

Kodak to Repair, Restore World Headquarters Tower

ROCHESTER, N.Y., June 13--Over the next three years, Eastman Kodak Company will under take work to repair and restore the exterior of its Rochester landmark 19-story worldwide headquarters tower office building that dates to 1916.

“The Kodak Tower has long been an important symbol to Kodak people and it has been landmark in the Rochester skyline for generations,” noted Antonio M. Perez, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. “Rochester is our home, and this announcement is another sign of our continuing commitment to this community and our role as a global leader in the imaging business.”

Work will begin in mid-summer of this year, and continue through 2010. It will require installation of scaffolding for the duration of the project. The primary focus of the work will be repairs to the masonry of the building, known as the Kodak Tower.

Deterioration and cracks in the masonry at numerous locations were found in a study completed last year by an architectural engineering firm. The building was found to be structurally sound, but the masonry repairs were identified as a necessity to maintain the structure’s safety and integrity.

The first 16 floors of the Kodak Tower were completed in 1916, while the three top floors were added in 1935. These top floors contain some of the more unique architectural features, including intricate terra cotta masonry and a promenade roof. This will be the first comprehensive repair project in the building’s history.

Because the extensive nature of the work, it will be necessary to relocate the peregrine falcon nesting box in the rooftop cupola. Kodak is working with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) on a plan to relocate the nesting box after the fledging of the current brood of five baby falcons (eyases). Over the last ten years, a single peregrine falcon female, affectionately named Mariah, has hatched 43 falcon chicks.