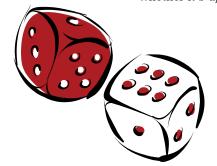


by Libby Maurer

Popular Las Vegas pawn shop gets an addition with help from SBCA member.

as Vegas: glitz, gambling, and home to the Gold and Silver Pawn Shop. History Channel buffs will recognize this nondescript landmark from the hit series *Pawn Stars*. The reality show captures a husky (and entertaining) grandfather-son-grandson trio who operate a booming pawn business on The Strip. The format is straightforward: Richard, Rick and Corey Harrison are taped dealing with potential sellers looking to pawn all manner of items. (As an example, one episode features a peg leg...) The show reveals the real business of running a pawn store, whether it's appraising odd items or spotting stolen goods.



"It was a really nice project for us. We knew a lot of people would be looking at it so we took advantage of the marketing opportunity."

-Art Ramirez

When the show began its third season in June, fans were ecstatic. But by then, it had gained such a following that tourists were lining up to see Gold and Silver in person. Folks who had already visited the shop report it desperately needed an expansion. "They seriously need to expand their showroom, and fast!" one blogger wrote.

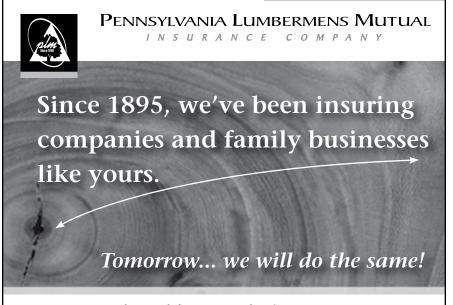
Expand they did, and Sun State Components supplied the roof and floor systems for Gold and Silver's 6.000 square foot addition. Sales manager Art Ramirez said since the original building is located in "old" Las Vegas, it took the city several months to make sure the two-story addition would measure up to new building codes. The bottom floor will be used to store excess inventory, while the second level is dedicated to office space. Despite the massive new space, Gold and Silver shoppers will not have access to it. "The expansion is definitely bigger than their showroom, but they're not using it for extra retail space," he said.

Truss designer Rich Menge said although the addition is large, the design is quite simple. "There were only about six designs total for the roof and floors," he said, noting that the tapered flat roof trusses and floor trusses span 42'. Long-time customer Don Herman Construction of Las Vegas asked Sun State to be the truss supplier. "A lot of our work is based on long-term relationships that we've worked hard to maintain," Ramirez said. Westcor Framing (also of Las Vegas) was the framing contractor.

Because of the high profile nature of this job, Sun State made sure to maximize its exposure with a banner hung on one of the trusses. "It's a good way to market our company. You know, The Strip is a great place to advertise," said Ramirez. **SBC**

See pages 18-19 for additional photos of the project. For more information about Pawn Stars on the History Channel, including downloads of full episodes, visit <u>www.history.com/shows/pawn-stars.</u>





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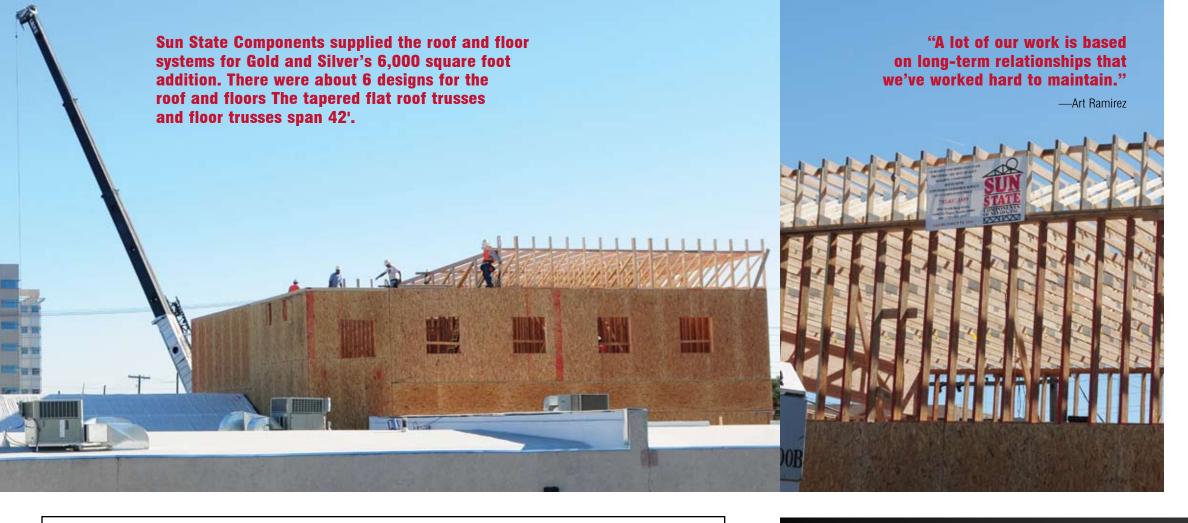
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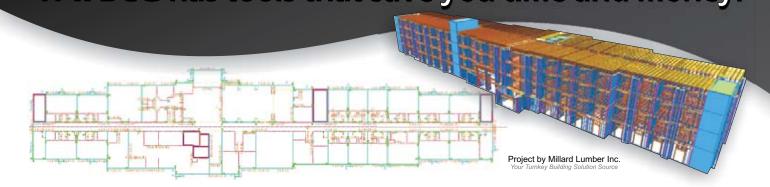
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