



CHICAGO ARCHITECTURAL METALS
'THE BENCHMARK OF CRAFTSMANSHIP'

Modern Day Artisans

Architectural Metal Smiths Restore and Renovate Iconic Chicago Landmarks – The Page Building, 860-880 Lakeshore Drive, The Palmer House Hilton, and The Carbon and Carbine Building (Hard Rock Hotel)

Chicago, IL, July 2008 - Chicago Architectural Metals, a boutique firm specializing in custom ornamental iron, structural steel and architectural metals is returning the shine to some of Chicago's most beloved landmark buildings.

Opening their doors in 1997 Chicago Architectural Metals began servicing small, custom projects while growing their staff from an office of two, to the 57 person firm that operates today. Over the past eleven years CAM has continued to expand and with this growth been able to take on work of a larger scale. With involvement in the Spertus Museum, the Center on Halsted and McCormick Place, CAM has proven their ability to work with big contractors on big projects.

As expansion was occurring in the fields of structural steel and miscellaneous metals, the company began focusing on another category that has proven to be not only a good fit for the company, but good for the city as well. Historical building renovation became a target market for CAM as the need for Chicago, IL, July 2008 - Chicago Architectural Metals, a boutique firm specializing in custom ornamental iron, structural steel and architectural metals is returning the shine to some of Chicago's most beloved landmark buildings.

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As expansion was occurring in the fields of structural steel and miscellaneous metals, the company began focusing on another category that has proven to be not only a good fit for the company, but good for the city as well. Historical building renovation became a target market for CAM as the need for metal renovation and restoration of older buildings and structures became necessary to ensure their longevity.

In the last five years Chicago Architectural Metals has worked on a number of landmark locations in the Chicago area – The Hilton Palmer House Hotel, the Hard Rock Hotel (formerly the Carbon and Carbide Building), the Drake Hotel, the Historic Riverside Water Tower and at present, the Page Bros. Building and the Mies van der Rohe designed apartments at 860-880 Lake Shore Drive. From the ornate grandeur of the Beaux Arts era to Deco inspired geometrics to the clean lines of the International style, CAM is restoring glory to architectural gems throughout the city. With few companies able to complete restorative metal work, CAM has found itself called upon to participate in the repair and refurbishing of these structures, bringing them back to their original state. In fact, restorative work now figures at about 30 percent of their business.

One of the firm's highlighted projects continues to be the work that was done on the Millennium Park Metra Station with SOM architects. Standing dilapidated for years, the Millennium Park Metra Station was given a complete renovation blending the modern efficiencies of today with the stylized look of the golden age of travel. Almost completely clad in stainless steel, the train station servicing the South Shore Metra line evokes the sleek sense of vintage rail. CAM designed, manufactured and installed column covers, ticket booths, and steel wall panels for the space, the latter etched in a linear pattern designed to reinforce the idea of speed and movement. You can find the station at Randolph and Michigan Avenue across from Millennium Park in downtown Chicago. You can also find it on the big screen as it makes an appearance as one of the locations chosen for the Batman movie, 'The Dark Knight.'

Because of their growth over the years, Chicago Architectural is now in the process of designing a new space to house both the administrative office and factory, at present the two are separate creating too much go-between commuting. With this move comes the opportunity for improvement in the way of sustainable change.

The 'new' old building will be completely gutted and because of the impending need for all businesses to accept responsibility for 'green' change, CAM has been working with a LEED certified architect to design a structure that will be *eco-friendly, using steel as a main component.

In the fall of 2008, Chicago Architectural Metals will be housed in their new space, featuring a showroom for materials, products and informational gatherings.

From custom stairs and railings to the restoration of important historical buildings to multi-million dollar curtain wall projects, Chicago Architectural Metals continues to evolve, adding construction management and contracting to their services. To learn more about this innovative and emerging company, please visit their website at:

www.chicagoarchitecturalmetals.com

*Chicago architectural metals has an informative web page on the topic of 'Green Steel' – to learn more about this recyclable material visit their website.

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