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## **2020 Ones to Watch: Sam Marcionek, Project Manager at Vantage Builders, Inc.**

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Sam Marcionek  
Vantage Builders, Inc.

Which project, deal, or transaction was the “game-changer” in the advancement of your career? The Devoted Health expansion project at the Waltham Watch Factory for Berkeley Investments was critical in my career growth. I had recently been promoted to project manager and was still settling into my new role. Like all projects, the expansion had a unique set of challenges. We were working within an occupied, historic brick-and-beam building and the project required cutting a new opening within the structural framing to add a steel stairway between floors. Meeting the client’s expectations, coordinating each aspect of the tenant’s build-out and completing the job on time and within budget provided a strong sense of accomplishment and confidence for each subsequent job.

Who or what inspires you? My previous projects inspire me greatly. Each project presented a unique set of challenges that our team overcame with creative solutions. I think back on these accomplishments often and frequently draw inspiration from them for my current projects. Another constant source of inspiration? Our next project.

What led you to your current profession? Throughout my childhood, I always had an interest in making things with my own hands. It began with building skate ramps in my driveway and evolved to finish carpentry in college, where I was following my brother’s footsteps into the A/E/C industry. From there it really set in that construction management was a career in which I could really excel.

If your life were made into a movie, what actor would you want to portray you? Nick Offerman.

What advice can you offer to someone who is interested in a career in your industry? Without a question it would be to take every opportunity for field experience, early and often. And when you are on-site, be sure to ask questions of each trade. Most of the people on site will love the chance to explain what they are working on. There is no substitute for getting this insight, directly from the expert. It will provide critical understanding on how each portion of a building comes together and will help develop a strong foundation for a successful career in construction management.