



Klickitat County Port District

News Release

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For Immediate Release

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The Port of Klickitat has awarded TEAM CONSTRUCTION, INC., of Vancouver, WA, the construction contract for a new 25,000 square foot, concrete tilt-up, light industrial building and related infrastructure at Bingen Point. At a building shell base bid of \$1,225,532.73, plus tax, TEAM was the low bid of 12 bidders for the project.

The new building will join three other buildings within the first phase of the Port's Bingen Point Business Park, resulting in over 50,500 square feet of light industrial space. The facility will be constructed to the west of the port office, on East Columbia River Way, and was designed by DSP Architecture, of Vancouver, WA. The design will be similar to the building constructed in 2000, and is scheduled to be completed by the end of September, 2003.

Although site work has already begun, the Port Commissioners will officially be "breaking ground" on June 3, at approximately 1:00-2:00 p.m., in conjunction with Governor Locke's visit to Bingen Point. The public is invited to attend.

"The new building will allow for the expansion of an existing port tenant, The Insitu Group, who has been a Port tenant since 1996. This new building will allow for Insitu's growth and future production of their Unmanned Aeronautical Vehicles (UAVs). UAVs can be utilized in numerous ways: by the military, for weather monitoring and by fishing fleet operators (tuna fishing)", stated Dianne Sherwood, Executive Director for the Port.

“The Insitu Group is an exciting company which will be adding much needed family wage jobs and resulting benefits to our community. Insitu anticipates their company’s employment to grow from 16 to up to 48 full-time employees over the next 3-5 years. Having light industrial space available, which can be offered to the Port’s existing tenants and potential tenants, is very important to our area’s economic growth and diversity. This project has been made possible only because of great partnerships between the Port and numerous agencies”, said Director Sherwood.

In addition to bonds the Port issued, other funding commitments for the \$2.4 million project include: The Washington State Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB) with a \$650,000 low interest loan; Klickitat County has pledged \$500,000 toward construction of the facility; and pre-design and design grant funding in the amount of \$50,000 from the US Forest Service (USFS) and \$50,000 from the Washington State Office of Trade and Economic Development (OTED).