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Glass panels frame south portal fan room

By JOURNAL STAFF

Crews with Mission Glass are installing hundreds of glass panels that make up the walls of the ventilation fan room of the south operations building for the SR 99 tunnel.

Typical panels are about 8 feet by 2.75 feet. They were made by Northwestern Industries and the coating was made by Guardian Industries.

The fan room will be outfitted with four centrifugal fans that can each move 160,000 cubic feet of air per minute. Air will exit through four 40-foot-tall yellow ventilation stacks.



Photo courtesy of WSDOT [enlarge]

Seattle Tunnel Partners, the lead contractor for the tunnel, is working on a similar operations building at the north end of the tunnel that will also house four fans.

The operations buildings reach four stories underground, and will also house safety, lighting and communications equipment. Both buildings will be lit at night to create what WSDOT describes as "luminous bookends" to the bored tunnel.



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