

ENGINEERING GROUND ZERO

1 X 53 **HD**

Designing and
Building the New
World Trade Center



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The rebirth of the World Trade Center site is one of the most affirming stories of the 21st century. Nearly a decade later, the site of the worst terrorist attack on U.S. soil is now one of the largest and most complex construction projects on the planet. NOVA chronicles an uplifting story of technology, innovation and daring in *Engineering Ground Zero*.

With extraordinary access granted by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, NOVA captures the behind-the-scenes struggle of architects and engineers to make the buildings safe and highly secure under the pressures of a tight schedule, the demands of practical office space and efficient, “green” architecture, and the public’s expectations of a fitting site for national remembrance. Featuring interviews with David Childs, architect for 1 WTC; Chris Ward, executive director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey; Mayor Michael Bloomberg, chairman of the 9-11 Memorial Foundation; Gov. George Pataki who pushed for the construction of 1 WTC; and Michael Arad, the man behind the breakthrough concept for the 9-11 Memorial. *Engineering Ground Zero* brings to life the story to date—profiling the men and women whose hard work and ingenuity have made the rebuilding process possible and spotlighting the pioneering science and materials that may redefine how skyscrapers are built and designed to be safer than ever. This film presents a fascinating look at the difficulties as well as the inventions and innovations that come with working at the most densely concentrated urban center in the world, lower Manhattan. The world’s top engineers and architects have conceived of and are now constructing the many buildings that will comprise the 16 acres site—which, when completed, will form a mini-city within the city, containing four super-towers, an enormous transportation hub, and, at its heart, a memorial to the victims of the attack.

NOVA’s camera crew is there every step of the way to capture these key milestones—from the completion of the Podium level on 1 WTC to the first test of the waterfalls at the 9-11 Memorial. NOVA also travels to several locations around the world—including New York, New Jersey, Minnesota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Canada, and China—to see where and how materials are made

Engineering Ground Zero is an inspiring look at re-building one of the world’s most iconic places. The true story of this soaring achievement helps us not only look back and remember, but also move forward with a bold new vision of how to build skyscrapers in the 21st century.

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NOVA

credits

Director: David Shadrack Smith

Producers: Timothy Smith & David Shadrack Smith

Executive Producer: Paula S. Apsell

Photo Credit: Courtesy of the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey



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