

Subject: FW: St Croix EDC News: December 2013 Business Facts

# St. Croix Business Facts

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ST. CROIX  
**Economic  
DEVELOPMENT**  
CORPORATION

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## ***Thanks to JA Counter!***

A special thank you to JA Counter, your health care reform professionals, for being our sponsor this month!

## Reinforcing Success: Hudson Company Installs Reinforcing Steel to St. Croix Crossing



**LouAnn Berg**

J&L Steel & Electrical Services, a certified woman-owned business based in [Hudson, Wisc.](#), is making a significant contribution on the St. Croix Crossing project. Led by CEO LouAnne Berg, the company is supplying the reinforced steel to the footings and columns that are steadily rising out of the St. Croix River between St. Croix (Wisconsin) and Washington (Minnesota) counties about one mile south of the existing 1931-era lift bridge in Stillwater, MN.

[Edward Kraemer & Sons](#) was awarded a \$36.73 million contract last spring to construct the foundation for the new crossing and J&L Steel is a subcontractor. The project requires 40 caissons – four per footing, 10 footings, and 10 columns for the five piers. Kraemer's contract will transition to a second general contractor, [Lunda/Ames](#) Joint Venture, as the low bidder for the superstructure.



**Large tower of rebar being lowered into steel casings**



**J & L Steel rebar in a cofferdam...rebar as art!**

Starting last spring, work crews drilled 40 shafts, also known as caissons, to depths of 140 feet below the water surface. The caissons are lined with 9-foot diameter steel casings. Ironworkers from J&L Steel built and placed rebar cages into the casings. Each casing was later filled with concrete. Cofferdams allowed workers to continue their work from the river bottom to the surface. Additional reinforced steel was used at this stage, too. In late October, the columns started to emerge out of the river, extending to a height of sixteen feet. Lunda/Ames will pick up the project from this point.

Berg is a two-time past president and founding member of the [Association of Women Contractors](#). The association supports women-owned businesses in the construction industry. She is the second woman ever to serve on the board of the [Associated General Contractors of Minnesota](#). In January 2012, Berg was selected as a recipient of the 2012 Governor's Trailblazer Award for Women in Business.

Upon completion in mid-2016, the St. Croix Crossing will replace the old lift bridge, which will be converted to a recreational amenity for pedestrians and bicyclists.

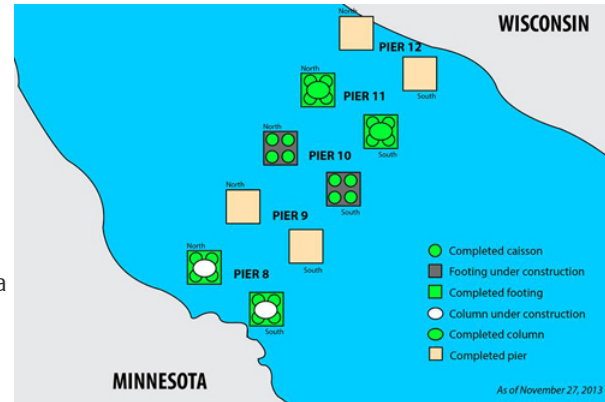
For more information, go to [www.jlsteelinc.com](http://www.jlsteelinc.com).

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## Webcam Allows Viewers to Track Progress on St. Croix Crossing Project

A webcam has been installed so the viewers can track daily progress on the St. Croix Crossing project.

Features include a 'real time' photo that can be viewed as a Construction photo option or as a panoramic view. Photos have been archived on a calendar and were taken at approximately the same time each day. There is a zoom-in feature for all views, too.



The website is <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/stcroixcrossing/webcam.html>.

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