Executive Summary

Project Stallone is a renovation project for ConAgra Foods Inc. for their long time name brand, Peter Pan Peanut Butter. The site is located in Sylvester, Georgia, a town of about 6,000 people that is known as the Peanut Capital of the World. The project took place in the summer of 2007, with an extremely tight, high risk schedule, from May to August. The contractor that took on the task of the job was The Haskell Company, a large design-build firm based out of Jacksonville Florida.

In December of 2007, I had started this project with three vague ideas of what I was going to research and work on throughout the semester. As the semester came to a close, those topics came more and more into focus. Workforce development which is a huge problem facing the industry today, is going to be a problem that needs attention before the "baby boomers" get set to retire. Over the next ten years 46.7 percent of the construction industry will be over the age of 55 years-old. Right now programs such as Pennsylvania College of Technology and The Commonwealth Workforce Development System of Pennsylvania are leading the way for find individuals and sparking their interests in programs such as the construction labor industry. Another realization that is coming into play is the number of Hispanic workers that are in the labor forces now. This is also a solution to the problem, but raises problems of its own. With a lack of communication skills, Hispanics count for 80 percent of the injuries in the field today.

In other research that I took upon myself through my thesis, I resolved a scattered structural system that took unusable floor space and made it capable of being used again, while lowering the costs dramatically and keeping the same scheduled time for completion. Finally, I focused my efforts on the mechanical system and its inefficiencies, by adding some cooling to compensate for heat producing process equipment I found a solution that was able to save the owner, by reducing the overall number of air changes per hour.

In closing, this final effort before graduation has pushed the limits of my abilities as an Architectural Engineering student to gather all of my knowledge that I have learned the past 5 years and showcase it in this report.