



# McCarthy chooses Topcon's Millimeter GPS™ for bluetop accuracy

**Company:** McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.

**Location:** St. Louis, MO

**Project:** Bayport Complex and Access Road

**Location:** Port of Houston, TX

**Scope: Port Road**

Two lane connector road

150,000 cy cut / fill excavation

6,000 lf storm pipe & box culverts

5,000 lf 18" d.i.p. water line, valves, & hydrants

20,000 sy 15" / 10" pavement

Cost: \$14,800,000

Start Jan. 2006 / End July 2006

### Phase 1 Marine Terminal Gate

Port entry / exit facility

30 acres 10" & 11" concrete pavement with specialized sub-base construction

14 buildings—premanufactured metal, masonry, and modular

Cost: \$27,500,000

Start Dec. 2005 / End Aug. 2006

### Topcon Products:

(2) HiPer Lite+ GPS+ base / rover with Millimeter GPS™

(2) FC-100 field controllers w/ Pocket 3D

3D-GPS+ automatic w/ Millimeter GPS™ / Cat 140H



**Don Barrett, director, Houston division**

McCarthy Building Companies, started as a lumber business 140 years ago, is one of the largest building contractors in the United States. The company's main office is located in St. Louis, Missouri. Eight full-service branches serve the nation and include the Texas Division office in Dallas. With an average contract value of \$16 million, McCarthy is ranked in the top 15 builders in the nation.

Challenged by compressed time schedules on the Port of Houston projects,

McCarthy recently purchased Topcon's 3D-GPS+ automatic machine control system and Millimeter GPS/LazerZone to expedite subgrade preparation.

Don Barrett, director of the Houston Division, was instrumental in introducing GPS to McCarthy. At a safety meeting, he arranged to have a GPS demonstration through Jim West and David Owen of GeoShack. The demonstration resulted in the purchase of two Topcon HiPer Lite+ survey packages with Millimeter GPS. The 3D-GPS+ machine control system followed shortly thereafter.

"We need the accuracy," Barrett explained. "Plus or minus an inch is not close enough for the highway work that we do at the final grade. It's fine up until you get to that point. So we went ahead and invested in the Millimeter GPS package to do the bluetopping that we need."

"We've dealt with GeoShack since 1993," he continued. "We've had good support all the way through. So far with the GPS, anytime we've had a question they've been right out on the site."

Barrett summarized the new-found performance and productivity with one simple statement: "We're getting a lot more done with a lot less effort."

### Topcon Dealer:

GeoShack

5200 Mitchelldale St. / Suite #E-14

Houston, TX 77092

800.533.3089

www.geoshack.com

To read other Topcon At Work stories go to  
[www.topconatwork.com](http://www.topconatwork.com)



7400 National Drive  
Livermore, CA 94551

800-443-4567

[www.topconpositioning.com](http://www.topconpositioning.com)