



## Pioneer Construction Surges in Grand Rapids Market, Continues Strong Growth in 2005

GRAND RAPIDS, Michigan - September 12, 2005 - Pioneer Construction, a Grand Rapids, Mich.-based construction company with over 72 years of local construction experience, has continued to see outstanding growth over the past year in the West Michigan market.

The Company has seen revenue growth of 15 percent over the past year and increased backlog projects by 75 percent, providing continued growth well into 2006. Pioneer Construction serves a variety of industries, including healthcare, historical renovation, residential, commercial, industrial, and higher education.

"We continue to build on a strong heritage of construction leadership in West Michigan," said Tim Schowalter, Pioneer Construction Owner and President. "As an organization, we continue to see consistent growth in revenue and project backlog, providing a bright future in the specific markets we serve."

As evidence of Pioneer's Growth, West Michigan will be seeing a new 110 ton capacity crane for use in erecting structural steel and pre-cast concrete. Pioneer is taking delivery on the newest addition to its fleet of cranes in October. "Our philosophy has not changed in regards to being the company in town with the necessary equipment and manpower to get our customer's jobs done on-time and within budget."

Pioneer Construction's strong year, is even more impressive compared to national trends showing significant slowdown in the industrial market. Other markets have had to pick up the slack to replace the lackluster industrial market in Michigan.

West Michigan has seen an increase in the amount of retail construction over the past two years, including national outlets Home Depot™, Wal-Mart™ and Staples™. The city of Grand Rapids has also seen massive investment in downtown construction in the healthcare, educational and residential sectors.

Pioneer, who successfully completed historical renovations to both The Boardwalk building and American Seating Park, has recently begun work on the new Union Square condominium project scheduled to be completed in 2006.

Pioneer is also breaking ground this fall on the new Grand Valley State University Padnos School of Engineering building.

"These projects and many more are very exciting for our company and for the growth of Grand Rapids." states Schowalter.

According to the FDIC, Michigan profiles published comparing 2004 versus 2005 show this year's growth up nearly 9 percent in commercial real estate, construction and development.

"As a region, West Michigan has started to turn the corner after several years of little growth and economic slowdown since 9/11. As an organization, we've been able to weather that storm, continue to grow our base of business and successfully grow our market share with a commitment to quality, service and innovation to every customer," added Schowalter.

About Pioneer Construction: Established in 1933, Pioneer Construction is a leading West Michigan-based construction company built on quality, innovation and multi-generational pride. The Company offers complete construction services including design/build, construction management, general contracting and competitive bidding while operating a full crew of specialized tradesmen and equipment. Pioneer serves a variety of industries and specializes in the healthcare, commercial, industrial, higher education, retirement facilities, historical renovations, and high-end residential condominium markets. For more information, visit [www.pioneerinc.com](http://www.pioneerinc.com) or call 616.247.6966.

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