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Soil Consultants Announces Its First Female CEO in 59 Years

Recent woman-owned certification continues a shift to female ownership in engineering

MANASSAS, VIRGINIA (April 15, 2019) – It was recently announced that **Soil Consultants Engineering (SCE)**, a geotechnical engineering firm specializing in on-site testing and inspection of new construction, is now a Woman-Owned Enterprise following the change in ownership to Jennifer Smith, a member of SCE’s founding family. The certification was issued by the Small Business Administration (SBA), in the Administration’s effort to support woman-owned business in industries where it has been historically underrepresented.

Being a woman-owned business in the construction industry has been on the rise for years and is one of the fastest-growing industries in the U.S. economy. However, there is still a perception that the construction industry is still a “boys club”. “Filling a leadership role in this industry can still be a challenge for women,” said Mrs. Smith. “It can be more of a challenge to show your worth. Fortunately, the work that SCE has done over the years goes far in speaking for itself; so, there’s not much of a question about whether or not we have the knowledge or experience to get the job done right – because we already have.”

SCE’s experience is indeed vast. Their project portfolio boasts projects from the mid-size like the Compass Day School in Sterling, Virginia, to large projects like the sprawling Virginia Gateway shopping district in Gainesville, Virginia, to electric wind farms in Rolla, North Dakota.

The SBA’s national standard of certification is designed to confirm the business is at least 51% owned, operated and controlled by a woman or women. Through including women-owned businesses among their vendors, corporations and government agencies can demonstrate their commitment to diversity and equal footing, regardless of gender.

About Soil Consultants Engineering

Founded in 1960 by the Smith family, we're third-generation geologists. Headquartered in Manassas, Virginia, we apply a complete range of engineering and testing services to the land development of Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. We specialize in on-site testing and inspection of new construction, both before and after primary building phases, to ensure your project meets county and state building codes. Learn more by visiting www.soilconsultants.net or by calling (703) 366-3000.

About the Small Business Administration

The SBA was created in 1953 as an independent agency of the federal government to aid, counsel, assist and protect the interests of small business concerns, to preserve free competitive enterprise and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of our nation. For more information, visit www.sba.gov.

