

KAESTLE BOOS ASSOCIATES AWARDED 2007 EXCELLENCE IN CONSTRUCTION AWARD FOR WATERTOWN FIRE STATION

Honored by CT Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors, Design was Mindful of Both Modern Needs and 1950's History During Expansive Renovation

New Britain, CT – March 3, 2008 -- One of Connecticut's most experienced architectural firms and one of Watertown's highest profile architectural and construction projects was honored with a 2007 Excellence in Construction Awards by the Connecticut Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors. Architect Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc. of New Britain received the First Place/Renovation Award, along with construction company Gar-San Corporation of Watertown, for their renovation of the Watertown Fire Station No. 1.

Kaestle Boos Associates and Gar-san Corporation were recognized for their abilities to not only marry the complexities of a new 12,730 square-foot addition and renovations to a fully-functional 1950's fire house that was already in existence, but to also maintain the critical fire-fighting and emergency operations during construction. The addition now expands the firehouse's square footage to 27,217 square feet, and includes five apparatus bays including two double-deep bays, maintenance garage, equipment storage, DECON and turn-out gear rooms, training and conference rooms, fitness area and a meeting room which is also used as a facility for statewide fire service training sessions.

Built originally in 1952, the Watertown Fire Station has been a touchstone of sorts in the heart of the community it serves. More than a home base for the area's volunteer fire-fighters who serve to protect Watertown and the surrounding areas, the fire house also serves as the Town's Emergency Operations Center and a secondary emergency shelter.

Charles W. Boos, AIA, Chairman & CEO of Kaestle Boos Associates said, "The Watertown Fire Station project is one that exemplifies KBA's attention to form as well as function, combining the best aesthetics and modern efficiencies with a nod to the history of an existing building." He added, "Buildings like this that have remained in neighborhoods for decades always resonate with the communities that surround them; they've just always been there and people rely on their services. While we all realize that buildings sometimes need to be upgraded to meet contemporary standards of functionality, there's something about retaining their original integrity that's important for posterity."

-- more --

Kaestle Boos Associates Awarded 2007 Excellence in Construction Award for Watertown Fire Station, pg. 2 of 2

Larry Black, Watertown Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Marshall, said "Kaestle Boos Associates' design has made a positive impact in terms of our flow of both work and people at the fire station. Throughout the design and construction phases KBA worked extremely well with us and the contractor. Through this combined effort we achieved our goal of retaining our traditional station with all the conveniences of a new firehouse."

PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

About Kaestle Boos Associates

One of New England's most experienced architectural design firms, Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc. has offices in New Britain, CT, Foxborough, MA, and Portsmouth, NH. The firm specializes in educational, public safety, theater arts, parks & recreation and other public architecture. Founded in 1963, the firm's ultimate goal is to create structures that are functional, aesthetically pleasing, environmentally sound and economically justifiable. For more information, visit www.kba-architects.com or call (860) 229-0361.

About Gar-San Corporation

Gar-San Corporation was incorporated in 1980 as a General Contractor Construction Manager, constructing projects throughout Connecticut and limited areas in New York State. Their diverse construction experience has included commercial, industrial, institutional, multi-unit residential housing and high-end architectural fit-ups. Gar-San Corporation has been particularly active in the construction of numerous educational facilities, elderly, and affordable housing projects, hospitals and churches. For more information, visit www.garsan.com.

About the Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. of Connecticut

Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. of Connecticut, the premiere resource for construction, is a voluntary membership organization working to support the construction industry in Connecticut and the United States. For more information, visit www.ctabc.org.

MEDIA CONTACT:

Contact Lisa Miceli Feliciano at (860) 243-1447 (office), (860) 490-1253 (cell), (860) 859-1632 (home), lfeliciano@aomc.com

#