



Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc.

## Small Firm Culture ... Big Firm Resources

*“CEC is recognized for providing innovative design solutions and integrated expertise in air quality, civil engineering, ecological sciences, environmental engineering and sciences, planning, survey, transportation engineering, waste management, and water resources.”*

Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. (CEC) was founded in Pittsburgh in 1989 by four individuals (three engineers and one geologist). Today, the firm has grown to 22 offices and more than 800 employees nationwide, of which more than half are shareholders in the firm. Their continuing growth stems from a commitment to client-first service and emphasis on three core business principles: Senior Leadership, Integrated Services, and Personal Business Relationships.

The genesis of CEC’s presence in Illinois in 2001 was a natural progression for the company at that time, having previously expanded outside of Pittsburgh through Ohio and as far west as Indianapolis. Chicago was a logical next marketplace. Chicagoland native John Hock laid the groundwork for the new regional office with a promising multi-year workload of managing legacy environmental liabilities for a previous client. CEC launched operations specializing in environmental and waste management services and quickly placed an early focus on the solid waste industry. Hock still serves as the CEC Chicago office lead to this day, and the office has expanded to include air quality, geotechnical and civil engineering services as well. Their expertise is now utilized by a large variety of clients including the solid waste industry, mining companies, heavy manufacturers, healthcare facilities, power companies and the commercial real estate industry. Many of their clients count on their regional expertise and agency relationships, but they also know that CEC has a deep local bench of individuals who can address issues, oversee work, and provide the peace of mind they need and should expect from a dedicated advocate.

Consistently ranked among the Top 500 Design Firms and Top 200 Environmental Firms by *Engineering News-Record*, CEC is recognized for providing innovative design solutions and integrated expertise in air quality, civil engineering, ecological sciences, environmental engineering and sciences, planning, survey, transportation engineer-

ing, waste management, and water resources. Their multi-disciplined Industry Consulting Groups strategically focus on the business objectives and drivers of the manufacturing, mining, oil & gas, power, public sector, real estate, and solid waste markets.

Joseph Zlogar is a Senior Principal in the Chicago office, located in Lombard, Illinois. “My role is to serve as a liaison within industry organizations and to consistently be out in the marketplace working to gain a better and deeper understanding of what our clients’ needs and challenges are so that we may effectively solve their problems. We value building relationships with our clients and serve as their strategic partner and trusted advisor.”

CEC has been consistently growing for the past 10 years, expanding into new regions of the United States both organically and through several strategic acquisitions, most recently in Knoxville, Boston, Phoenix, Austin and Oklahoma City. In addition, they continue to add diverse offerings to their lineup, such as planning, transportation engineering, and air quality services. In fact, the corporate air quality practice finds its home in the Chicago office where practice leader Bruce Dumdei, Ph.D., is based. Recent emphasis has been

placed on building a robust air quality group specifically for this regional office, while also expanding upon the existing expertise and experience of air quality specialists across the corporate footprint.

CEC believes that the Chamber provides a superior outlet for them to interact with organizations and individuals also focused on the environmental regulatory landscape. Through the Chamber’s Environmental Affairs Committee and its partner, the Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group, CEC gains additional insights needed to monitor and track new regulatory and legislative issues that impact their clients.

“We’re in a better position to protect and represent the interests of our clients and ultimately solve our clients’ issues,” Zlogar continues. “The Chamber and IERG are the best forum for making valuable impacts on environmental issues through early identification and input in the regulatory development and legislative processes.”



*“Our office’s future is so bright, we’ve got to wear shades.” Last August, the CEC Chicago team gathered for a mid-afternoon break to experience the total solar eclipse.*

