

By Elisa Claassen



Photo by Ryan Duclos

CREDO CONSTRUCTION

CREDO CONSTRUCTION INC., a Whatcom County-based general contractor, is built upon four constant principles: Quality, communication, integrity and commitment.

“By never losing sight of these core principles, we are able to ensure that our clients receive the highest quality service, that their expectations are exceeded, and that they are satisfied with the project after completion,” says Credo’s president Todd Lapinsky.

The name Credo is from the Latin “I believe” and Bellingham’s Credo believes in itself and its clients.

Incorporated in the United States in 2000, Credo had already established its framework for success in nearby British Columbia. The firm shows its versatility in a range of projects – design to build, commercial tenant improvements, commercial office buildings, pre-engineered steel buildings, manufacturing facilities and warehouses, mixed-use retail, building envelope repair and restoration, and even custom homes.

Its first \$1 million project was the Walton Beverage Skagit County distribution center near Interstate 5 in Burlington. In June 2007, the San Juan County legislative building remodel was Credo’s first contract awarded as prime contractor on a public works project.

“Our mission is to strive for excellence in every project – regardless of size – and provide the utmost in quality and service by listening to our customers and providing continuous communication,” Lapinsky said.

In addition to listening to clients, the company has initiated an ongoing comprehensive quality control program. “We are careful about what we promise and always do what we say we will do.”

The company fulfilled its promise on three projects completed before Christmas 2008. Credo completed – on tight schedules – three commercial tenant improvement projects at Harbor Station in Oak Harbor: a call center for Waste Management, Island Oral Surgery and Harbor Station Executive Suites.

With a nod to changing market conditions, Lapinsky says Credo has paid attention and considers itself “effectively preparing our company for the hard

times everyone is facing this year.”

Actions taken: The company transferred to new business accounting, estimating and project management software systems. Wherever possible Credo standardized operations, eliminating any redundancies. “The result has been greater productivity at all levels. It is something we will continue to work on as the market changes – for better or worse.”

Results: Overhead cost reduction by 46 percent since the beginning of 2008 and increased productivity and efficiency in field operations.

Credo and Lapinsky look beyond the workplace to their community. From inception, Credo has supported various local charities financially and as volunteers, including The Opportunity Council, Habitat for Humanity and the Boys and Girls Club of Whatcom County. Lapinsky coached peewee football for the Boys and Girls Club in the past year.

Bottom line: “Our clients deserve to work with professionals who will share their dreams, protect their investment and most importantly, exceed their expectations.” ■