



January 4, 2011

## Working From The Ground Up.

Now that the weather's cold, all of the Northwest Addition activity shifts indoors. The building will be fully enclosed by the end of January, when the etched glass for the lobby and chapel is installed. The roof is finished and workers just completed installing louvers on the rooftop penthouse, which houses many of the building's mechanical systems. This means the building is now watertight, so drywall installation can begin.

The lower level is taking shape:

- Stud installation is nearly complete.
- Mechanicals, (ductwork, piping, electrical and fire protection), that run along the corridors are in place.
- Rooms are being framed, plumbed and wired. Crews will begin installing drywall in mid-January.

The work is being staged floor by floor, starting in the lower level and moving up. Mechanicals, framing and drywall should be completed on all floors in spring 2011.

The materials used require more than a quick run to your local home improvement store:

- 50 miles of conduit—enough to reach from Monroe to Madison.
- 750,000 square feet of drywall. Imagine covering a high school football field AND the stands.
- 226 miles of wiring. You could lay wire all the way to Chicago and back.

### Taking the higher ground when it comes to elevators

Two of the Northwest Addition's four elevators will be installed in January. These eco-friendly elevators, the Otis Gen2<sup>®</sup> L-Series, are the most advanced on the market:

- Instead of moving along steel cables, the elevators run on a gearless system of flat, coated steel belts.
- The belt-driven system takes up less space in the building and doesn't need additional lubrication, eliminating the need for storage, cleanup and disposal of hazardous waste.
- The elevators capture energy usually lost during braking and store it the building's internal electrical grid. The same technology is used in hybrid cars. The ReGen system reduces overall elevator energy use by up to 75 percent.

To learn more, visit [monroeclinic.org](http://monroeclinic.org) and click on the expansion button. Make sure to check out the construction webcam for a live view of what's happening.