

## **Building Beyond Today: Preparing Leaders for Tomorrow's Economy**

Michael Guckes Chief Economist

June 2025

#### Who is ConstructConnect?

The leading pre-construction network and provider of cloud-based, non-residential construction project data and collaboration and estimating solutions to 60,000+ customers across the US and Canada.

400,000

Non-residential Commercial Construction Projects in the **US and Canada** 

100,000 Users

800

**Employees** 

Roper TECHNOLOGIES

Part of Roper Technologies Group of high performing companies (55B Market Cap).



Offices in North America (Cincinnati, Atlanta, Markam).



## To help the construction industry start every project on a solid foundation.

### **Get Started Today!**



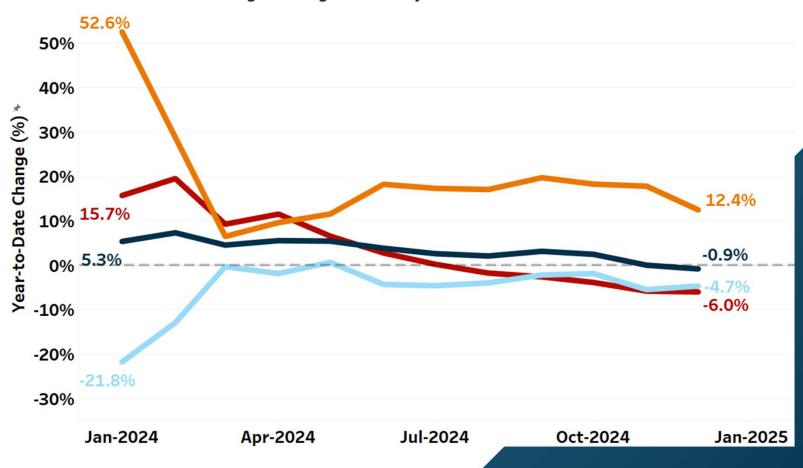
Scan Me

https://www.constructconnect.com/try-today



#### **Year-to-Date Starts Activity**

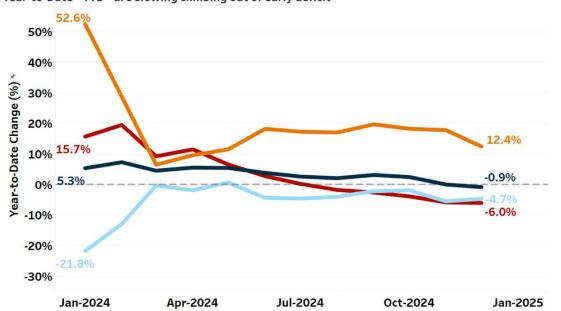
Year-to-Date "YTD" are slowing climbing out of early deficit

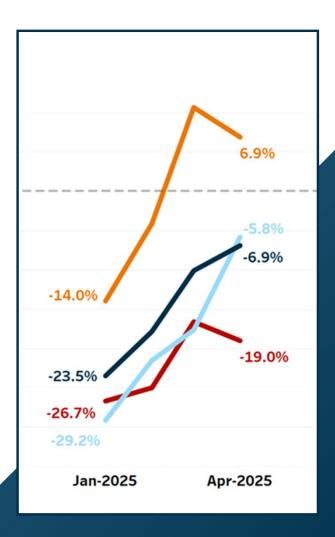


#### @constructconnect.

#### **Year-to-Date Starts Activity**

Year-to-Date "YTD" are slowing climbing out of early deficit

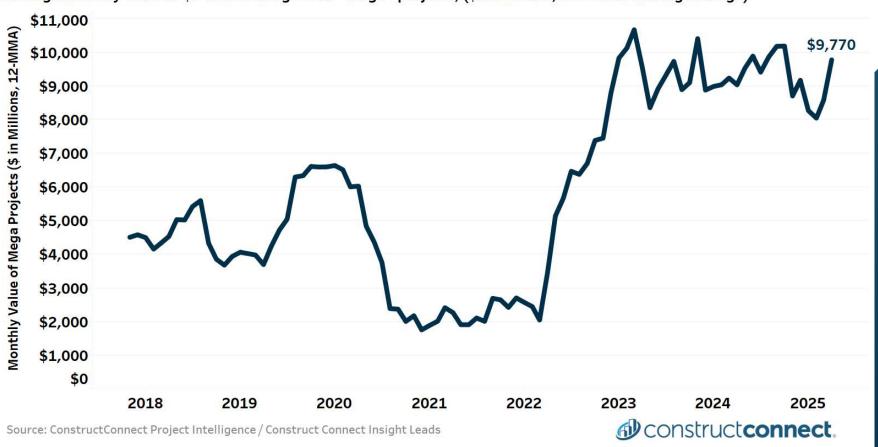






#### U.S. Mega Projects Are Providing Substantial Support to the Industry

Average monthly value of \$1-billion and greater "mega" projects, (\$ in millions, 12-month moving average)





Summary forecasts  (Annual percentage changes unless specified otherwise)							
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
US							
Macro variables							
GDP	2.9	2.8	1.2	1.6	2.6	2.6	2.4
Population growth	8.0	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
Unemployment rate (%)	3.6	4.0	4.4	4.6	4.1	3.9	4.0
Real disposable income	5.1	2.7	1.5	3.3	3.4	2.4	2.4
Central bank rate (%)	5.1	5.2	4.4	3.2	3.0	3.1	3.1
10-year government yield (%)	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.1

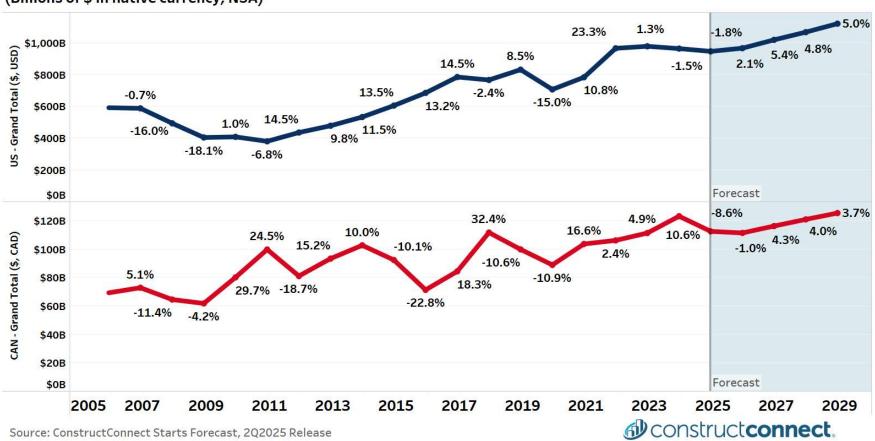
Source: Oxford Economics, April 2025

7



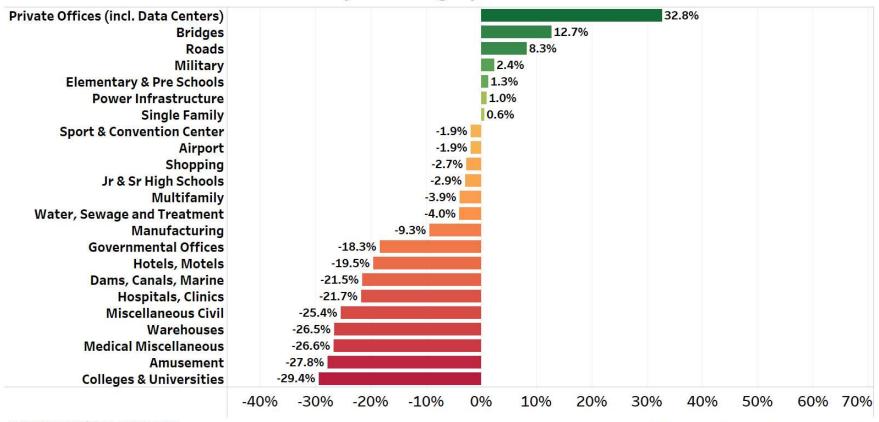
#### Canadian & U.S. Grand Total Historic Starts and Forecast

(Billions of \$ in native currency, NSA)





#### 2025 US Full Year Starts Forecast by Subcategory



Source: 202025 Starts forecast, ConstructConnect

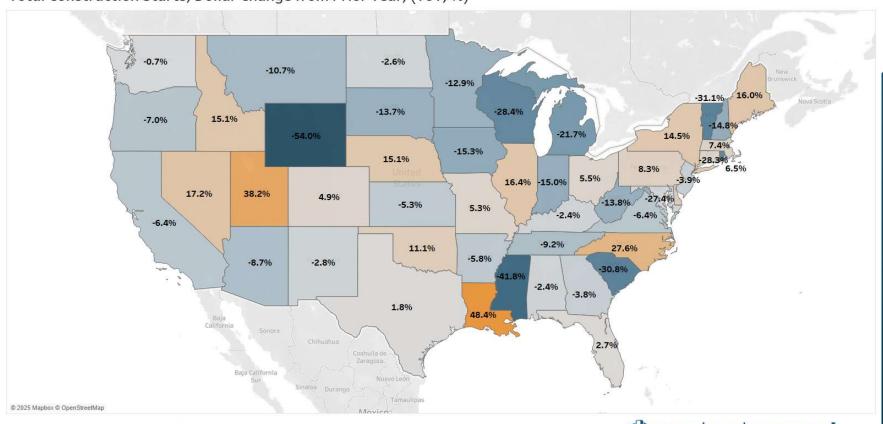
Note: Miscellaneous Civil includes includes Parks, Landscaping, Railroad & Subway, Sidewalks, Curbs, Gutters, Military Non Building, Athletic Fields & Courts, Swimming Pools, Demolition (Civil), Electrical Work (Civil), Fencing, Machinery & Supplies, Pavement Markers, Tunnels, Miscellaneous (Civil), Sitework, Oil and Gas Pipelines in addition to power infrastructure Medical Miscellaneous includes Medical Offices, Outpatient Surgery Centers, Imaging Centers





#### 2025 Year-End Starts Forecast by State

Total Construction Starts, Dollar Change from Prior Year, (YoY, %)

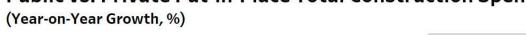


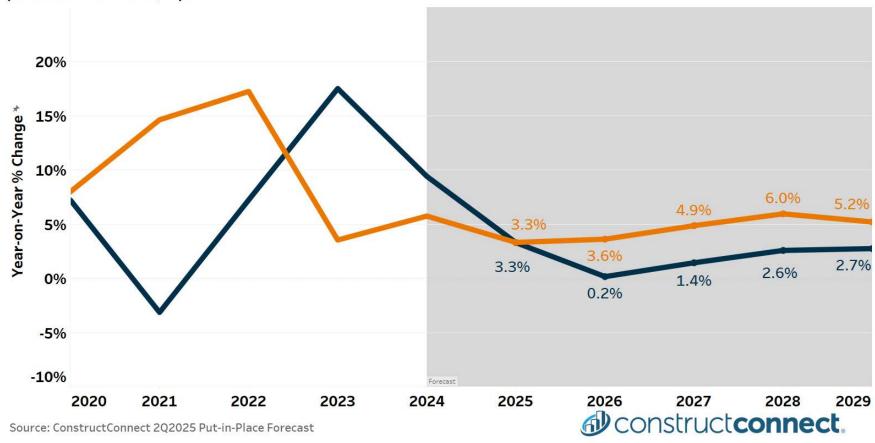
Source: ConstructConnect Starts Forecast 2Q2025

construct connect.



#### Public vs. Private Put-in-Place Total Construction Spending





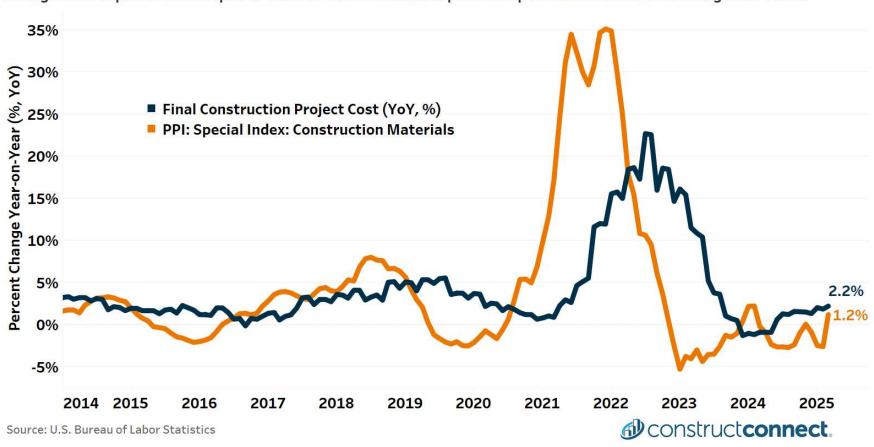
Source: Oxford Economics, April 2025

11



#### **Construction Prices Adjusting to Falling Material Costs**

Falling material prices have helped to stabilize construction bid prices despite the continuance of rising labor costs.





#### **Total Construction Price Changes Lag Behind Material Price Shocks**

25% steel tariffs in mid-2018 contributed to a peak rise of 5.5% in total project construction costs by mid-2019. (YoY, %)





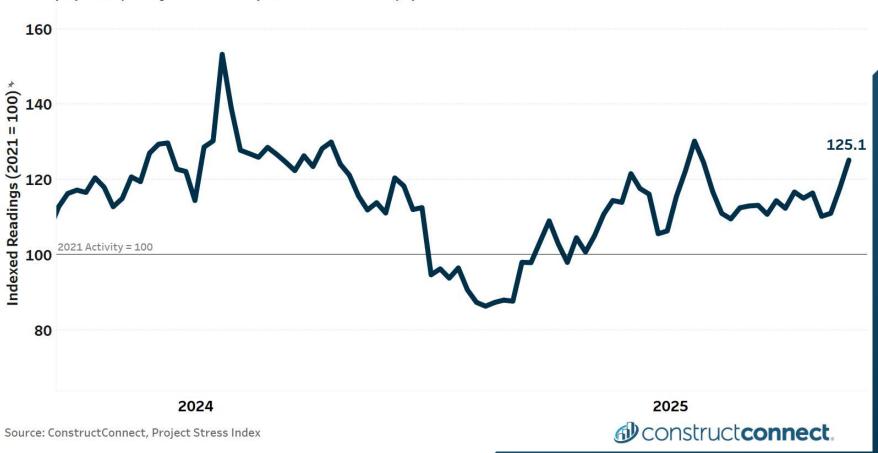
#### **Construction Prices Remain Stabilize Since 2024**





#### **Project Stress Index Composite**

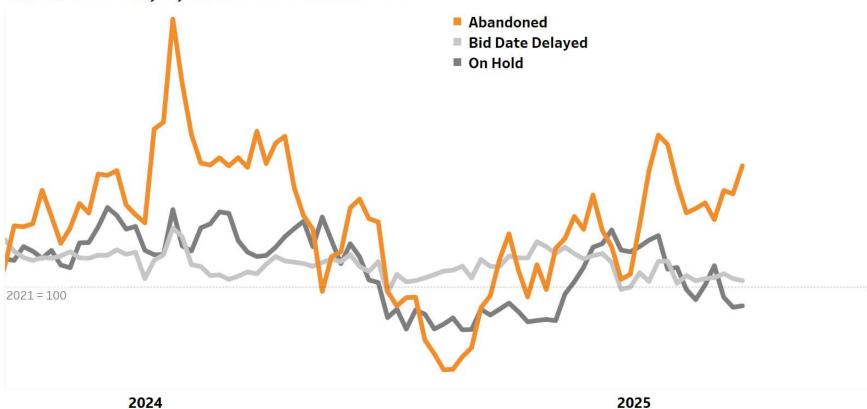
A seasonally adjusted, equal weight measure of delayed, on hold and abandoned projects





#### **Project Stress Index Composite Components**

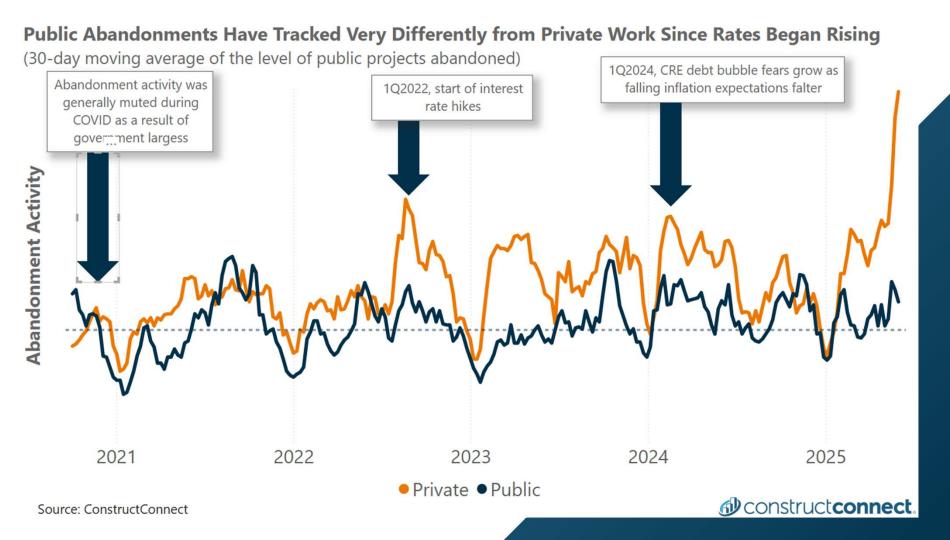




Source: ConstructConnect, Project Stress Index

construct connect.

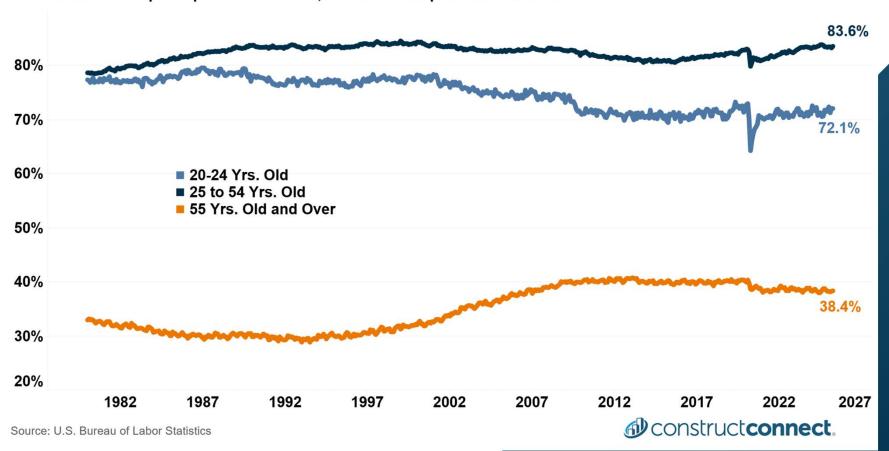






#### The Percentage of Prime Age Workers Is at a 20-year High

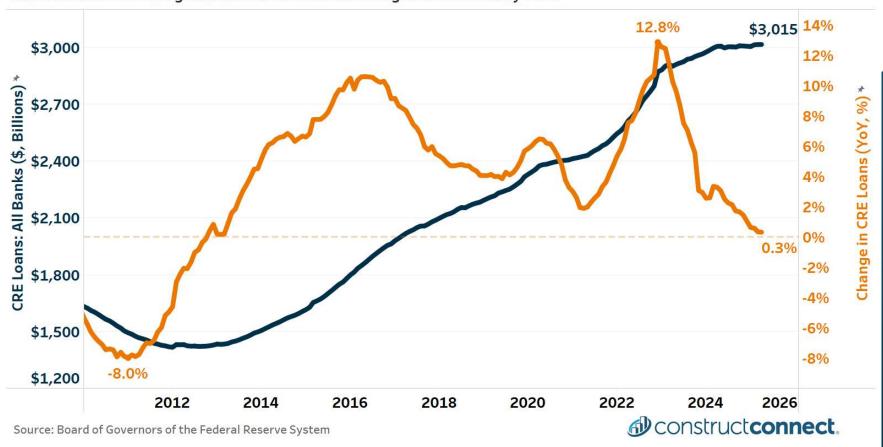
Yet total labor force participation is at 62.6%, its lowest non-pandemic level since 1978





#### Banks Are Holding Commercial Real Estate Lending Frozen at \$3-Trillion

Banks have been slowing Commercial Real Estate debt growth since early 2023

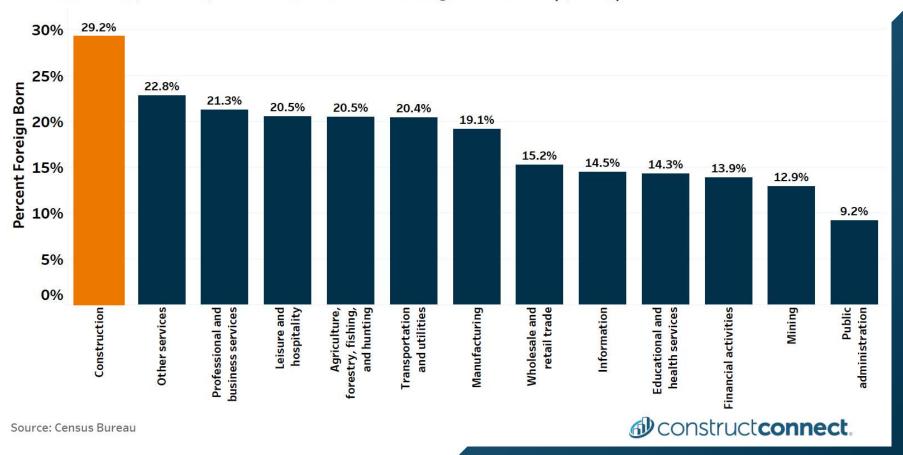




#### Construction is Uniquely Exposed to Foreign-born Labor

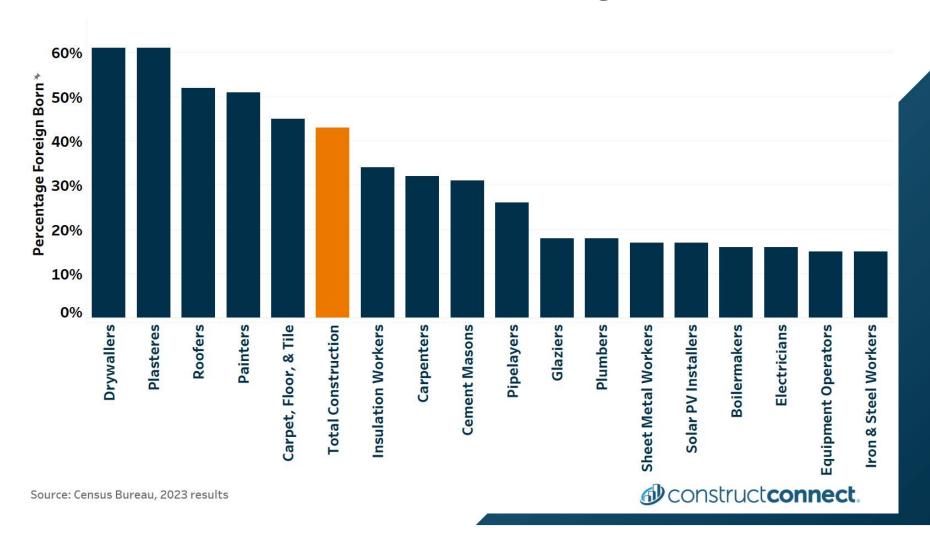
#### Number of Foreign Born Workers By Industry

Over 28M workers, or 14.7%, of the U.S. labor force was foreign born in 2022 (#, count)



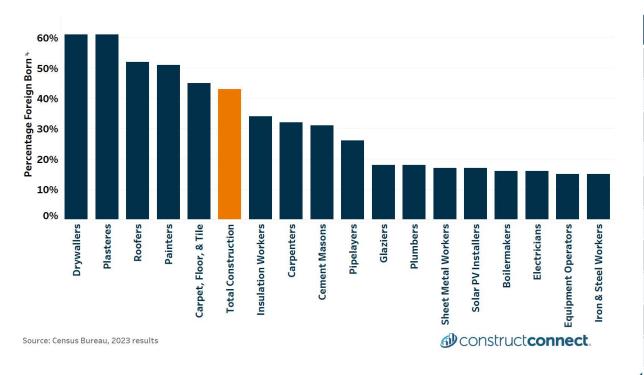


#### **Select Trades Are More Sensitive to Immigration Control**





#### **Select Trades Are More Sensitive to Immigration Control**



2024 Top Spend States				
CA	52%			
TX	51%			
FL	47%			
NY	46%			
NC	41%			
VA	38%			
GA	43%			
AZ	38%			
IL	32%			
TN	27%			
Nat'l Avg	29%			



# Question & Answer Michael Guckes





Michael.Guckes@constructconnect.com www.linkedin.com/in/michaelguckes/