

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Construction Management Firm Alvin H. Butz, Inc.
Honored with Prestigious Vista Award**

Award recognizes excellence in teamwork in design and construction of healthcare facilities

Lehigh Valley, PA, April 14, 2010 . . . Alvin H. Butz, Inc. was recently honored with a 2010 Vista Award by The American Society of Healthcare Engineering (ASHE). The award, in the category of new construction, recognizes Alvin H. Butz, Inc., Geisinger Health System and the architectural firm Francis Cauffman for the design and construction of the Critical Care Building (CCB) at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center in Wilkes-Barre, PA. The Vista awards are co-sponsored by ASHE, the American Hospital Association (AHA), and the American Institute of Architects Academy of Architecture for Health (AIA/AAH). Established in 1993, the Vista Awards program recognizes excellence in design and construction teamwork.

“The Vista Award is unique in that it recognizes the team that united to work together with the ultimate goal of designing and developing a healing environment. By sharing a vision and working together, team members were able to overcome the challenges that presented themselves along the way,” said Dana Swenson, PE, MBA, Senior Vice President and Chief Facilities Officer, UMass Memorial Health Care and chair of the 2010 Vista Awards Task Force. “The team from Geisinger clearly worked together and the real people to benefit from their hard work are the people of Wilkes-Barre who will use and work at the facility.” “Alvin H. Butz, Inc. is extremely proud to be the recipient of the 2010 Vista Award for new construction,” said Greg Butz, President of Alvin H. Butz, Inc. “ASHE’s Vista Award represents the highest national honor a healthcare project team can receive. It is very gratifying for us because of the emphasis placed on the value of a team approach to design and construction. That suits our philosophy and business model perfectly.”

With Level II trauma accreditation and LEED Silver certification, the new 178,000-sf Critical Care Building is northeast Pennsylvania’s most modern, sustainable, and technologically advanced trauma center. With a construction cost of \$40,800,000, the building increased the campus by 50 percent and added considerably to its capacity. It houses an expanded 32-bed emergency department, a helipad, 12 high-tech surgical suites with robotics, and a 24-bed intensive care unit.

The Vista program looks at the project teams’ actual results in addition to their guiding concepts. Instead of relying largely on project plans for making judgments, the program also looks for evidence that

the finished facility does an outstanding job of serving the needs of its patients and employees. Geisinger's Critical Care Building is the first critical care center in the area to accommodate neurosurgical care, brain and spinal trauma injuries and has already had a major impact on the hospital's capacity and income, adding 20,000 visits to the expanded emergency department alone, for a total of 45,000-50,000 per year.

In addition to Butz, Geisinger and Francis Cauffman, other project team members recognized with the Vista Award were: Ram-Tech Engineers of Philadelphia, PA (MEP engineer) and Borton-Lawson of Wilkes-Barre, PA (landscape architect).



Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center New Critical Care Building