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## **LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION**

*Kevcon, Inc. completes construction of remote entry station for the National Park Service*

**Escondido, Calif., May 3, 2012** – Kevcon, Inc., a firm that specializes in providing general contracting and construction management services for federal, state and city government projects, recently completed construction on the brand new North Shore Entrance Station (NSES) of the Lake Mead National Recreation Area in Nevada for the U.S. Department of the Interior’s National Park Service. The project, located approximately 70 miles northeast of Las Vegas, involved the erection of a 440-square-foot main building featuring administrative space and bathroom facilities and a complementary 40-square-foot satellite building, both of which will be used as ticket booths that welcome visitors to Lake Mead. And while the \$1.01 million project may have appeared to be a small-scale undertaking on the surface, it actually required the skillful planning and keen organization associated with a much larger project thanks to the remote desert location of the construction site.

With the commute from Las Vegas, the closest major city, clocking in at more than an hour, as well as the nearest small town being more than 10 miles away, a great deal of groundwork had to be laid to ensure that the construction progressed smoothly for the duration of the assignment, which ran from May 2011 to February 2012. “A lot of pre-planning was involved in this project because of the unique setting in which we were working,” explains Kev Kutina, owner and president of Kevcon, Inc. “While we’ve worked on challenging job sites before, we had to look closely at the remoteness of this desert locale and figure out how to deal with special circumstances that would surround the construction process.”

To start, Kevcon had to bring a full-time environmentalist into the fold because the location is home to the endangered Desert Tortoise. In addition to installing special fencing around the construction zone prior to breaking ground to ensure that the tortoises would not enter the area, the team had to be diligent about protecting the species, working closely with the environmentalist for the extent of the project to keep a consistent eye on the situation.

Once work began, the inability to access supplies easily compelled everyone involved in the construction—most of whom were local subcontractors from the Las Vegas area—to be self-sufficient and arrive every day with all necessities on hand. In addition, Kevcon had to plan in advance to have resources like generators for power and gas, as well as large water tanks, available onsite so machines could be run and work could move forward at a steady pace. The team also had to make arrangements to have everything from concrete and asphalt to the

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buildings' bulletproof windows and surrounding light poles brought to the site at appropriately scheduled times so the work would stay on track, as the completion date coincided with the opening of the 2012 boating season on Lake Mead.

Further adding to the challenging nature of the site was the fact that the two solar-powered buildings, which are connected by overhanging shade structures, extended across a well-traveled two-lane highway that remained open during construction. The heavy tourist traffic prompted Kevcon to place great emphasis on educating the local subcontractors about the company's stringent safety procedures, as well as schedule the workweek to run from Monday through Thursday, leaving the lake's busiest visitor days of Friday through Sunday off of the weekly agenda. The team also began work very early each morning to capture a productive block of time before traffic became an issue and installed special railing and traffic barriers to make the site as safe as possible.

In the end, the project was finished on time for Lake Mead's busy season and exceeded the client's expectations for a truly functional and welcoming entry station. "The completion of this project illustrates that we have the ability to go into any environment, no matter how remote, and find a way to make it work," Kutina says. "We were able to collaborate with the local subcontractors to get the job done efficiently and adjust to the formidable surroundings when necessary. And while the buildings themselves were straightforward in terms of construction, the location offered our team a very different experience that allowed them to use their creative and organizational skills to deliver an outstanding end result for our client."

#### **About Kevcon, Inc.**

Founded in 1988, Kevcon, Inc. is a Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business that offers construction and engineering, construction management, design-build services and more for a wide array of federal, state and city government projects, including veterans' medical facilities, national veterans' cemeteries, community parks and education buildings. As a veteran-owned, controlled and operated company, the firm is dedicated to employing qualified veterans who possess the applicable education, experience and skill to support Kevcon's core competency. The recipient of the 2011 San Diego District Veteran-Owned Small Business of the Year Award from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), Kevcon is recognized in the industry for its exemplary work, high ethical and safety standards and outstanding customer service. For more information, call (760) 432-0307 or visit [www.kevcon.us](http://www.kevcon.us).

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