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**PBN Q&A**

## **Knychalski named chairman of R.I. DBIA committee**

Robert S. Knychalski has been appointed chairman of the Rhode Island Committee of the Design-Build Institute of America, New England chapter. Knychalski currently serves as an attorney with Pannone Lopes Devereaux & West LLC. He is also a member of the firm's Municipal Infrastructure Team and Corporate & Business Counseling Team. Knychalski's practice includes contract drafting and negotiation, business formation, mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance and finance, municipal law and public finance.



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**PBN:** What led you to become involved with the New England chapter of the DBIA?

**KNYCHALSKI:** PLDW is involved in design/build infrastructure projects throughout the United States. Design/Build is one of the most effective and efficient alternative delivery methods of construction that unites the public and private sectors in partnership. By becoming involved in the DBIA, we have a unique opportunity to share our experiences and insight with architectural, engineering and government professionals in an effort to promote design/build as an alternative project-delivery method in Rhode Island and throughout New England.

**PBN:** What are some goals you hope to achieve during your term as chairman of the Rhode Island committee for 2011?

**KNYCHALSKI:** As chairman of the Rhode Island committee, my goal is to increase the visibility of design/build in the state's public sector and to increase membership activity. We will be holding a number of ... events throughout the year in collaboration with industry organizations and local colleges and universities to highlight specific projects and promote design/build best practices. These events will be open to industry professionals as well as students in the state.

**PBN:** How do the efforts of the DBIA and its New England chapter affect individuals and/or businesses in Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts?

**KNYCHALSKI:** DBIA's focus is to increase the successful use of innovative design/build teams in the public and private sector. Best practices are disseminated by DBIA through various educational programs and conferences. The New England chapter fosters a local network where members and organizations can cross-collaborate by attending various educational events and networking. By participating, individuals and/or businesses will increase their exposure in the marketplace and foster better working relationships amongst each other. •