

## **Clarkson Construction Relies on Communication Solution from NEC to Stay Connected During High-Profile Infrastructure Project**

*Company leverages NEC's UNIVERGE®360 approach to help ensure effective communications throughout landmark bridge construction*

**IRVING, TX, May 13, 2008** — NEC Unified Solutions, Inc. (NEC), a global leader in enterprise business communications, today announced that Clarkson Construction Company will use NEC's Elite IPK II communications system to unify business communications while its team builds the kcICON - Christopher S. Bond Bridge in Kansas City, Mo.

Clarkson and a team of construction partners, collectively known as Paseo Corridor Constructors (PCC), won the bid to build the bridge in late 2007. To be most effective, Clarkson and PCC opened new offices in a building located near the construction site. To help Clarkson scale quickly, Batts Communications, an authorized NEC Diamond Associate and Clarkson's trusted communications partner, recommended NEC's Elite IPK II, a versatile communications system supporting both VoIP and traditional voice on a single processor. Clarkson is also utilizing ViewMail®, a cost-effective form of unified messaging, for the IPK II platform to help ensure business continuity.

"Being awarded the kcICON - Christopher S. Bond Bridge contract was a big milestone for our company and we needed a reliable communications installation to help us grow and focus on the task at hand. By connecting our two office locations and construction partners together, Batts Communications and NEC created a unified system that lets us seamlessly communicate, thereby saving our employees' time and allowing us to increase our interoffice productivity," said Rodney Tatum, IT manager, Clarkson Construction Company.

Developing solutions that can enable organizations to improve their effectiveness is part of NEC's UNIVERGE360 vision to unify business communications. By identifying Clarkson's needs and the roles of each person on the project, NEC and Batts were able to put together a complete communication package that met both Clarkson's business and technology requirements.

"Batts Communications and NEC have delivered telephony products to Clarkson for many years, so we were pleased when they chose our solutions to help them expand their operations. Through our UNIVERGE360 approach, we were able to develop this tailor-made, versatile telecommunications platform that allows Clarkson and PCC to execute communications for this project efficiently," said Larry Levenberg, vice president of national channel sales, NEC Unified Solutions.

Each PCC office location has its own primary rate interface (PRI) trunk and the companies share outside lines over a VoIP connection. This solution provides

redundancy and failover protection, as well as temporary scalability for either location in the case of a sudden spike in call volume. The EliteMail voice platform, running on a Linux® open-source operating system, makes ViewMail possible and enables users of the application to efficiently manage voice mails as .wav file messages. In addition, this configuration provides busy lamp field (BLF) indicators for each employee so users can determine if a co-worker is already on the phone before attempting to get in touch.

Installation of the IPK II at the kcICON bridge site began in February and has been fully operational since mid-April. Bridge construction is scheduled for completion 2011.

#### **About NEC Unified Solutions, Inc.**

NEC Unified Solutions helps companies unify their business through innovative software, applications, development tools, and services. NEC offers a complete portfolio for unified communications, wireless, voice, data and managed services, as well as systems integration and application development. NEC Unified Solutions, a wholly owned subsidiary of NEC Corporation of America, serves Fortune 1000, as well as small to mid-sized businesses across the globe in vertical markets such as hospitality, education, government and healthcare. For more information, visit [www.necunified.com](http://www.necunified.com)

#### **About Clarkson Construction Company**

Since 1880, Clarkson Construction Company and its affiliated companies have constructed many of the Midwest's dams and flood control projects, built much of the regions interstate highway system, excavated and prepared sites for office, residential, retail and entertainment venues, and paved more than a thousand miles of municipal, county and private streets. Clarkson has developed a reputation for completing projects ahead of schedule while maintaining safety levels that set the standard for the industry. For more information, visit [www.clarksonconstruction.com](http://www.clarksonconstruction.com).

#### **About Batts Communications**

Since 1997, Batts Communications has been helping companies with business technology solutions. Our goal is to offer a personal approach without sacrificing quality or expertise. With a staff of trained professionals, Batts stays up to date with the fast moving technological advances in the industry. All of our skilled technicians are formally trained and certified to give provide the best service possible. For more information, visit [www.battscom.net](http://www.battscom.net).