

US BuildersReview

SPRING 2013 EDITION I

Safety is Our Way
of Life

**Northline
Utilities LLC**

Providing Maintenance
and Modification
Services for Tennessee
Valley Authority

**G • UB • MK
Constructors**

Providing Full Turnkey
Electrical and Systems
Solutions

**Prime
Electric Inc.**

**MC Consultants Featured
Page 115 - 117**

Cover Story Page 43

Summit Contracting Group Inc.
Building On Trusted Relationships

MC Consultants Inc.

Forensic Expert Leading Consulting in all Facets of Construction

Produced by Heidi Therrien & Written by Emma Bouthillette

MC Consultants Inc. (MCC) is one year away from celebrating 25 years of delivering consulting services specific to the construction defect forensic expert market. MCC is an employee-owned business, with many employees celebrating five-, 10- and 15-year employment anniversaries.

Dan Ducommun, president of MCC, joined the California-based company 11 years ago, initially serving on the board of directors as an independent director. In 2007 Ducommun became a full-time employee, serving as vice president of sales and marketing; he was promoted a year later to his current position.

According to Ducommun, he feels the combination of the company's depth of construction industry expertise and the team's ability to serve multiple markets is what differentiates MCC from most consulting firms serving similar clients. MCC boasts several divisions, ensuring the company can provide high-quality construction management, quality control and risk management, environmental investigation services and real property management services.

In addition to providing construction defect forensic services through MCC's mc2 Consultants division, the company operates additional consulting divisions to support the construction defect consulting arena.

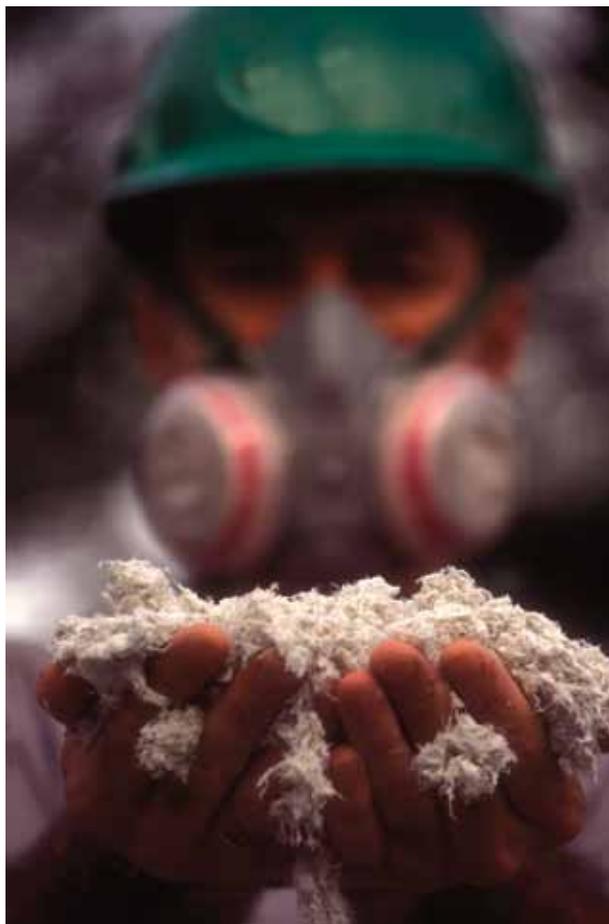
The company's CE Prime Inc. (CE Prime) provides forensic litigation support specific to civil engineering and geotechnical projects. CE Prime also specializes in land development activities and right of way management services to clients in both the public and private sectors.

Meanwhile, MCC's aquaForensics is a nationally recognized water intrusion consulting company with expertise in roofing, waterproofing and the building envelope. "This division's staff of roofing and waterproofing experts is in high demand to serve the forensic litigation market," Ducommun says.

Dunn Environmental Services Inc. provides forensic litigation support specific to construction related environmental issues. This division of MCC also provides hospitals, municipalities, industrial companies and private citizens with high-quality, cost-effective, environmental consulting and industrial hygiene testing services throughout the U.S.

"Our staff of credentialed professionals includes: architects, engineers, general contractors,

construction managers, certified cost estimators, roofing and water intrusion experts, industrial hygienists, real property consultants and project managers," says Ducommun. "MCC's roster provides our clients with the advantage of knowing they've hired a consultant who works within an organization that isn't



limited to one category of construction expertise.”

Ducommun brings national consulting experience to MCC, as he has over two decades of experience serving in senior level management positions within national and international companies and firms. Ducommun’s experience serves MCC well in leading the company to expand consulting capabilities, focusing on effectively serving nationwide client markets.

MCC has delivered consulting services to clients in every region throughout the country. Ducommun attributes this geographic growth to the combination of client demand for MCC’s proven service model, experienced professional team and the company’s strong commitment to invest in innovation and market expansion.

“A vast majority of our company’s expansion planning is driven by demand or interests of insurance carriers, firms and companies that feel our consulting models serve the markets outside our west region service roots,” Ducommun says. “Our numerous clients have confidence in MCC recommending the finest expert choice to address the complex issues our clients present and electing to pass on accepting projects where our expertise is not a perfect fit.”

Educating Community

According to Ducommun, MCC has produced and hosted 24 annual construction defect and insurance coverage conferences over the past 15 years. Each of these conferences provides attendees eight to nine hours of Continued Education credits (MCLE and CE credits).

MCC is gearing up for the company’s seventh annual East Region Construction Defect and Insurance Coverage Conference, which will be held in June 2013 in Orlando, Fla. MCC has also been hosting an Annual West Region Construction Defect Conference for 19 years, with this year’s being held in San Diego.

“These two annual conferences draw in excess of 250 East and 500 West attendees,” says Ducommun. “The attendee’s professions range from developers, builders, insurance professionals, attorneys, judges and consulting companies, all supporting or serving the construction defect industry.” The conferences both address

regional construction defects, risk management, coverage issues, litigation management, as well as insurance issues arising out of construction related claims.

“Industry professionals consider these two conferences a valuable educational and industry networking resource,” Ducommun continues. “Our conference seminar agendas provide the construction defect market current and relevant lecture topics [some considered controversial], each supported by panelists representing all fields within the industry.”

In addition to MCC’s commitment to produce two annual regional events, the company also began hosting local market half-day seminars starting in 2008. According to Ducommun, each event features local professionals and judges that support and serve the industry. “These seminars are free, offer pertinent information, and provide the local market professionals a great networking venue,” he notes. MCC also certifies these seminars for two hours of MCLE credits.

Construction and Risk Management

MCC’s mc3 Consultants division was founded in 2005 to deliver services in support of banks, real estate investors, developers, builders and owners in need of repairing or refurbishing real estate property. MCC’s staff of consulting professionals bring more than 20 years of experience to the construction industry.

The mc3 team is the same one that supports MCC’s construction forensics litigation and claims handling markets, thereby offering a forensically trained eye during the course of construction.

Control your costs. Grow your business. Human Resources, handled.

Since 1990, thousands of small and medium-sized businesses have trusted SOI to provide solutions to their toughest human resources, employee benefits, payroll and risk management challenges.

SOI works one-on-one with clients to offer comprehensive, integrated human resource solutions that fit their unique needs. Leveraging over 20 years of experience and the knowledge of our leadership team, SOI provides the access, expertise and confidence businesses need to succeed.





MCC's experienced builder and design professionals can support a wide variety of risk management markets, oversee and/or represent HOA's reconstruction or repairs generated from a defect litigation judgment, as well as address most all construction management issues. These experts span all project disciplines, including contracting, project management, architecture design review, engineering, cost estimating, as well as deliver or support QA/QC programs.

Recently, mc3 Consultants was hired to serve as the HOA's construction manager on a \$13 million high-rise condo renovation project in Las Vegas. "This renovation project is one of the largest in Nevada history," Ducommun says. "It was the result of a class action lawsuit filed a few years back by a prominent plaintiff firm based in Las Vegas."

Ducommun claims a fairly high percentage of residential developments face potential lawsuits for claims specific to construction defects. For this reason mc3 Consultants serves as a construction manager representative responsible for the bids related to hiring, as well as to provide quality oversight of the repair work on defects to be completed.

Ducommun advises 65 percent of the company's revenues are

generated from delivering construction forensic analysis and testimony expertise to law firms across the country. Over the span of 24 years, MCC has represented both the plaintiff and the defense in these cases.

Since the 1980s the construction defect industry has increasingly grown. Many states have legislation adopted to curtail class action lawsuits in construction defect cases. Some states developed a right-to-repair statute, which promotes a timeline for developers and builders to repair work prior to the filing of a lawsuit.

As the industry continues to evolve, Ducommun has high expectations for the industries the company serves, as well as for the future of MCC's consulting divisions. "I'm committed to positioning MCC to be a great place to work, while succeeding in achieving our national expansion objectives through the delivery of superior results and solutions to clients in need of MCC's multiple consulting divisions," Ducommun says. Though Ducommun looks forward to further expansion, he assures the team will remain committed to delivering the high-quality consulting services for which MC Consultants Inc. is known. •