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# KIRKHAM MICHAEL

## Agreement for Engineering Services between the City of Arkansas City, Kansas and Kirkham, Michael & Associates, Inc. Ellsworth, Kansas

THIS AGREEMENT, MADE AND ENTERED INTO THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_, by and between the City of Arkansas City, Kansas, hereinafter called the OWNER, and Kirkham, Michael & Associates, Inc., hereinafter called the ENGINEER.

WITNESSETH: Whereas the **OWNER** has been approved by the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) for a bridge replacement project as part of the Kansas Local Bridge Improvement Program (KLBIP). The project will be funded with Local funds. Eligible costs are anticipated to be reimbursed by KDOT after project completion. The project location is described below.

The City of Arkansas City, Kansas LPA Bridge ID 4 (NBI #501100180000004) located on F St. 0.07 miles north of Tyler Ave. and crossing the Mill Canal. The project plans to replace the existing 40' Steel Beam bridge with a multiple cell reinforced concrete box bridge.

## A. Survey and Collection of Field Data

1. The **OWNER** will furnish to the **ENGINEER** the exact location and type of monumentation for each section corner, 1/4 section corner, or other survey markers required to properly locate the horizontal control for the project.

Lost or obliterated section corners and 1/4 section corners may be re-established by the **ENGINEER**, at the hourly rate noted in Paragraph E-8. Re-establishment of corners will be in addition to the Lump Sum Fee specified in Paragraph E-1.

2. The **ENGINEER** will collect topographic survey data sufficient for the project design and record surface utility locations as marked by the utility owners or their representative.

## **B.** Design and Preparation of Plans

- 1. The **ENGINEER** will prepare detailed plans and specifications for the proposed bridge replacement project. Plan preparation will follow KDOT's 2024 KLBIP guidelines and the structure will be designed to AASHTO's LRFD Bridge Design Specifications for HL-93 loading.
- 2. The **ENGINEER** will prepare preliminary plans and participate in one Field Check of the project plans with the **OWNER'S** representative(s) prior to preparation of the final plans and specifications.



- 3. The **ENGINEER** will apply for appropriate permits from the state, federal, and railroad authorities who have proper jurisdiction over the proposed work. Fees required for said permits will be paid for by the **OWNER** in addition to the fee specified in Paragraph E-1.
- 4. The **ENGINEER** will prepare final plans and specifications sufficient to obtain bids from contractors for construction of the project.
- 5. The **ENGINEER** will prepare for the **OWNER** an Opinion of Probable Construction Cost to be used for budgeting the project.
- 6. The **ENGINEER** will complete a BrR load rating for the reinforced concrete box and provide a load rating summary sheet to the **OWNER**.
- 7. The **ENGINEER** will complete an Item 113 Scour Justification form and provide it to the **OWNER**.
- 8. The **ENGINEER** will furnish the **OWNER** one (1) set of prints for right-of-way, as soon as possible after the field check. This will be for the **OWNER** to use in the field to identify right-of-way locations while negotiating with property owners.
- 9. The **ENGINEER** will review contractor submitted shop drawings for conformance with the plans and specifications.

## C. Construction Contract Bid and Award

- 1. The ENGINEER will assist the OWNER in advertising for and obtaining electronically submitted bids for the contract for construction, materials, equipment, and services. The ENGINEER will maintain a record of prospective bidders to whom bidding documents have been issued by the ENGINEER. Local project advertisements as required by Kansas statutes are the responsibility of the OWNER.
- 2. The ENGINEER will issue addenda, as appropriate to clarify or modify the bidding documents.
- **3.** The **ENGINEER** will attend the bid opening, tabulate the bid proposals, review the bids, and provide a recommendation for awarding the contract for construction to the lowest responsible bidder.
- 4. The **ENGINEER** will distribute contract documents for execution by the contractor and **OWNER** following issuance of a Notice of Award by the **OWNER**.

## **D.** Construction Phase Services

1. Construction engineering is not included as part of this agreement but may be provided by the **ENGINEER** under a separate agreement.

## E. Payment of Engineering Fees by Owner to Engineer

- 1. For services as outlined in Sections A through C, except as noted below, the **OWNER** agrees to pay the **ENGINEER** a **Lump Sum Fee of \$55,000.00.** The Lump Sum Fee will be full compensation for the services noted including expenses such as equipment, travel, and printing.
- 2. The **ENGINEER** will bill monthly for services rendered based upon the estimated percent of the project completed at the time of billing, as estimated by the **ENGINEER**.
- 3. Sub-surface testing, core-drilling, etc., shall be done by a competent geologist-driller selected by the **ENGINEER** and **paid for by the OWNER** in addition to the fee specified in Paragraph E-1.
- 4. Right-of-way descriptions, right-of-way acquisition, and utility relocations, when requested by the **OWNER**, may be provided by the **ENGINEER** at the hourly rate noted in Paragraph E-8. This shall be in addition to the fees specified in Paragraph E-1.
- 5. Environmental documentation is not part of this agreement.
- 6. Any change in project scope which involves additional field or office work by the **ENGINEER** will be considered **"extra work"** by this agreement. Compensation will be at the hourly rate noted in Paragraph E-8.
- 7. Railroad coordination efforts, including virtual or in-person meetings, in addition to the permit application, cost of railroad flaggers, and extra submittals required by railroad officials will be considered "**extra work**" by this agreement. Compensation will be at the hourly rate noted in Paragraph E-8.
- "Extra work" required will be billed based on an hourly payroll cost plus a multiplier of
  2.45 for employees specifically engaged on the required work.
- 9. The fee specified in Paragraph E-1 is based on final acceptance of the detailed plans within two years of the date of this agreement. For work that is incomplete due to delays out of the **ENGINEER'S** reasonable control, the fee specified will be adjusted by multiplying the original fee by an inflation factor of 1.05 after the original two-year period has elapsed. From that time, the inflation factor will be compounded annually until acceptance of the detailed plans by the **OWNER** or until termination of this agreement.
- 10. The fees specified in Paragraph E-1 are based on closing the road during construction. The **OWNER** will provide and maintain an acceptable local road detour route for this project if one is desired.



11. The fee specified in Paragraph E-1 is based on designing a multi-cell reinforced concrete rigid frame box. The existing brick surfacing will be replaced with concrete pavement. The adjacent elevated sidewalk will be removed, but the proposed reinforced concrete box will be constructed wide enough such that the existing sidewalk will be carried over it. The existing sidewalk will be replaced adjacent to the approaches to the bridge on the west side. A Kansas Corral Rail with tapered ends will be incorporated into the design of the reinforced concrete box. A KDOT standard chain link fence will be specified along the outside edge of the sidewalk to provide pedestrian fall protection. If during the design process, it is determined that a different kind of bridge, foundation, fencing, or rail should be required, the fee specified may be renegotiated.

The three-page attachment "Exhibit A: Terms and Conditions" shall be considered an integral part of this agreement.

Receipt of a signed agreement serves as the "Notice to Proceed" for the **ENGINEER** to begin work on the project.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, said parties have caused this agreement to be signed by their duly authorized officers.

### **OWNER**:

City of Arkansas City, Kansas 118 W Central Avenue Arkansas City, KS 67005

By:\_\_\_\_\_

Title:

Attest:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Attachment: Exhibit A (3 pages)

### **ENGINEER**:

Kirkham, Michael & Associates, Inc. 217 N. Douglas Ellsworth, KS 67439

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Jon B. Halbgewachs, P.E. Sr. Vice President

## KIRKHAM MICHAEL

#### 1. AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED

Signing of the accompanying agreement for engineering and related services shall be authorization by the client for Kirkham Michael & Associates, Inc. (Kirkham Michael) to proceed with the professional services described, unless otherwise stated in the agreement form.

#### 2. DEFINITION

These mutually agreed covenants which include as a minimum the attached written proposal (Proposal) including a Scope of Services and these General Terms and Conditions constitute the "Agreement." This Agreement defines the relationship between the Client as identified in the Proposal and Kirkham Michael for the Project as defined in the Proposal. The professional services of Kirkham Michael shall include services performed by employees of Kirkham Michael, its affiliates, subsidiaries, independent professional associates, consultants and subconsultants.

#### 3. STANDARD OF PRACTICE AND ABSENCE OF WARRANTY

Services performed by Kirkham Michael under this agreement will be conducted in a manner consistent with the level of care and skill ordinarily exercised by members of the profession currently practicing in the same locality under similar conditions. No other representation, express or implied, and no warranty or guarantee is included or intended in the agreement or in any report, opinion, document, or otherwise. All estimates, recommendations, opinions, and decisions of Kirkham Michael will be made upon the basis of the information available to Kirkham Michael and Kirkham Michael's experience, technical qualifications, and professional judgment. Kirkham Michael makes no warranties, expressed or implied, under this Agreement or otherwise, in connection with Kirkham Michael's services.

Client expressly acknowledges that subsurface conditions may vary at locations other than at a particular location where borings, explorations, surveys and samplings are made, and that the data interpretations and recommendations of Kirkham Michael are based solely upon information available to Kirkham Michael. Client also acknowledges that Kirkham Michael shall not be responsible for interpretations by others of the information developed. All data obtained during investigative phases are subject to confirmation of conditions encountered during subsequent phases of the Project. Client recognizes that the scope of services under this Agreement is limited by Client's available budget and schedule and those additional services may yield more accurate and reliable information regarding conditions at or near the site.

#### 4. PROJECT SITE AND RIGHT OF ENTRY

Client shall furnish or cause to be furnished to Kirkham Michael all documents and information known to CLIENT that relates to the identity, location, quantity, nature or characteristics of any hazardous waste at, on, or under the site. In addition, Client shall furnish and pay for such other reports, aerial photographs, data, studies, drawings, specifications, documents, and other information regarding surface and subsurface site conditions, which will be required by Kirkham Michael for performance of its services. Kirkham Michael shall be entitled to rely upon documents and information provided by Client in performing the services required under this Agreement; however, Kirkham Michael assumes no responsibility or liability for the accuracy or completeness of said documents and information. Client provided documents will remain the property of Client.

Kirkham Michael will not direct, supervise or control the work of contractors or their subcontractors. Kirkham Michael's services do not include a review or evaluation of a contractor's (subcontractor's) safety measures.

Kirkham Michael shall be responsible only for its activities and those of its employees on any site. Neither the professional activities nor the presence of Kirkham Michael, its employees, or its subconsultants on a site shall imply that Kirkham Michael controls the operations of others; nor shall this be construed to be an acceptance by Kirkham Michael of any responsibility for Project site safety.

## **General Terms and Conditions**

Client shall provide right of entry for Kirkham Michael personnel, Kirkham Michael subconsultants and all equipment and vehicles necessary to perform services. Kirkham Michael will take reasonable measures to minimize damage to property; however, Client understands that some damage may occur and the cost of repair of such damage will be borne by the Client.

Client understands that Client will be responsible for designating the location of below grade structures, foundations, utilities and other subterranean obstacles. Kirkham Michael will take reasonable effort to avoid damage to these items. In the event these items cannot be located, Kirkham Michael, by Client written authorization, at Client's cost, will deploy feasible locating methods and employ specialty "dig up" crews to confirm locations. However, Client agrees to hold Kirkham Michael harmless for damages to or damages caused by any subsurface or subterranean utilities or structures which are not correctly located by Client or which Kirkham Michael could not locate using a reasonable standard of care.

#### 5. INVOICING AND PAYMENT

The Client, recognizing that timely payment is a material part of the consideration of this agreement, shall promptly pay Kirkham Michael for services performed in accordance with the rates and charges set forth herein. Invoices will be submitted by Kirkham Michael on a monthly basis and shall be due and payable upon receipt. The Client shall pay an additional charge of one and one half percent (1.5%) (or the maximum percentage allowed by law, whichever is lower,) of the invoiced amount per month for any payment received by Kirkham Michael more than thirty (30) calendar days from the invoice date. Payment thereafter shall first be applied to accrued interest and then to principal unpaid amount.

If the Client for any reason fails to pay the undisputed portion of Kirkham Michael's invoices within thirty calendar days from the invoice date, Kirkham Michael may cease work on the project and the Client shall waive any claim against Kirkham Michael and shall defend and indemnify Kirkham Michael from and against any claims for injury or loss stemming from Kirkham Michael's cessation of services. Client shall also pay Kirkham Michael the cost associated with premature project demobilization. In the event the project is remobilized, Client shall also pay the cost of remobilization and shall renegotiate appropriate contract terms and conditions such as those associated with the budget, schedule or scope of services.

Unless the specific provisions of Proposal provide otherwise or the Current Year Schedule of Fees is not incorporated, then payment under this Agreement is based upon cost reimbursement (e.g., hourly rate, time and materials, direct personnel expense or per diem), and the provisions of the following sub-paragraphs shall apply:

**a.** The minimum time segment for billing field work is four (4) hours. The minimum time segment for billing work performed at an office is one-half (1/2) hour.

**b.** Project subcontracts (e.g. drilling, trenching, special testing, surveying, etc.) will be billed at cost plus 15% for handling and administration.

**c.** Other direct costs, excluding travel and subsistence, are payable at actual documented cost plus 10% for handling and administration. This shall include such items as shipping, communication, printing and reproduction, computer services, supplies and equipment, and equipment items rented from commercial sources. Travel and subsistence expenses of personnel when on business connected with the Project are reimbursable at cost plus 10%. The use of reusable field and support equipment owned by Kirkham Michael will be billed at negotiated rates. In the event that equipment does not have a current rate, a daily rate of 2% of purchase price of equipment will be used.

**d.** When applicable, rental charges will be applied to cover the cost of pilot-scale facilities or equipment, apparatus, instrumentation, or other technical machinery. When such charges are applicable, Client will be advised at the start of an assignment, task or phase. Analyses performed in Kirkham Michael or Kirkham Michael's subconsultants' laboratories will be billed on a unit-cost-per-analysis basis, unless specified otherwise in the accompanying Proposal (Scope of Services).

## KIRKHAM MICHAEL

e. Invoices based upon cost reimbursement will be submitted showing labor (hours worked) and total expense, but not actual documentation. If requested by Client, documentation will be supplied at the cost of providing such documentation, including labor and copying costs.

#### 6. CHANGES OR DELAYS

Unless the accompanying Proposal provides otherwise, the proposed fees constitute Kirkham Michael's estimate to perform the services required to complete the Project as Kirkham Michael understands it to be defined. For those projects involving conceptual or process development services, activities often are not fully definable in the initial planning. In any event, as the Project progresses, the facts developed may dictate a change in the services to be performed, which may alter the scope. Kirkham Michael will inform CLIENT of such situations so that negotiation and compensation can be accomplished as required. If such change, additional services, or suspension of services results in an increase or decrease in the cost of or time required for performance of the services, whether or not changed by any order, an equitable adjustment shall be made, and the Agreement modified accordingly. Neither party shall be deemed in default of this Agreement to the extent that any delay or failure in the performance of either party's obligations results from any cause beyond either party's reasonable control and without either party's negligence.

#### 7. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

Kirkham Michael's liability is limited to amount of Kirkham Michael's compensation or the amount of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) whichever is less. To the fullest extent permitted by law, and notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the total liability, in the aggregate, of Kirkham Michael and Kirkham Michael 's directors, officers, principals, managers, employees, agents and Kirkham Michael's consultants and subconsultants, and any of them, to Client and anyone claiming, by, through, or under Client for any claims, losses, costs, or damages whatsoever arising out of, resulting from or in any way related to the Project or the Agreement from any cause or causes, including but not limited to the negligence, professional errors or omissions, strict liability or breach of contract, or warranty express or implied of Kirkham Michael or Kirkham Michael's directors, officers, principals, managers, employees, agents and Kirkham Michael's consultants and subconsultants, or any of them, shall not exceed the total compensation received by Kirkham Michael under this Agreement.

#### 8. INSURANCE

Kirkham Michael agrees to purchase, at its own expense, Workers' Compensation Insurance and Comprehensive General Liability Insurance and will upon request, furnish insurance certificates to Client. Kirkham Michael agrees to indemnify Client for the claims covered by Kirkham Michael's insurance subject to the limitation of liability contained in Section 7. Kirkham Michael agrees to purchase additional insurance if requested by Client (presuming such insurance is reasonably available from carriers acceptable to Kirkham Michael), provided the costs for additional insurance are reimbursed by Client.

#### 9. INDEMNIFICATION

Client and Kirkham Michael each agree to indemnify and hold the other harmless, and their respective officers, employees, agents and representatives, from and against liability for all claims, losses, damages and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, to the extent such claims, losses damages, or expenses are caused by the indemnifying party's negligent acts, errors or omissions. In the event claims, losses, damages or expenses are caused by the joint or concurrent negligence of Client and Kirkham Michael, they shall be borne by each party in proportion to its negligence.

#### **10. CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES**

The Client shall not be liable to Kirkham Michael and Kirkham Michael shall not be liable to the Client for any consequential damages incurred by either party due to the fault of the other, regardless of the nature of

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this fault or whether it was committed by the Client or Kirkham Michael, their employees, agents, or subcontractors. Consequential damages include, but are not limited to, loss of use and loss of profit.

#### **11. TERMINATION**

Either party may terminate the Agreement, in whole or in part, fourteen (14) days after giving written notice, if the other party substantially fails to fulfill its obligations under the Agreement through no fault of the terminating party. Where method of payment is "lump sum," the final invoice will include all services and expenses associated with the Project up to the effective date of termination. Where method of payment is based upon cost reimbursement, the final invoice will include all services and expenses associated with the Project up to the effective date of termination. Where method of payment is based upon cost reimbursement, the final invoice will include all services and expenses associated with the Project up to the effective date of termination. In any event, an equitable adjustment shall be made to provide for termination settlement costs Kirkham Michael incurs relating to commitments that had become firm before termination, and for a reasonable profit for services performed.

#### **12. GOVERNING LAW**

This Agreement is to be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Kansas, unless mutually agreed in writing by Client and Kirkham Michael to be in accordance with the laws of the state where the Project is located.

#### **13. DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

Client and Kirkham Michael agree that as a prerequisite to the filing of a lawsuit or a demand for arbitration, they shall first submit any and all unsettled claims, counterclaims, disputes, and other matters in question between them arising out of or relating to this Agreement to mediation in accordance with the Construction Industry Mediation Rules of the American Arbitration Association, effective as of the date of this Agreement.

# 14. HAZARDOUS ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS AND DISPOSAL OF CONTAMINATED MATERIAL

It is understood and agreed that Kirkham Michael is not, and has no responsibility as a handler, generator, treater, or storer, transporter, or disposer of hazardous or toxic substances found or identified at the Project site. It is acknowledged by both parties that Kirkham Michael's scope of services does not include any services related to the presence or discovery at the site of asbestos, PCBs, petroleum, hazardous waste, radioactive materials or any other hazardous material or toxic substance. Client acknowledges that Kirkham Michael is performing professional services for Client and Kirkham Michael is not and shall not be required to become an "arranger," "operator," "generator" or "transporter" of hazardous substances, as defined in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1990 (CERCLA). CLIENT shall undertake or arrange for the handling, removal, treatment, storage, transportation, and disposal of hazardous substances or constituents found or identified at the Project site.

#### **15. CONFIDENTIALITY**

Kirkham Michael shall maintain as confidential and not disclose to others without Client's prior written consent all information obtained from Client that was not otherwise previously known to Kirkham Michael or in the public domain and is expressly designated by Client in writing to be "CONFIDENTIAL." The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to information in whatever form that (1) is published or comes into the public domain through no fault of Kirkham Michael, (2) is furnished by or obtained from a third party who is under no obligation to keep the information confidential, or (3) is required to be disclosed by law on order of a court, administrative agency, or other authority with proper jurisdiction.

Client agrees that Kirkham Michael may use and publish Client's name and a general description of Kirkham Michael's services with respect to the Project in describing Kirkham Michael's experience and qualifications to other Clients or potential Clients.

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# 16. OWNERSHIP OF DOCUMENTS, RE-USE OF DOCUMENTS AND USE OF ELECTRONIC MEDIA

All documents including drawings and specifications prepared or furnished by Kirkham Michael (and Kirkham Michael's affiliates, subsidiaries, independent professional associates, consultants, and subconsultants) pursuant to this Agreement are instruments of service in respect of the Project, and Kirkham Michael shall retain an ownership and property interest therein, whether or not the Project is completed. Client may make and retain copies for information and reference in connection with the Project; however, such documents are not intended or represented to be suitable for re-use by Client or others as extensions of the Project or on any other project. Any Client re-use without written verification or adaptation by Kirkham Michael for the specific purpose intended will be at Client's sole risk and without liability or legal exposure to Kirkham Michael or Kirkham Michael's affiliates, subsidiaries, independent professional associates, consultants, and subconsultants with respect to any and all costs, expenses, fees, losses, claims, demands, liabilities, suits, actions, and damages whatsoever arising out of or resulting there from. Any such verification or adaptation will entitle Kirkham Michael to further compensation at rates to be agreed upon by Client and Kirkham Michael.

Copies of documents that may be relied upon by Client are limited to the printed copies (also known as hard copies) that are signed or sealed by Kirkham Michael. Files in electronic media format or text, data, graphic or other types that are furnished by Kirkham Michael to Client are only for convenience of Client. Any conclusion or information obtained or derived from such electronic files will be at the user's sole risk. When transferring documents in electronic media format, Kirkham Michael makes no representations as to long-term compatibility, usability, or readability of documents resulting from the use of software application packages, operating systems or computer hardware differing from these in use by Kirkham Michael at the time electronic files were furnished to the Client.

#### **17. CONTROLLING AGREEMENT**

These General Terms and Conditions shall take precedence over any inconsistent or contradictory provisions contained in any proposal, contract, purchase order, requisition, notice-to-proceed, or like document regarding Kirkham Michael's services. If any of these General Terms and Conditions are determined to be invalid or unenforceable in whole or part by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect and be binding upon the parties hereto. The parties agree to reform this Agreement to replace any such invalid or unenforceable provision with a valid and enforceable provision that as closely as possible expresses the intention of the stricken provision.

These General Terms and Conditions shall survive the completion of the services under this Agreement and the termination of this Agreement for any cause. This Agreement between Client and Kirkham Michael shall pertain only to the benefit of the parties hereto, and no third party shall have rights hereunder.

#### **18. OPINIONS OF PROBABLE COST**

Opinions of probable cost, cost estimates, and construction cost estimates provided herein are made based upon Kirkham Michael's experience and qualifications as professional engineers. However, since Kirkham Michael has no control over the cost of labor, materials, equipment or services furnished by others, or over the contractor(s') methods of determining prices, or over competitive bidding or other market conditions, any opinions of cost shall be accepted by Client subject to Paragraph 3 of these General Terms and Conditions.

In the event Client desires a level of accuracy of an estimate which establishes cost ceilings or detailed cost component analyses, Kirkham Michael will upon written authorization from Client secure the services of a specialized cost estimating and analyzing firm acceptable to Client. The Client shall agree to the payment of additional compensation as required.

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#### **19. CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES**

If this Agreement provides for any construction phase services by Kirkham Michael, it is understood that the Contractor, not Kirkham Michael is responsible for the construction of the project, and that Kirkham Michael is not responsible for the acts or omissions of any contractor, subcontractor or material supplier; for safety precautions, programs or enforcement; or for construction means, methods, techniques, sequences and procedures employed by the Contractor.

Kirkham Michael understands that the Client has sole right to decide whether to engage Kirkham Michael for Construction Phase Services. In the event the Client chooses to not include Kirkham Michael in Construction Phase Services, the Client shall be solely responsible for interpreting the Contract Documents and observing the Work of the Contractor to discover, correct or mitigate errors, inconsistencies or omissions. If the Client authorizes deviations, recorded or unrecorded, from the documents prepared by Kirkham Michael, the Client shall not bring any claim against Kirkham Michael and shall indemnify and hold Kirkham Michael, its agents and employees harmless from and against any claims, losses, damages and expenses, including but limited to defense costs and time of Kirkham Michael professionals, to the extent such claim, loss, damage or expense arises out such deviations.

#### **20. PROPRIETARY DATA**

The technical and pricing information contained in the accompanying Proposal or this Agreement is to be considered Confidential and Proprietary, and is not to be disclosed or otherwise made available to third parties without the express written consent of Kirkham Michael.