



Champion modular technology was used to construct this quick service restaurant in New England. While site-built construction would have required up to three months before project completion, Champion was able to deliver and set a finished product in only eight weeks.

Champion Modular Building Process Shines in Quick Service Commercial Restaurant Project

STRATTANVILLE, PA—Champion, a leader in factory-built construction, recently announced that its modular building process was chosen by Winchester Modular Housing, Inc. of Winsted, CT. to help build a quick service restaurant in a tight, eight-week timeline. Modular construction put the restaurant in business one month sooner than if traditional site-building methods had been used.

“The only way we could achieve the eight-week deadline was by using modular construction. It would have taken much longer to build on-site,” said Brent St. John, CEO of Winchester Modular Housing, Inc. who selected Champion’s New Era Building Systems, Inc. here for this commercial project.

Having been a customer for many years, St. John was well aware of the many benefits Champion’s modular construction brings to his building projects. “The rapid build speed and the high quality of product were exactly what were needed for this project. I knew these would transfer to a commercial structure as well,” he added.

When St. John contacted Champion’s New Era facility about the project, the team was able to start immediately. Having previously worked with another builder to complete a similar structure, New Era knew what needed to be done and how to get it done quickly. It incorporated additional floor support which is needed in busy, high traffic restaurant environments and modified the roof system for the taller ceiling height specified.

“It was less than seven weeks from our initial meeting with Winchester until the time the building was installed on its foundation,” said Scott Peters, sales manager of Champion’s New Era Building Systems. He continued, “We made design adjustments and secured approvals in three weeks, built the modular sections in the factory in two weeks, delivered them within a week, and they were installed on the foundation in a day and a half.”

With a majority of the structure’s construction work being done in the factory, St. John had the time and space needed to prepare the building site, pour the footings/foundation and secure additional completion materials and approvals. “After the modulares were delivered and installed there was still enough

time for me to do the required finish work to meet the eight-week deadline,” said St. John.

The modular structure is an approximately 1,800 sq. ft. Cape-Cod style building produced in two units and, as with all modular structures, built to local building codes. Its foundation incorporates a crawl space, much to the appreciation of John Griffey, Winchester’s customer and the franchise owner. “The crawl space on this modular restaurant makes any utility work, future additions and remodels much easier,” said Griffey, who added, “My other 17 restaurants were site-built on concrete slabs which has made updates and repairs more difficult.”

Now operating out of his modular-built quick service franchise Griffey commented: “The modular building process saved me 30 days over previous site-built experiences, so I’m very pleased. This was my first building using modular construction and I plan to continue to use this approach going forward in every situation possible. I’d recommend using it to any franchise.”

Across the country Champion provides modular solutions for a variety of commercial purposes including: hotels and resorts, apartments, college dormitories, military housing, mixed-use (residential over retail) developments, franchise restaurants, day care centers, bank branches and assisted living facilities.

Winchester Modular Housing, Inc. services the entire state of Connecticut as well as portions of Massachusetts. It has over 15 years experience in modular construction including working with the Corporation for Independent Living to build handicap-friendly homes.

Based in Troy, MI, Champion, a leader in factory-built housing and one of the nation’s largest builders of modular homes, operates 31 manufacturing facilities in North America and the United Kingdom working with independent retailers, builders and developers. The Champion family of builders produces manufactured and modular homes as well as modular buildings for government and commercial applications.

For more information on Winchester Modular Housing circle Reader Service No. 69.

For more information on Champion Homes circle No. 70; for New Era Building Systems circle No. 71.