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Need for Enhanced Security Leads APS to PAMREX and STABILOC®

(Northboro, Massachusetts) — Arizona Public Service (APS), the electric utility that serves major portions of Phoenix, Arizona, and surrounding areas, has greatly improved the access security of its underground system along downtown Phoenix's Central Avenue corridor, thanks to a partnership between CertainTeed PAM and STABILOC®.

The Phoenix, Arizona, public transportation agency is currently in the process of building a 20-mile light-rail line that will extend from north central Phoenix to Mesa. This project began in 2004, and completion is expected in 2008. Part of this project involved the relocation of the water, sewer and power utilities, setting the stage for actual construction of station platforms and track installation. To accomplish this, APS needed to move its underground infrastructure along the rail route, including major trunk lines running underneath Central Avenue. One of their major requirements was a locking system that would APS employees to access the infrastructure.

While Baldemar "Bobby" Garza, a governmental liaison with the utility, was greatly interested in the company's PAMREX 32" cover, he needed a locking system that provided more security. In order to meet those needs, PAM partnered with STABILOC®, a Michigan-based company

that produces intrusion prevention and delay locking systems for manhole covers. Says Wick Baker of Border Marketing, a distributor for CertainTeed PAM, “Bobby was interested in the PAMREX, which features a hinged design and is lighter in weight than standard cast-iron covers, making it safer for utility personnel to operate. He liked the cover, but was looking for a more secure alternative to the Penta lock. I did some investigating and contacted him a few months later with the option of retrofitting our covers with STABILOC®, an intrusion prevention and delay locking system. And because the PAMREX has a hinged design, we only needed to add one lock, not two, which saved Bobby money.”

According to Ed Christie, Vice President of Sales and Marketing for STABILOC®, the locking system is especially appropriate for applications requiring the highest level of security. “The APS trunk lines carry more than just major power lines,” he noted. “They also contain fiber optic networks, making it even more critical that unauthorized people be prevented from accessing these sensitive systems.”

Continues Baker, “What started out as customer interest in the PAMREX has led to a fruitful partnership with STABILOC®, allowing us to better serve the needs of Bobby as well as future customers. Along with the locking feature, the use of ductile iron means that the covers are not easily broken by vandals using a hammer, because ductile iron is not prone to brittle failure unlike old cast iron.”

“PAMREX is definitely a better choice than the traditional manhole covers, thanks to the locking system as well as the hinge design,” says Garza. “Overall, the crews really like installing them.”

About CertainTeed Corporation

Through innovation and creative product design, CertainTeed Corporation has helped shape the building products industry for more than 100 years. Founded in 1904 as General Roofing Company, the firm made its slogan "Quality Made Certain, Satisfaction Guaranteed," which quickly inspired the name CertainTeed. Today, CertainTeed is a leading North American

manufacturer of residential and commercial roofing; vinyl and fiber cement siding; vinyl and composite exterior trim; vinyl and composite fence, railing and decking; vinyl windows; residential, commercial and mechanical insulation; PVC pipe; foundations; and access covers.

Headquartered in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, CertainTeed is a Saint-Gobain company with approximately 7,000 employees and 40 manufacturing facilities throughout the United States. In 2005 CertainTeed had sales of \$2.8 billion. www.certainteed.com

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