



# HUNTER ROBERTS

## CONSTRUCTION GROUP

...WE LISTEN. WE COMMUNICATE. WE DELIVER.

By Jan Wilson

**“Many construction companies focus on building a project in the same way they are accustomed to—each time. We build a plan around the clients’ needs while maintaining focus on safety and efficiency.”**

So says Rob Barbera, General Manager of the New Jersey office for Hunter Roberts Construction Group. He says his business thrives by communicating with the client, then focusing on their needs and priorities first. The ability then to deliver for schedule and budget become a natural progression.

Focusing on higher education, healthcare, municipal, commercial, residential and interior fit-out projects, the New Jersey office’s client mix is intentionally diverse “so that we can handle ebbs and flows of the market more easily,” Barbera says. The group, started in 2005 and based in Bedminster, fluctuates between 50 and 65 people, depending on project needs.

### RESIDENTIAL PROJECTS

For American Campus Communities, Hunter Roberts constructed an 830-bed student housing in Newark for students at area universities. The 380,000 SF project includes a parking garage. The project was completed in 2007.

In Jersey City, the firm provided pre-construction and construction management services for Hudson Greene, one of the largest mixed-use developments in the state. The project is scheduled for phase 1 turnover in 2009. “Our project approach utilized internal resources

from both sides of the river,” says Barbera. “We are strong believers in allowing your most talented people in a specific discipline to help guide and solve your most complex challenges.”

### NEW HOMES FOR SPORTS TEAMS

Hunter Roberts constructed the New York Jets training facility in Florham Park. “This was a fast track project that required strict focus on the completion date: in this case the coaches, players and other Jets’ personnel moving in just prior to the commencement of the regular season. The Jets were clear that moving the Team after the season start would just be to disruptive.”

The firm has also just had a topping out ceremony for the Red Bull Arena in Harrison, NJ. “Red Bull New York is our client, but we additionally have the need to coordinate a great deal with Red Bull of Austria. All partners involved though, including Harrison and Advance Reality have been a tremendous help in our progress.”

### DESIGN/BUILD IN JERSEY CITY

Hunter Roberts is working with DMR Architects in a design/build capacity on the Jersey City Garage & City Hall Annex, which includes a 125,000 SF office building, a 1,200 car parking garage, and 50,000 SF of retail space. “Without consistent communication and creativity, these kinds of projects struggle,” Barbera says. “Working with a firm like DMR is productive because we share common goals and priorities to make the project successful.”



Georgian Court University Wellness Center

**“Having a partner like Hunter Roberts on a design/build project is great because our firms share the same values. We both put the clients’ needs first, and we bring the highest level of creativity and efficiency to any project that we undertake.”**

**Lloyd A. Rosenberg, AIA,  
President and CEO, DMR Architects**

### WHAT’S NEXT

Barbera says that in the future, the company will continue to be flexible and work in a variety of construction types. It is also encouraging its clients to involve the firm in a project as early as possible. “The earlier we can get involved in offering our expertise, the more successful the project will be for both Hunter Roberts and our partners. We want to help clients work through design and project challenges and have the plan built around those challenges.” He adds, “The future will be about finding efficiencies in our services and work plans. Ultimately, this value must be passed through to our clients and partners.” ■