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US Navy's Submarine Escape Trainer in Connecticut earns local recognition

PHILADELPHIA, PA – May 9, 2008 – The Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware Chapter of the American Concrete Institute (EPDACI) recently announced this year's winners of its annual award program. One of the more unique projects recognized was the US Navy's 22,600-SF Submarine Escape Training Facility in Groton, CT, which will provide realistic training methods for the escape from sunken and disabled submarines. The design/build project, led by general contractor Mortenson Construction with A/E design by KlingStubbins, walked away with a 2008 Grand Prize Award in the Cast-in-Place Concrete Frame – Outside Chapter Boundaries category. The award honors excellence in concrete design and construction.



KlingStubbins' Director of Structural Engineering, William Gillespie, PE (on right), accepts award from EPDACI Awards Committee Member Joseph Sharkey (left)

The New London Naval Submarine Base in Groton, Connecticut, the oldest such facility in the nation and home to 8,500 sailors and 17 nuclear submarines, was targeted for closure in May

2005 along with 33 other military installations nationwide. But less than four months later, New London won a reprieve from the Department of Defense's Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC). The 587-acre base not only survived, but also resumed its ambitious capital construction program that includes the one-of-a-kind design and construction of a \$13.2 million Submarine Escape Training Facility, dubbed MK 10 SEIE. The facility is designed to accommodate and support a 20-ft diameter by 40-ft deep escape tank pool system that will be used for submarine escape training.

The entire building was engineered to accommodate Navy requirements for progressive collapse resistance. If part of the building suffers trauma from an explosion, caused either by an external attack or a natural disaster, the design would keep the whole structure from falling. Cast-in-place concrete frame was selected to accommodate progressive collapse and the circular geometry.

KlingStubbins provides professional services in all major disciplines within the realm of architecture, engineering, interiors, planning, and landscape architecture. The firm consists of more than 500 professionals in its Cambridge, MA; Las Vegas, NV; Philadelphia, PA; Raleigh, NC; San Francisco, CA; and Washington, DC offices. Its areas of market focus and specialization include Corporate/Commercial, Government, Health Care, Higher Education, Hospitality/Entertainment, Institutional/Civic, Mission Critical, and Research and Development.

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