Acknowledgements

I would like to take this time to say, "Thank you" to some of the many people who have helped me during my time spent here at Penn State.

I would like to thank my parents for their endless love, guidance, and support through every step of my life, and Jared, thanks for not only being a great brother, but for also being my best bud.

Julie, thank you for being my best friend and my one true love. I don't know where I'd be without you. You make everything more fun and exciting, especially working on thesis. I can't wait for the rest of our lives together.

Thank you to all the faculty and staff of the Department of Architectural Engineering. Thanks to Dr. B and JJ for all your help, suggestions, and consultation on my thesis project. Moses, thank you for being awesome and always being a mentor to me.

Thanks to the entire Architectural Engineering class of 2006. The best of luck to all of you. Big Jay, B-rad, Senk, and Roni, you guys are amazing.

Thank you to Southland Industries for sponsoring my senior thesis project building. Thanks to Chris Taylor, Lenny Weinstein, Laura Slingerland, and especially Andy Tech and Scott Winkler. Scott, thanks for answering every one of my thousand emails and phone calls over the past year.

Thank you to all the professional contacts in the industry that have helped me with my thesis along the way.

But most importantly, I would like to thank God, my Lord and Savior. Without You, there is no way I could have survived all this. Thank You for always guiding my path and giving me strength, even into the wee hours of the night. I want to give you all the glory and honor forever.