer. As in Item 4, heavy machinery including and vibratory equipment in particular should be avoided or, if unavoidable, should be used cautiously.
6. The inspection tour of the remaining three floors of the original building did not result in the discovery of any significant structural distress. On the contrary, main timber and structural steel elements appeared to be in good condition. Only the wood flooring seemed to be in poor condition in several areas, due to water damage.

7. One noteworthy observation was the collapse of a pipe (or cable) due to the corrosion of one or several support hangers. Though not related to the structural integrity of the building, it is an example of a failure that could seriously injure an individual working in the building.

Conclusion and Recommendations

1. The main structure of the Aerovox Building is in relatively fair good to condition, excluding localized deficiencies described in **Observations**. Despite this assessment the following recommendations should be considered relative to working inside the original building or any additions:
 - a. No work should be undertaken inside the building when snowfall exceeds one foot or during periods of high wind.
 - b. Heavy machinery and vibratory equipment in particular should be avoided in the 1st Floor Storage Area, the Shipping Stock Room and the Cardboard Box Room.
 - c. The use of small equipment such as a Bobcat should be prohibited until the capacity of the floor on which this equipment is to be used has been determined to be structurally adequate by a Professional Structural Engineer registered in Massachusetts

Photographs taken during the inspection can be viewed on the project FTP site:

Jacobs - username jacobs, password l=anie!o
<ftp://jacobs:l=anie!o@jegftp.jacobs.com>