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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ROCHESTER BASED BERGMANN ASSOCIATES WINS  
TOP FEDERAL HIGHWAY DESIGN AWARD**

**Rochester, N.Y., November 21, 2008** – Bergmann Associates has won the Federal Highway Administration's Top Award for Highway Design. Bergmann's design of State Route 17 in Horseheads, NY was honored with the Administration's highest Award of Excellence in the category of *Urban Highways: Freeway or Expressway*. The coveted, biannual award recognizes superior efforts and achievements of public agencies and private organizations. Award recipients must have designed highway facilities that enhance safety and mobility while being sensitive to the human and natural environment and contributing to a more pleasing transportation experience.

Route 17 previously had five at grade intersections carrying nearly 30,000 vehicles per day with speeds approaching 65 miles per hour, which led to the transformation of a four-lane arterial into the present Interstate expressway. The concept of an elevated expressway on existing alignment instead of a bypass resulted in less environmental impacts, and was more cost effective. Included in this carefully staged construction plan are mechanically stabilized earth walls, noise walls, gateway signage, and a unique linear park, which acts as a buffer for residents. An innovative under-drain system was designed to keep the embankment dry until the permanent closed drainage system was installed and the fill was capped by the concrete roadway. *The design of the \$70 million project reflects local architecture and historic resources while blending the highway with its surroundings. The alignment was shifted, avoiding all commercial establishments, but remained viable to the business district. Other unique project features include permanent traffic count stations, a remote weather information system, an automatic anti-icing system for its ramps and thirteen hand carved brick Horse head mosaics created by a local artist.*

"This project was a perfect balance of physical necessity, community concern and environmental considerations," said Dennis Judson, Transportation Project Manager for Bergmann Associates. "The success of this project is evidenced by the now overwhelming acceptance of the community as a whole. It is truly a special project for Bergmann to have been a part of."

**About Bergmann Associates**

*Bergmann Associates is a progressive, forward-thinking engineering and architectural design firm with three decades of success providing multi-disciplinary services to clients throughout the United States. Headquartered in Rochester, NY, Bergmann has ten U.S. offices and 330 professional and technical staff featuring talented planners, architects, interior designers, landscape architects, programmers, developers, structural, civil, environmental, mechanical, electrical, and industrial engineers. Bergmann Associates – Our **People** and Our **Passion** in Every Project.*

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