

# Construction company opens Detroit unit.

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by Ankeny, Robert

**Beal Group** of Ann Arbor is opening a Detroit-based demolition company to specialize in interior work on historic buildings.

Located at 277 Gratiot Ave. in the Tobin Building, Beal Inc. plans to do projects from \$10,000 up, President Stewart Beal said.

The target for 2006 is to exceed \$1 million worth of work in the city, said Beal, a grandson of Jim Beal, who founded J.C. Beal Construction Inc., one of five companies in the Beal Group.

The construction company did more than 1,000 such projects between 1983 and 2001, before starting to subcontract demolition work four years ago, Beal said. Now Beal Group is bringing this work back by creating its own demolition company.

One project just completed downtown was the demolition of a storefront at 1401 Woodward Ave. at Grand River Avenue. J.C. Beal Construction plans to convert the building into loft condominiums, but started the street-level demolition to build a storefront in time for Super Bowl XL, Beal said.

Also underway is demolition at 5766 Trumbull, three blocks north of I-94, where a former nail and pin factory dating to 1905 is being converted to 40 loft condominiums called Research Lofts, Beal said.

Other Beal Group companies, all based in Ann Arbor, are Burns Lawn Care and Landscaping Inc., whose president is Lisa Burns; Beal Properties L.L.C., which manages properties in Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor; and 221 Ventures Inc., a property-holding company run by Stewart.

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