Audio Transcript: The Shed Moves: Behind the Scenes

Matthew Pezzolo:
The Shed is an eight-million pound structure that rolls on six non-powered bogey wheel and rail assemblies, down here at the Plaza level. The only union between the Shed structure and the fixed building itself is the sled drive system up on the roof. So The Shed moves with 12 motors, six on this side, six on the far side, for a total of 180 horsepower. Fun fact, The Shed moves with less horsepower than a Honda Civic.

Kiana Jackson:
Hey, what's up everybody? I'm here with Dani, a member of the engineering team. Where are we?

Dani Farula:
We are at the control panel. This is the heart of the system. This is where, during the moves, I monitor speed, current, torque, temperature, wind speed, sled positions.

Kiana Jackson:
So, essentially you are the heart of the move.

Dani Farula:
Yes, I am.

We start off by disconnecting HVAC ducts and piping. We disconnect five services that supply power to the theatrical equipment and mechanical equipment.

All these wires, they're a total of 55. Each one is 4/0 cable, and we drop them every time.

Matthew Pezzolo:
Well, we have to clean, inspect, and re-grease 500 feet of rack-and-pinion track. We have to do an oil change on 12 drive motors that are the motors that drive the building. We also have to do an oil change on 18 winch motors that raise the north and east guillotine doors.

Joseph Walton:
We have to prepare the wheels and prepare the tracks. We have to make sure there isn't any obstructions on the tracks or underneath the wheels. Also, we have to spray dry lubricant on the wheels and on the tracks two minutes prior to the move and during the move.

Peter Pimentel:
These tracks are custom built. It is at least 500 meters in length, and if there's anything wrong with the track, even one dent, one crack, the whole track has to be replaced.

Kiana Jackson:
So what is ETFE?

Dani Farula:
ETFE stands for Ethylenetetrafluoro...Ethylene.

Josh Phagoo:
Technically it's fluoro (laughs) ethylene tetrafluoroethylene.

Joseph Walton:
Ethylene tetra fluoro-thene.

Ariel Seaman:
Today we focused on deploying The Shed, which included a 6 am call time for myself and my team where we came in this morning and removed the rubber tracks so that The Shed can move.

After the move, we put the tracks back down and labeled them so that we can have them for next year. And next we'll be focused on bringing the doors down to open up The McCourt.

Josh Phagoo:
This is the controller that moves the building. Simple flip of the switch and the building moves.

Kiana Jackson:
So does it all really happen at just the push of a button?

Josh Phagoo:
Some may say it's a push of a button, but the operator, essentially, initiates the kinetic system, which drives The Shed. The operator depends on 14 trained individuals monitoring key points of the building, making sure there's no issues and potential damage to the structure.

Kiana Jackson:
But essentially, just the push of a button.

Josh Phagoo:
Of course.

(Kiana laughs)