

Contractor Achievement Award

Jim Blois



“I grew up in the construction industry in our family business. During summer vacations as a kid, I dragged hoses and pumps around our job sites to save my dad the expense of renting a water truck. I definitely learned the business from the ground up and by osmosis around the dinner table.” Those early years lugging hoses earned Jim Blois the nickname Jimmy the Jetter and taught him to value the integrity of the profession and to respect the hardworking men and women in the trenches. In 2003, Jim became the CEO and owner of Blois Construction, Inc., a construction firm with enduring values that has operated for fifty years.

Not all of Jim’s construction career was with the family business. After graduating from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo with a degree in Civil Engineering, he gained valuable experience working at other companies before coming back to his natural home at Blois Construction. Upon his return, he aggressively pursued a learning track, which, over time, resulted in him assuming and performing every position and function (from accounting to laborer) in the company. This background served him well when he assumed the leadership for the business.

Blois Construction, located in Oxnard, CA, is a Heavy Civil contractor that has been involved with a broad range of projects (sewer, water, storm drain, channels, treatment facilities, pump stations) in a variety of markets (commercial, industrial, school, infrastructure, and residential) in Southern California. The company is involved in both public and private work, acts as both a general and subcontractor, and performs projects in varying sizes up to \$50 million.

Jim expanded the legacy of his father, Bob Blois, and his brother, Steve Blois, by surrounding himself with a great team of employees, managers, and advisors. He consistently emphasizes the importance of collaboration and communication for the team and its members. This focus has contributed to quality growth when times were good—and quality performance when times were not so good. It’s also helped to perpetuate the company’s longstanding reputation for quality, honesty, and partnership in all of its relationships. Safety is a high priority at Blois Construction, and Jim has been instrumental in creating a proactive safety culture at the company, which has been consistently recognized by AGC of California and AGC of America.

A natural curiosity and a passion for learning have fueled Jim to be a strong advocate for the training and development of the next generation of construction leaders, both in the office and the field. Blois Construction has been a strong supporter of AGC scholarship and training programs for many years and has been an active participant in numerous vocational, management, and leadership training platforms for the construction industry. In addition, Jim’s commitment to family and community have resulted in the company’s active financial and in-kind support of many worthy nonprofit organizations, including Young Life, Habitat for Humanity, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Oxnard, the Ventura Housing Trust Fund, and Ventura County Office of Education. On a personal level, Jim has been a volunteer and leader for several nonprofits and has spent countless hours devoted to the needs of our teenage youth.

Over all these years, Jimmy the Jetter has been true to his humble roots and is more excited than ever about the future of his company and the industry. His commitment to core values, ongoing learning, and open and collaborative communication have had a powerful impact on his family, his team, his community, and the construction industry.