

# Polk County Justice Center *and* Northwest Regional Corrections Center



## **Crookston, Minnesota**

**Electrical Construction:** \$2.5 Million

**Year Completed:** 2008

**Project Manager:** Steve Wasvick

**Project Foreman:** Allen Thingvold

**Architects:** Klein, McCarthy & Co. Architects, Ltd. and Richard Rude Architectural

**Construction Manager:** Construction Analysis and Management (CAM) Inc.

After years of overcrowding in the existing jail, Polk County built a new Northwest Regional Corrections Facility and an adjoining Polk County Justice Center on county-owned land in Crookston in 2008.

The combined project totaled \$25 million and resulted in a 147,000 square foot building. The Corrections Facility is a 225 bed facility for both male and female populations with an elaborate security system, as well as a recreation area, kitchen and laundry services, and other support areas.

The Justice Center includes offices for the Tri-County Community Corrections administration, Polk County Attorney's Office, state public defenders, as well as District Court and Administration.

Bergstrom Electric was awarded the electrical contract on May 18, 2006 and started work in June.

The most complex part of the project involved the elaborate security system for the Corrections Center. In effect, the entire facility can be monitored and controlled from a central command center. Every security door and camera can also be controlled by a touch screen in the command center. Every door, every camera, the paging system, the fire alarm system, the smoke evacuation system, the general alarm system, and all other components had to be wired to the command center. In all, over 38 miles of conduit were laid in the 147,000 square foot building to tie in all of the systems. Wiring the security equipment room

alone took two Bergstrom electricians 45 days.

In addition, the entire facility is equipped with interactive video, a design that reduces prisoner movement. Prisoners will be able

to communicate with their public defenders and make court appearances without leaving their cellblocks. Visitors will also use the interactive video to meet with inmates.

The electrical system includes 2000amp jail service, 800amp Justice Center service, 3000 amp off-peak service, a 1600amp generator service with paralleling gear to interface with the jail service, and 2 automatic transfer switches for the emergency lighting and smoke evac systems, among other things.

Bergstrom's total man-hours on the project was 34,297 and at the project's peak there were 32 electricians on-site at the same time.

The project was completed on schedule in February of 2008 and **received the 2008 Minnesota Associated Builders and Contractors Pyramid Award in Electrical Construction.**

