

## TULSA CASINO DOESN'T GAMBLE ON QUALITY, DETAILS

### VANCE HELPS VALUED CUSTOMER CONQUER ITS BIGGEST JOB EVER

B&T Seal Coating and Striping and Vance Brothers each went into business in Tulsa around the same time. Since 2003, we've done some pretty big sealing jobs together. B&T has tackled the Conoco-Phillips headquarters and Promenade Mall, both exceeding 600,000 square feet, plus an 880,000-square-foot mega-church. At nearly 1 million square feet, River Spirit Casino topped them all.

It wasn't easy. Timing was critical. The weather, brutal. Coordination was key – between contractor, supplier and customer. As always, B&T and Vance Brothers proved to be a sure bet. By design, the house won.

#### A SIZEABLE LOT

River Spirit Casino opened in 1984 as Creek Nation Casino-Tulsa Bingo and has grown into one of Oklahoma's leading Indian gaming facilities. It expanded a couple years ago, converting the original facility into an events center and building a new state-of-the-art \$195 million casino.

As an active community partner, River Spirit provides a positive economic impact for Tulsa and the surrounding area. It has brought more than 650 new jobs to the city and now employs around 1,300 people.

They and the thousands of casino patrons need somewhere to park at all hours of the day. Which is one reason this job was so challenging.

"They're open 24/7 and they need to make it easy on their customers to get in and out. We couldn't just throw up barricades and go to work," said B&T owner Bob Pendergrass. "We worked closely with the facilities director and casino security to rope certain areas off and keep other sections open and accessible throughout the project."



#### A HOT MIX

Pendergrass and his crew went after it hard with a 1,500-gallon spray rig with 12-foot spray bars mounted on a GMC 7500, along with an 825-gallon hand-wand spray rig. They were shooting a custom blend of Vance Brothers ProtecTar sealer and Tar Max R-100 additive.

"Tar Max really makes our mix more pliable. The latex helps suspend the sand we put in it, gives the blend a darker, richer color, and makes it last longer," Pendergrass said, adding that he carefully adjusts water and latex levels to handle the heat of late summer in Oklahoma.



## **TULSA CASINO DOESN'T GAMBLE ON QUALITY, DETAILS VANCE HELPS VALUED CUSTOMER CONQUER ITS BIGGEST JOB EVER [CONT.]**

The project kicked off in August 2011 in the midst of 30 days of 107-degree or hotter temperatures. “We were in triple digits for a long time, and had zero rain.” While the lack of rain helped their schedule, they had to modify it some due to customer demands and/or Mother Nature. “We did work a few nights when it was ‘cooler.’ It’d be 98 instead of a 108.”

All told, the job took an estimated three weeks of combined work hours. Not bad for putting two coats on 976,000 square feet of parking lot under a disjointed schedule and extreme working conditions.

“Greg Fuller from Vance Brothers was really helpful during the bidding process, and Vance did a great job of keeping us supplied throughout the project,” Pendergrass said. “They made sure their trucks were always at the ready. Availability of product was never an issue. That really helped us keep up with the other projects we had going, too. We couldn’t just forget about those customers.”

River Spirit Casino isn’t a project that B&T or Vance Brothers will forget anytime soon. Pendergrass has been back to stripe the lot and do other odds and ends and reports the customer is thrilled with the results. “It still looks great, like the day we put it down,” he said.