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Critical But 'Invisible' Orange Line Team Wins Industry Award

- Project controls effort overcame multiple obstacles

By NED RACINE

(Sept. 26, 2007) The Metro Orange Line recently won an award for excellence in a critical area most of its riders never consider.



Roger Dames, Metro Orange Line project manager, and William Brown, project controls manager, display the award the project controls team won for overcoming threats to the Orange Line's budget and schedule. Photo by Ned Racine

The Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering's (AACE) Southern California chapter named the Orange Line its Southern California Project of the Year, in part because the project team overcame a court-ordered, month-long work suspension and the discovery of contaminated soil on the construction site.

William Brown, the Orange Line's project controls manager, his staff and consultant Carter-Burgess also had to overcome record-breaking rains between December 2004 and March 2005. Brown has worked for Metro since 1981 when he began

as a cost/schedule analyst.

AACE cited the project controls team's ability to proactively manage and mitigate issues before they impacted the project.

"Bill has managed cost and schedule for Metro capital projects since the 1980s, and I'm delighted to see his fine work recognized by the AACE," said Roger Dames, Orange Line project manager.

In June, the Orange Line won an award from the American Institute of Architects for the beauty of its stations and landscaping.