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## **By Dave Cannistrato: A look back at 2011**

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Though 2011 left with little fanfare as compared to many years the past, 2012 has brought with it a sense of renewed optimism and faith that the economy is in recovery. There are positive signs to support that optimism even in the construction industry. In particular, Boston has enjoyed increased activity in the office construction market, according to several sources in recent weeks. Construction employment was up in December with the nonresidential construction sector adding 17, 200 construction jobs and nonresidential specialty trade contractors adding 20,200 positions. These are all good signs that the construction market is improving.

As an association we have much to look forward to as well including, progress in becoming one of the first "health group purchasing cooperatives", legislative advancement with a piece of the Prompt Pay bill known as "retainage" and a calendar packed with educational seminars and member events.

Our goal is to be your one-stop business resource and we look forward to building momentum, increasing membership and bringing value to you and your business in 2012. Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at [president@associatedsubs.com](mailto:president@associatedsubs.com).

Dave Cannistrato is president of Associated Subcontractors of Mass., Boston.

New England Real Estate Journal - 17 Accord Park Drive #207, Norwell MA 02061 - (781) 878-4540