

Real Estate Journal

COVERING ALL OF LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK CITY AND UPSTATE NEW YORK

FOR LABRANCHE & CO.'S NEW LOCATION AT 33 WHITEHALL ST.

Aragon Construction managing build out of 48,000 s/f

NEW YORK, NY Aragon Construction was selected to manage the construction of LaBranche & Co.'s new location at Broad Financial Center in lower Manhattan.

LaBranche and Co., a specialist firm on the New York Stock Exchange, will shift its operations from 120 Broadway and 55 Broadway to three floors of 33 Whitehall St. Approximately 500 employees will work there initially—but the company plans to take additional floors in the next 6-12 months. LaBranche's decision to sign a 10-year lease at Broad Financial Center (instead of moving farther away from the exchange floor) was lauded recently by ESD chairman Charles Gargano as "especially notable" in that it will keep over 500 jobs in lower Manhattan.



Aragon Construction, working together with owner's representative Michael Tennyson of Global Facilities Management, and principal Michel-Claude Fiechter of TPG Architecture, will transform the entire 7th, 8th and 9th floors—a total of 48,000 s/f—into sophisticated trading floors with extensive voice and data, new

mechanical and electric infrastructure, raised flooring and a considerable 2,500 s/f IT room.

"LaBranche is putting together a great new space for themselves," said Tennyson. "It's really a break-away from their more corporate look to a more efficient, fresh look." A lot of maple, glass,

and extruded aluminum will be used in the offices, conference rooms and development areas. A dramatic glass enclosed staircase with wooden steel risers will connect the 8th and 9th floors. According to Tennyson, LaBranche is putting upwards of \$10 million into the space.

The new trading facilities will be finished in early November; construction began in July.

"We are pleased to be a part of such an important New York City project, and are thrilled to again be working with TPG, an acknowledged leader in the field of interior architecture and design with an unrivaled reputation in the financial services space," said Aragon president Alex Getelman.