U.S. Capitol Dome Restoration Project  
Fact Sheet

The Architect of the Capitol (AOC) is currently restoring the Dome of the U.S. Capitol Building, one of America’s great symbols of freedom. Facts about this project are available below. For additional information, visit aoc.gov/dome or contact Justin Kieffer, AOC senior communications specialist, at jkieffer@aoc.gov or 202.226.7102.

**Dome Restoration Facts:**

* **1.1 million lbs.** weight of scaffold
* **75,000+ pieces** of equipment
* **52 miles** of scaffold pipe
* **2 miles** of decking, enough to build a sidewalk **5 feet wide** x**2 miles long** from the US Capitol to the Lincoln Memorial
* **5 layers** of safety netting in Rotunda
* **14,700 square feet** total Rotunda safety netting, approximately the size of seven “singles” tennis courts
* **6,100 lbs**. total weight of Rotunda netting
* **Approximately 8,000 inches**of cracked cast iron were repaired with the "Lock-N-Stitch" and "Dutchman" techniques)
* **1,215 gallons** of paint were be used to repaint the Dome - **3 layers x 405 gallons** each. Final top coat color is "Dome White."
* Dome cast iron is more than **150 years old**
* Last restoration was conducted in 1959-1960
* Removed all old lead-based paint and repaint
* Decorative ornaments restored and/or recast (ornaments weighed between **2-700 lbs.**)

**Other Facts:**

* Dome weighs **8,909,200** pounds
* Dome is **288 feet tall** from East Front to top of Statue of Freedom
* Capitol hosts more than **2 million** visitors annually
* Capitol Visitor Center opened on December 2, 2008 – has hosted more than **13 million**

**Speakers (in order of appearance):**

Chief Operating Officer – Christine Merdon

For additional resources please visit: www.aoc.gov/dome

Architect of the Capitol – Stephen T. Ayers

**Project Team Leads:**

Dome Project Manager – Joe Abriatis

Rotunda Project Manager – Shane Gallagher

Dome Project Construction Inspector – Tom Nowell