



**MEDIA CONTACTS:**

Melany Mullens  
melanymullens@yahoo.com or 540-529-9884

Ashley Bedford  
AEBedford@aol.com or 540-529-9884

**BUILDING SPECIALISTS, INC.  
EXECUTIVE BIOGRAPHY BRIEFS**

***EXTREME MAKEOVER: HOME EDITION* Project Team**

**Bob Fetzer  
President and Founder  
Building Specialists, Inc.**

Mr. Fetzer is still the visionary force behind the company he founded in 1975. Dedicated to keeping Building Specialists competitive, he is responsible for business development, personnel, and financial matters. More importantly, Bob takes a very active role in quality assurance, making sure that every project lives up to the company motto: It's not what we build, it's how.

Well-known in both the industry and the community, Mr. Fetzer is the president-elect of the executive board of Downtown Roanoke, Inc., sits on the board of Total Action Against Poverty, is a member of both Remodelor's Council and Commercial Builders Council, and is a founding member of Artspace, Roanoke Valley Greenways, and Pathfinders for Greenways. In addition, Mr. Fetzer has served on the boards of the Council of Community Services, the Better Business Bureau of Western Virginia, and Valley Beautiful. He has also been a member of the Roanoke City Manager's Housing Task Force, president of the Roanoke Regional Housing Network, and president of the Roanoke Regional Home Builders Association, which represents over 430 firms. Mr. Fetzer graduated from East Tennessee State University in 1972.



**Jonathan Hirst**  
**Vice President, Commercial Division**  
**Building Specialists, Inc.**

After a brief departure to work with a large general contractor serving institutional clients in New England, Mr. Hirst returned to Roanoke in 2004 to lead Building Specialists' operations. Mr. Hirst holds his bachelor's degree in planning and has extensive studies toward a masters degree in construction management from Virginia Tech. He has solid practical experience in estimating, value engineering, and project management, heading a variety of efforts for demanding clients. As Vice President, Mr. Hirst oversees these functions for Building Specialists' clients, as well as manages field operations and client development.

**Amanda McCreary**  
**Architectural Designer/Project Manager**  
**Building Specialists, Inc.**

Ms. McCreary is part of Building Specialists' commercial and residential teams. A 2004 graduate of Virginia Tech, she earned a bachelor's degree of architecture after completing an award-nominated thesis project. Native to Roanoke, Ms. McCreary attended William Byrd High School and worked with a local real estate appraiser and developer throughout her education where she gained extensive experience in historic preservation. Ms. McCreary's design talents will be tapped for Building Specialists' residential work, while her attention to detail and organizational skills make her an invaluable addition to Building Specialists' commercial estimating and project management team. Ms. McCreary is an associate member of the Blue Ridge chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA).

**James Smith**  
**Architectural Designer**  
**Building Specialists, Inc.**

Mr. Smith has more than 31 years of experience in the architectural field, with emphasis in project master planning and phasing for commercial construction. Throughout his career, Mr. Smith has worked on a diverse range of projects, including banks, churches, motels, multi-family and student housing, retail space, and warehouse facilities. As Building Specialists' architectural designer, James provides client consultation and master planning studies expertise from a design perspective, using computer-aided design and database management systems. Mr. Smith graduated from Virginia Tech in 1972.



**Daniel Hurst**  
**Project Estimator**  
**Building Specialists, Inc.**

As Building Specialists' project estimator, Mr. Hurst coordinates all aspects of the pre-construction process to turn the ideas of designers and clients into the expertly crafted projects for which the company is well-known. No stranger to the building trade, Mr. Hurst received his degree in building construction from Virginia Tech. His on-the-job training, on the other hand, took place on construction sites around the region, where he worked for eight years as a laborer, carpenter, assistant superintendent and assistant project manager. Mr. Hurst spent several years as project manager with Building Specialists, estimating and running jobs. Mr. Hurst's attention to detail and his ability to break down a job and build it on paper give him the ability to produce accurate estimates at any stage of design.

**Chad Beck**  
**Project Manager**  
**Building Specialists, Inc.**

Mr. Beck began his career with Building Specialists in 1997. His responsibilities have ranged from carpenter, superintendent and project manager to estimator and customer service manager. Today he is responsible for various commercial and residential projects across the region, from kitchen and bath remodeling to major house renovations and commercial build-outs. Mr. Beck is a member of The Square Society (an organization of young professionals that raises awareness and funds for Center in the Square) and a member of the Buell Riders Adventure Group (a motorcycle riding organization). Mr. Beck's well-rounded experience and personable manner make him a valuable part of the Building Specialists' team.