



Driven Engineering was founded in 2006 by Avalisha Fisher (pictured far right). The engineering firm provides a wide-range of services for clients across the U.S.

# Driven Engineering Group

Avalisha Fisher founded Driven Engineering Inc., out of her home in 2006 to create a workplace unlike the ones in which she'd worked.

"I wanted a family-friendly atmosphere without strong language, inappropriate behavior, unethical practices, etc.," said Fisher, who has 21 years of general civil engineering experience. "I wanted to create a place where people would be treated fairly and as a result of being in a better work environment, we would treat our clients the way they should be treated. I also wanted to be allowed to fully address the details of a project and ensure that the designs produced are the best they can be and complete our work with an attitude of working 'as unto the Lord.'"

The business has grown to a staff of 12 that provides a variety of engineering and government

contracting services to federal agencies, counties, cities and private clients. The team has extensive design and construction management experience from roads to subdivision development, to stormwater permitting to sewer and drainage systems.

"Driven Engineering has a lot of experience in niche areas that have made it possible to expand our customer base nationally," Fisher said. "One of these areas is in railroad engineering. We are also experts in flood studies and FEMA flood map revisions."

It also doesn't hurt that 80 percent of their business is repeat business, a sign of satisfied clients.

"The business has grown to what it is today due to having set things up with the idea of staying 'scalable,'" Fisher said. "Being scalable has

required a lot of hard work along with having the right people. We have been strategically placed in just the right place at just the right time and have been taught some very important lessons early on that have made us better able to handle larger problems and situations."

Fisher said two important goals of the business are to provide a fun workplace – "if it isn't, why do it?" she asked – and to encourage involvement in the community and in professional organizations. Fisher is on the South Alabama Civil Engineering Department Advisory board, Partners for Environmental Progress board of directors and the board of governance for the Semmes Volunteer Fire Department. Senior staff and employees are also involved in activities like the AT&T Vital Link and career fairs for middle and

elementary schools.

"It goes with why I started the business," Fisher said. "I started the business on the principle and practice of unselfish concern and devotion to the welfare of our staff and our clients. Volunteering is the perfect way each of us can expand this goodwill to others, into our community and beyond. The simple act of offering your skills and enthusiasm will positively impact the lives of others, as well as your own."

Go to [mobilechamber.com/award.asp](http://mobilechamber.com/award.asp) to submit a Small Business of the Month application, or contact Danette Richards at 251-431-8652 or [drichards@mobilechamber.com](mailto:d Richards@mobilechamber.com).