



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Growing Lean**

*Skender Construction Shares Lean Techniques to Build ICU Efficiently*

(CHICAGO, May 24, 2013) Skender Construction and its trade partners recently experienced how Lean Construction can help complete a project in a short timeframe with a limited amount of disruption for the client. Northwestern Memorial Hospital enlisted Skender to refurbish four of its 20-year-old ICUs, and they hoped to get it done quickly and efficiently.

The project totaled 76,000 square feet and needed to be accomplished one ICU at a time. Skender allotted six weeks for each unit, using double shifts. Some of its subcontractors had worked with Lean Construction before, while others were experiencing it for the first time. Skender measured its success on the project not only by its on time completion, but also on the total labor hours spent on each of the projects four \$3 million phases. The production gain from Phase One to Phase Four was 16 percent, meaning even trade partners who were new to Lean Construction saw significant gains from the process.

This success was achieved by using the Last Planner System and including the trade partners in the planning process. These partners helped design a system in which floor plans were broken down into very manageable batch sizes. This allowed the team to order materials for just-in-time delivery, using the hospital's loading dock at non-peak hours to allow minimal disruption to patients during the process.

While some trade partners were still learning to adopt the Lean Construction principles, they quickly saw improvements in PPC, which rose to over 86 percent, saving the subcontractors more than 700 hours on site, which created a costs savings of more than \$70,000.

Most importantly, the ICUs were completed on time and under budget, giving the hospital the best possible facilities. The Skender team helped spread the word about Lean Construction, while also building a world-class facility for its client.

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#### **About Skender Construction**

Skender Construction changes the way people experience construction. From our passion to the way we're innovating project delivery, our clients and project partners walk away feeling different about the process. Our approach is different – we believe a successful project builds on everyone's expertise. True



collaboration, innovation and a focus on efficiency creates value that clients see and touch. For more information on Skender, visit [www.skender.com](http://www.skender.com).

**Caption for attached photo:** Skender Construction recently completed the refurbishment of four ICUs totaling 76,000 square feet at Northwestern Memorial Hospital using the principles of Lean Construction. Each \$3 million unit was completed in just six weeks with a PPC that rose to 86 percent by the end of the project, saving more than 700 hours on site and \$70,000.