

# LETAG

## A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi everyone!

The current year does not look in anything like the previous years.

Indeed, the industry has been hammered by several factors such as governmental cuts in infrastructure, the drop in the price of material, the slowdown of the condominium market, the moratorium that was put on wind farm projects, and finally, the consequences of political problems in Montreal and Laval (Qc).

As you've probable noticed, the construction industry is staggering a bit after many years of full employment. Nevertheless, ABF stays at the forefront of the industry and we still manage to survive.

Misfortune cannot continue like this for much longer and I am confident that we will soon get back our momentum.

I hope that you were all able to get well deserved resting time during your vacation and that you are all set and ready to tackle the work as we enter the busiest time of the year.

Éric Bernier, President



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### IN THIS ISSUE:

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT	2
MISCELLANEOUS	2
LANSDOWNE PROJECT OTTAWA	3
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY	4

## Statutory Holidays to come

Monday, October 14, 2013: Thanksgiving Day

Monday, November 11, 2013: Remembrance Day

## Adjust your clocks!

Sunday, November 3, 2013, don't forget to change your clocks backwards one hour and remember to change the batteries in your smoke detectors!

## Good news!

Here are some of the new projects recently awarded to ABF:

- 407 ETR Expansion, Whitby, ON
- ALT Hotel Tower, Winnipeg, MAN
- Les Maronniers Residence Phase 5, Laval, QC
- Kanata Lake Apartment Building C, Kanata, ON
- AMT Train de l'Est, Lot 11BN, Terrebonne, QC

Welcome to all new employees  
in the ABF team.

## MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Hi, everyone!

As you all know, we take pride in optimizing our growth as well as our in-house quality control. This is why, a few months ago, we've hired Véronique Bélanger in the position of Quality Coordinator.

Véronique has a background in medical laboratory but in 1997 she was reoriented to the manufacturing industry in quality management. She has filled positions like Quality Coordinator, Project Manager and Process Technician in several industries, manufacturing a diversity of products such as: particleboards at Tafisa Canada, printed circuits at C-MAC, seal joints for the automotive industry at Saargummi Québec, thermoformed plastic components at Plastik MP, aluminum boats and pontoons at Princecraft, and press felts for the paper industry at Weavexx. All these industries have one thing in common: the need to put in place and manage quality systems to meet their customers' demands and production requirements.

Véronique's philosophy is simple: a Quality Department is a service that must efficiently meet the needs of both inside and outside customers. We must work together in implementing practical tools that will enable us to meet our customers' various requirements.

In this new position, as Quality Coordinator, we are convinced that Véronique will be an important asset to our organization and we extend our best wishes for success in her new role.



François Vallières, Vice President

## MISCELLANEOUS

### ABF BABY



Congratulations to Philippe Houle and his spouse Valérie for the birth of their 4th child, little Charlie. She was born on July 1st, 2013 at 6 :50 AM. This little princess

weighed 6.11 pounds and measured 18.5 inches.



### ABF BABY



On August 19th, Mélanie Boucher gave birth to her 2<sup>nd</sup> child, little Sammy. He weighed 6.9 pounds and measured 19 inches. Congratulations to Mélanie and her spouse.



### ABF Golf Tournament

On July 11th, the 4th edition of ABF Golf Tournament was held at the Laurier Golf Club in Princeville (Qc). The employees had a lot of fun and enjoyed the nice weather. The team composed of Jasmin Belzile, Sylvain Dupont, Stéphane Hamel and William Pellerin won the honors. Congratulations to the winners!!!



### Grand Défi 2013

Congratulations to ABF Team #1 composed of Dominic St-Pierre (The Old Man), William Pellerin (The Tall Guy), Guillaume Moreau (The Athlete) and Alexandre Gagné (The Machine) for their 3rd place in their category (see picture). We also want to congratulate Team #2 for their 4th place in their category. They are : Stéphane Cayer, Stéphane Perreault, Éric Laine and Véronique Patry. For more, congratulations to Claudia Beaudoin for her 2<sup>nd</sup> place in female 8km in her category. **Congratulations to all!**





## LANSDOWNE PROJECT / OTTAWA

You've most likely all heard about the Lansdowne project during 2013 and many among you were wondering what this project is about.

Lansdowne Park is located nearby Ottawa's city center, along the Rideau Canal. It is a huge land which until now was the home of an exhibition park, a stadium, an arena where sports and cultural events take place in Ottawa.

The current project consist in revitalizing the park by adding commercial, office and residential buildings while keeping some of its historic buildings. The stadium and the arena will be completely redone. And all of this will harmonize with the surrounding nature.

It's one of the biggest projects currently underway in Ottawa at this time.

What ABF is now working on consists of the construction of close to 50 000 m<sup>2</sup> of parking facility (1370 spaces on one to two floors) on which will then be sitting the buildings and commercial areas.

ABF's big challenge was to supply and install more than 6000 m.t. of rebar in less than 10 months for the foundations and parking slabs. Our job, which started late in December 2012, will be completed by the end of October. Right on time!

The installing teams had to put in place up to 800 tons of rebar a month at times during the course of this project.

Here's another example of a project that ABF will be proud of! It shows the company's efficiency at all levels : rebar detailing, steel production, delivery to the jobsite and, finally, installing in record times. All this within the time specified in the contract.

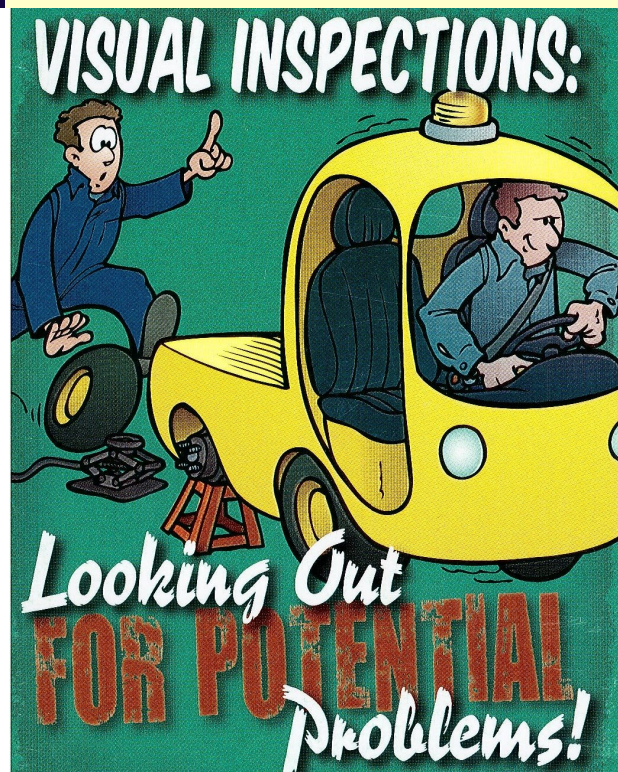
Congratulations to all!

Luis Monte  
Vice President Construction





# OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY



At work, most accidents are caused by a combination of factors. Among those factors are material failures and poor housekeeping.

## An eye for safety

To reduce the likelihood of accidents brought about by faulty equipment or an untidy workplace, we must always keep an eye out for potential hazards. This is precisely what visual inspections are all about: keeping an eye out for anything suspicious or abnormal that may reveal a potentially hazardous situation.

## Getting an eyeful

Visual inspections focus on the general condition of the workplace and of the equipment, as well as on anything that may help foresee possible problems, such as:

### ✓ **The environment**

Untidy work and circulation areas, inadequate lighting and ventilation, missing emergency equipment (extinguisher, alarm, first aid kit), improperly stored materials, damaged or out-of-date goods, etc.

### ✓ **Electric appliances**

Visible damage to the main body of the appliance, exposed wires, traces of overheating, missing or non-compliant safety features (protective shield, safety lock, ground prong, etc.).

### ✓ **Manual tools**

Visible rust, missing parts, dulled or soiled blades, broken handgrips, etc.

### ✓ **Other machinery**

Frayed cables, worn or loose straps, leaky hydraulic lines and gaskets, etc.

### ✓ **Personal protective gear**

Wear, stains, dents, punctures, missing pieces, missing certification seals, etc.

### ✓ **Automotive equipment**

Worn out or damaged drive elements, inoperable lights and signals, cracked windows or mirrors, non-working or non-compliant retaining devices (seat belts, guards, screens), etc.

## From inspection to action!

When a visual inspection reveals a potentially hazardous situation, we must act quickly to make sure that it does not cause an accident. Hence, we must either:

### ✓ **Correct the situation**

When we can do it safely (cleaning up messes, picking things up, replacing tools, etc.).

### ✓ **Report the problem**

Warning our co-workers of the hazard and notifying our superiors so that they can make sure that proper corrective measures are taken.

## From the perspective of prevention

A key component of safe behaviours, visual inspections must be performed before using any piece of equipment or undertaking task, regardless of whether someone else might have done it before us.

Alain Perron, Health and Safety manager

**CROSSWORDS**

**Across**

1. That meets applicable requirements.
2. Act of putting things away for future use.
3. Condition of something that stops functioning normally.
4. Loss of quality, of effectiveness.

**Down**

5. That no longer meets requirements, outmoded.
6. Disorderly accumulation of things.
7. That has been altered as a result of being in contact with something else.
8. Manner of conducting oneself, of doing things.

1. COMPLIANT 2. STORAGE 3. FAILURE 4. DEGRADATION  
5. OBSOLETE 6. CLUTTER 7. CONTAMINATED 8. BEHAVIOR