

The Johns Hopkins University

Whiting School of Engineering
Department of Civil Engineering

Redeveloping Times Square – A Story of 4 Towers

A Seminar By

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Abstract

This presentation compares the design challenges and structural design implications presented by the various site constraints and architecture of four towers constructed, or currently under construction, within blocks of each other.

Over the past 10 Years Times Square has changed and redeveloped while keeping its individual character and history. Under the aegis of the 42nd street Development Corporation (42DP), a consistent and diverse group of buildings have been constructed within Times Square as part of the redevelopment. Beyond the edges of the Times Square - 42DP district, a number of other buildings have been developed which are an extension of the redevelopment and urban fabric. Four towers, 5 Times Square, 745 7th Avenue, 7 Times Square and the NY Times Tower exemplify the this reconstruction, the impact of large buildings on the urban fabric as well as the impact of the urban fabric and on the design of these buildings.

Although driven by the desires of owners and developers and the designs of architects and engineers, each building ultimately had to address varying street conditions, site and zoning constraints. In many respects, the site constraints dictated design, resulting in four very different towers. The structure of each tower works within its site in a different manner adding to the streetscape and the skyline and helping to re-energize the crossroads of the world.

Bio

Eli Gottlieb has been with Thornton-Tomasetti Engineers Division of Thornton-Tomasetti Group, Inc. since 1996. In his short time with the firm, Mr. Gottlieb has escalated rapidly through the ranks from an Engineer to his current status as Associate. His experience includes, but is not limited to, structural analysis, design and review of a variety of building types, including commercial buildings, hotels and sports facilities. His responsibilities include development of plans, details and sections of contract drawings from conception to completion and review of contractor's submittals for compliance to technical specifications. He also manages other design team members and supervises the work of engineers and draft persons. Some of Mr. Gottlieb's most prestigious projects include Times Square Tower, 5 Times Square, Nationwide Arena, and the Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of New York-Presbyterian.

Mr. Gottlieb attained his Master of Science Degree in Civil Engineering and Engineering Mechanics in 2000 from Columbia University and his Bachelor of Science in Structural Engineering and Applied Science from Princeton University in 1996. He is also an Associate Adjunct Professor at Columbia University in the Civil Engineering and Engineering Mechanics Department. Not one to halt after his formal education has been completed, Mr. Gottlieb is currently a member of the Structural Engineers Association of New York (SEAoNY) and the American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-Way Association (AREMA). He is also a registered Professional Engineer in the state of New York.

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

4:00 PM

Maryland Hall 110