

This month's product promotions, company news and more.



A GMS COMPANY

"We deliver drywall but we sell service."

Dick Mueller
Co-Founder of GMS

Welcome to the February edition of "Gator Gypsum News Bytes." We're glad to connect with you again!

Coming Soon: Gator Gypsum Spring Expo!

GATOR GYPSUM 2018 SPRING EXPO

February 22nd 2018

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

3904 E. Adamo Drive Tampa, FL 33605

An afternoon of food, fun, learning and prizes!

Over 25 Vendors

Metal, Drywall, Joint Treatment, Tools,
Insulation, Fasteners & Acoustical

- Product Demos
- Giveaways
- Catered Lunch
- Raffle Prizes

Raffle Prizes!



Amalie Arena

Tampa Bay Lightning
vs Edmonton Oilers
Sunday March 18, 2018



George Steinbrenner Field

New York Yankees
vs Boston Red Sox
Friday March 23, 2018

For more information contact:

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To benefit:



Shriners Hospitals
for Children - Tampa
Love to the rescue!

Be sure to mark your calendar now for Gator Gypsum's 2018 Spring Expo. It will be held at our Tampa yard on Thursday, February 22 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. You're invited to demo the hottest products, receive industry tips from the experts, and win prizes and giveaways! During the event, you'll enjoy:

- Vendor displays
- Product demos

- Conversation with industry professionals
- Raffle prizes for sporting events
- A free catered lunch

Help us support Shriners Hospital - Tampa by participating in our raffle. With every entry, you'll have a chance to win:

- Tickets to the Tampa Bay Lightning vs. Edmonton Oilers game on Sunday March 18, 2018
- Tickets to the New York Yankees vs. Boston Red Sox game on Friday March 23, 2018

Be sure to join us and [RSVP today!](#)

Product Spotlight: DEWALT OSHA-Compliant™ Dust Solutions



Updated standards enacted by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration ([OSHA](#)) now require collection systems to capture 99% of respirable silica dust for all general construction, effective 9/23/17, in order to limit workers' exposure to respirable crystalline silica.

Gator Gypsum is proud to offer [DEWALT OSHA-Compliant Dust Solutions](#) at each of our yard locations across Florida. (Note: information about this line of tools is based on the manufacturer's statements.) We are strong believers in jobsite safety and we are committed to providing our customers a broad range of personal protective equipment (PPE) options.

Gator Gypsum Carries DEWALT's Line of OSHA-Compliant Products for Silica Dust

Gator Gypsum, your trusted source for quality construction products, is also your one-stop shop for DEWALT's OSHA-Compliant Dust Solutions that are designed to help deliver the safe, healthy jobsites you deserve, including:

- Power Tools: designed to provide a high level of control, dust containment, and/or low vibration, without sacrificing performance
- Accessories & Dust Shrouds: commercially available shrouds, cowlings and collection systems for use with drills and grinders, to minimize dust emissions
- Dust Extractors: providing air flow and filtration of 99%+ efficiency

Silica Dust in Construction

Many activities on commercial or residential jobsites, such as cutting, grinding and drilling masonry (stone, concrete, brick, mortar, etc.) lead to the creation of silica dust. Though tiny - up to 100 times finer than standard playground sand - OSHA warns that these respirable crystalline silica particles pose significant risks to the 2+ million people exposed to silica dust at work each year. Most drywall products do not contain measurable quantities of silica, but be sure to double check the manufacturer's Safety Data Sheet to be certain.

Product Spotlight: 20-Minute Soffits with Armstrong's QuikStix



We often hear about construction products or methods that claim to reduce installation time by a significant factor, only to find that on the job site, they don't perform as promised.

This is not the case with Armstrong's QuikStix Drywall Soffit System. Armstrong claims that a 16' run of soffit can be framed in 20 minutes using QuikStix, and they've produced a timed video to back up the claim.

The 20-minute QuikStix installation does rely on pre-cutting and bending the framing components on or off site prior to

installation, but considering that the traditional method for soffit framing requires up to three hours to install a 16' run, the QuikStix method represents a substantial savings in installation time.

In addition, the use of QuikStix reduces the weight of framing by 40%, and uses less than 25% of the steel used in traditional soffit framing. Armstrong QuikStix also includes these features:

- Knockouts at 6" and 8" centers reduce cutting time
- Alignment holes make screw installation simple
- Forms perfect 30°, 45°, 60°, 75° and 90° angles
- Flattened bulb is offset to allow true angles without interference
- Bending crimp to prevent misalignment

For a hands-on look at Armstrong's QuikStix Drywall Soffit System, stop by your [nearest Gator Gypsum location](#). We carry the full line of Armstrong products.

[Watch Armstrong's 20-minute soffit video.](#)

Product Spotlight: Ruco Concrete Surfacer

Ruco Concrete Surfacer is one of the many [Ruco interior finishing products](#) Gator Gypsum has in stock. This ready-mixed, non-asbestos formulation for leveling interior concrete surfaces offers a number of advantages:

- Provides superior bond to concrete ceilings or other surfaces
- Requires no additional bonding agent
- Resists shrinkage and cracking - ideal for heavy fill applications
- Resists mold
- Certified Greenguard Gold for low VOC emissions



Ruco Concrete Surfacer is available in a 4.5 gallon pail or 3.5 gallon box. Gator Gypsum stocks a full line of interior finishing compounds, tools, and accessories. Consult the product specialists at your nearest yard for the best product for your application - we're always happy to help with expert advice!

Worker Shortage



The construction industry in Florida ended the year strong, with some 42,000 new jobs added statewide in 2017, the most added by any industry in the state last year. The forecast for this year is sunny as well, thanks to multi-million and multi-billion dollar projects underway or in the planning stages.

Large projects in the Tampa area that will generate new jobs in 2018 and beyond include Water Street Tampa, the \$3 billion redevelopment of the downtown waterfront, and Nova Southeastern University's new multi-million dollar Clearwater campus, set to begin construction this year.

Projects like these are part of the reason construction added the most jobs last year in Florida, and may add even more in 2018, as 75 percent of construction companies expect to hire in the coming year, according to Association of General Contractors of America.

But there are some potential clouds on the horizon. Among the major issues facing the industry in 2018 are a shortage of experienced workers and the performance of the current workforce. Many construction workers today are relatively new to the job and lack the experience and training of previous generations. They require more on-the-job instruction and supervision, which can delay projects. Compared to previous decades, there is more safety training taking place as well, as the industry works to remedy the labor shortage.

[Read the full story.](#)

For more information about Gator Gypsum, including our services and product offerings, [visit our website.](#)

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With seven yard locations across Florida.