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A new processing center greets pedestrians entering the U.S. from Mexico.

Photo courtesy of David Harrison

$741M Border Project Gets Finishing Touches

CONSTRUCTION: Crossing Achieves LEED Platinum Status

■ By RAY HUARD

A $741 million project to rebuild the San Ysidro border crossing between the U.S. and Mexico officially wrapped up in December.

Started 10 years ago, the master plan for project was designed and overseen by the Seattle-based Miller Hull Partnership for the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) and built to accommodate new inspection protocols developed post 9/11 and ease border crossings.

Kevin Carpenter

A key element was to make what is the busiest land crossing into the U.S. more welcoming while improving security, said Kevin Carpenter, project manager for Miller Hull.

"The purpose of this facility is to make it just a much better experience for the traveling public," Carpenter said. "This needed to be a lot more like an airport than a guard station as much as we can make it. There are the realities of law enforcement. The idea is that those realities of law enforcement and inspection are second to the notion of getting the public through as fast and as painless as possible."

Campus Size Doubles

To that end, the project doubled

Regulatory Hurdle Too High for Illumina

TECH: Co. Scraps Planned $1.2 Billion PacBio Acquisition

■ By JARED WHITLOCK

San Diego's Illumina will no longer buy Pacific Biosciences for $1.2 billion, a decision the companies mutually reached following antitrust action on both sides of the pond.

Pacific Biosciences, or PacBio, had the potential to add another dimension to Illumina's DNA-reading technology

that's the backbone of everything from ancestry tests to prenatal screening.

But last month, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission moved to block the transaction, and the U.K.'s Competition and Markets Authority in October said it might do the same.

$98M Breakup Fee

Per a Jan. 2 announcement, Illumina

will pay a $98 million break-up fee to PacBio. But PacBio must repay the money if it strikes an agreement to be acquired by Sept. 30 and consummates the deal within two years.

Illumina climbed to the top of the DNA sequencing market with short-read sequencing that amplifies snippets of DNA. Pacific Biosciences, or Pac-

Medical Device Cos. Applaud Tax Repeal

HEALTH: Excise Tax Was an ACA Financing Mechanism

■ By JARED WHITLOCK

Matt Link

A recently signed federal spending bill repealed a 2.3% excise tax on medical device makers that was scheduled to resume this month, a boon to San Diego's medtech industry.

The specter of not only higher taxes but also costly accounting and reporting requirements loomed over local companies like NuVasive and ResMed.

"The repeal allows us to sustain long-term investments for new technology, in particular surgical intelligence and enabling technologies, that support safer surgeries and more reproducible patient outcomes in spine surgery," said Matt Link, president of NuVasive, in a statement.

NuVasive specializes in lateral spine surgery products and procedures, with 2,600 global employees.

The tax was imposed in 2013 on devices like heart stents to help fund the Affordable Care Act. Since then, the medical device industry prioritized killing the tax,

Designer's Passions Show in Projects

DESIGN: Figure Skating And Travels Are Inspirations

■ By RAY HUARD

Jules Wilson

As a child growing up in the northern Illinois city of Rockford, Jules Wilson was a competitive figure skater from the age of 4 or 5.

"By 7 or 8, I was skating six days a week, four or five days a week," Wilson said. "It gave me my passion and my focus, my drive, my desire to do and achieve things and follow my dreams."

Wilson did just that about 15 years ago, when she decided to form Jules Wilson Design Studio.

After living in Italy for two years and studying at
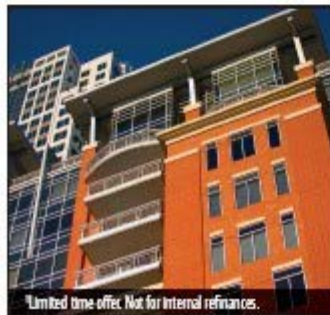
CONSTRUCTION
Promotion

Glaske

Gafcon, Inc., the San Diego-headquartered consultant firm currently managing the Seaport San Diego redevelopment, has promoted **Marty Glaske** to Senior Vice President of Business Development. After leading Gafcon's labor relations division as Vice President for nearly 15 years, Marty will direct business development strategies for Gafcon's broader services portfolio, including program and project/construction management, technology solutions, labor relations, expert witness, outreach, and pre-construction.

Marty will leverage more than 25 years of experience and built relationships within the construction industry with both public and private clients, to define strategic, forward-thinking goals for the firm, reporting directly to Gafcon's President and Chief Operating Officer, Robin Duveen. In this new role, he will be responsible for supporting the client experience with both new and existing clients, leading the firm's mission of delivering complex projects that power vibrant communities. Marty operates out of Gafcon's San Diego headquarters located in Sorrento Valley; however, he will be spending a great deal of time working throughout all of Southern California, including Gafcon's two branch offices in Orange County and Los Angeles.

Marty holds both a Bachelor's in Business and Master's in Business Administration, emphasizing Organizational Management. He also studied Labor Relations at Penn State University. In 2017, Marty was honored with the Public Works Advocate of the Year Award by the San Diego/Imperial County Chapter of the American Public Works Association. He is an active member of the community, championing Gafcon's participation in events like the Camp Pendleton Mud Run.

Marty Glaske can be reached at 858-875-0056 or mglaske@gafcon.com