



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Friday, July 23, 2010

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Janet Johnson, 480-362-7722 (SRPMIC)
janet.johnson@srpmic-nsn.gov

Shaun Rachau, 602-462-6686 (D-backs)
srachau@dbacks.com

Jay Alves, 303-312-2326 (Rockies)
Alvesj@coloradorockies.com

M.K. Racine, 480-839-5944 (Mortenson Construction)
MK.Racine@mortenson.com

Trish Martineck, 214-969-3379 (HKS, Inc)
tmartineck@hksinc.com

SALT RIVER FIELDS AT TALKING STICK CELEBRATES TOPPING OUT CEREMONY FOR THE VALLEY'S NEWEST MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL SPRING TRAINING FACILITY

SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY – Major construction milestones are evident at *Salt River Fields at Talking Stick*, the new Spring Training Home for the Arizona Diamondbacks and the Colorado Rockies, as the teams, owners and contractor celebrate the hoisting of the final two steel beams atop the D-backs and Rockies Clubhouses.

In coordination with Mortenson Construction, the general contractor for *Salt River Fields*, representatives from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC), the D-backs and Rockies hosted a “Topping Out” Ceremony on Friday, July 23 at the 140-acre construction site. The new complex is located at 7555 N. Pima Road on the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. It is the first Major League Spring Training facility built on Indian land.

“This important milestone marks a significant achievement for the Community, our MLB partners and our contractor. Their team work is evident in the fast progress of buildings and structures taking shape at *Salt River Fields*. It is also important to thank the dedicated construction and steel workers and project team members who are keeping *Salt River Fields* on track,” said SRPMIC President Diane Enos.

“We are extremely excited about the topping off ceremony,” said D-backs’ President & CEO Derrick Hall. “It is a major milestone for this one-of-a-kind facility. It is a comforting reminder that we are just months away from opening our gates for fans of baseball to experience the best Spring Training site in the game.”

“This is a significant step as we move forward with our partners on this project,” said Rockies’ Vice President of Ballpark Operations Kevin Kahn. “Reaching this milestone today is a clear indication that the project is on schedule and that all the partners are working towards the same goal of providing a world-class baseball complex that we can all be proud of.”

Spring Training Home of the:





Earlier this week, SRPMIC members, the MLB teams and construction project staff signed the beams at the construction site. Friday's "Topping Out" ceremony included the hoisting of the beams, painted white with each team's respective logo on the sides. The beams were hoisted on top of the team clubhouses with each beam housing the U.S. and SRPMIC flags. An evergreen tree was also placed atop the beams. It is a steel workers tradition to place an evergreen tree on a beam during a "Topping Out" ceremony. The evergreen tree is used to symbolize a project has been blessed to progress safely to this stage of completion.

"After only five and a half months from the date of our first concrete pour, on January 28, 2010, the Mortenson Construction team has put in place a significant amount of work, leading to the culmination of the structural steel 'Topping Out' at the Arizona Diamondbacks and Colorado Rockies Clubhouses, a significant project milestone," said Jason Brown, Lead Superintendent, Mortenson Construction.

Located adjacent to Scottsdale, Arizona, *Salt River Fields*, designed by HKS Architects, will showcase an 11,000-seat ballpark, 12 practice fields, as well as Major and Minor League clubhouses, training facilities and offices for each team. The facility will open in February 2011.

The "Topping Out" milestone is concurrent with the final pouring of 30,000 cubic yards of structural concrete performed by Mortenson Concrete self perform crafts that was critical in driving this fast track project to achieve the "Topping Out" milestone. To date, more than 2500 craft workers have been on site with an additional 650—plus workers on site daily, with an anticipated total of more than 1,000 workers by project's end.

"The project is on track as timely information exchange and decision making has been facilitated by the co-location of the Community, HKS and Mortenson in the jobsite office," said Eric Grenz, Project Manager, Mortenson Construction. "This milestone truly signifies a major accomplishment for the project, given the extremely fast track nature of the project. We understand this facility, the first of its kind on Native Land, to be a significant undertaking for the Community and appreciate their entrusting us with a facility that will continue to benefit the Community for generations to come."

Located just west of the Loop 101 freeway and north of Indian Bend Road, *Salt River Fields at Talking Stick* will feature a mix of seating options: 7,000 in fixed seats and 4,000 in a general admission lawn berm area located beyond the outfield fences. It is designed with built-in shade to give fans the most pleasant Spring Training experience.

Salt River Fields was designed by HKS Architects, a firm that designed Glendale's Camelback Ranch spring training facility and Cowboys Stadium in Dallas.

"Our design theme supports the overall project concept: "Two Teams, Two Tribes, One Home," said Mo Stein, FAIA, FACHA, principal with HKS Architects. "The two teams housed in the venue are the Arizona Diamondbacks and the Colorado Rockies, and two Tribes are part of the Salt River Pima - Maricopa Indian Community. The overall project reflects this context at the site and all building development while immersing fans in the baseball experience."

Mortenson Construction is the general contractor for the project. Mortenson's recent projects include Glendale's Camelback Ranch facility, built for the Los Angeles Dodgers and Chicago White Sox.

Salt River Fields at Talking Stick will be the newest entertainment venue to carry the "Talking Stick" brand as it joins Talking Stick Golf Club and Talking Stick Resort.

For more information about the project, visit www.saltriverfields.com.

