

## SMALL BUSINESS of the month



# Beaufort Engineering Services *Finds Going Green is Good for Business*

Looking for green and sustainable solutions in building design and construction isn't just good for the environment. Beaufort Engineering Services (BES) Inc. believes it's also good for business.

"BES made green and sustainable design and construction a core part of our business several years ago simply because it is the right thing to do," said William Walter Bolton, president and CEO of the firm. "We have a committed goal of designing all projects to be sustainable, environmentally friendly, and to meet energy efficiency standards. We want to be innovators in reducing energy use and eliminating waste from the construction process. In utilizing green and sustainable processes, we increase the value we offer our clients by providing healthier and more efficient buildings for their use."

BES, the Mobile Area Chamber's Small Business of the Month, is a veteran-owned firm providing full architecture, engineering and construction services, with a 22-person corporate office in Fairhope and offices in Beaufort, S.C. and Johnson City, Tenn. The company was founded in

1976 as Charles C. Baggs & Associates in Beaufort, S.C., later changing its name in 1979. Bolton became a partner in 2000 and full owner of the firm in 2006.

The company's portfolio includes a blend of federal contracts and local commercial projects.

Bolton said BES' ability to see a job through from conception to completion with an in-house staff of professional architects, multidiscipline engineers and construction managers sets it apart from competitors.

"Our ability to provide turn-key architecture/engineering/construction services as a one-stop shop provides a convenience for our client that is not offered at many firms," he said, adding that the firm features on-staff certified LEED Accredited Professionals, Green Globes Professionals and Evidence-Based Design Accreditation and Certification personnel.

"Our mission," Bolton said, "is to build long-term client loyalty by providing the highest level of professional expertise with an emphasis on developing personal relationships."

That emphasis can be seen in the firm's involvement in several charitable and civic endeavors, such as the Habitat for Humanity, the Fairhope Mayor's Advisory Board, the Fairhope Tree & Park Committee, volunteer art workshops at Fairhope Intermediate School and volunteer work at Historic Blakely State Park and in Biloxi after Hurricane Katrina. "We feel that it is part of our duty to lead by example in charity and civic pro bono work," Bolton said.

Bolton sees renewable energy and energy conservation as a major focus in his industry over the next decade, and BES is structured to be at the forefront of this ongoing trend.

"Our goal is to provide designs with the long-term advantages of minimal environmental impact and beneficial life cycle owner experience," he said. "This underlying goal of providing a facility that demonstrates a functional, cost effective and sensible response to meeting the owner's goals and the needs of the public at large for years to come is paramount to the design process and the implementation of that design."

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