

GEM Engineering



Joel and Coralee Myers
Photo courtesy of Joel Myers

Wise Building

The words to a popular children's song state the wise man built his house upon the rock and the foolish man built his house upon the sand. If GEM Engineering had been there to advise them, both homes would have had stable foundations, septic systems that met code, and a supply of fresh well water.

GEM stands for geotechnical, environmental and materials testing, the original services provided by this hometown company. Owners Joel and Coralee Myers have since added structural engineering to their lineup. With this mix, they are able to assist their clients with site investigations, pavement design, site grading and foundations, well monitoring, well sampling, septic designs, testing of materials such as asphalt and reinforced steel, and structural design.

The company recently acquired its national AMRL accreditation, which enables it to work on larger projects with both state and federal governments. One of its biggest agricultural clients is Circle Four Farms in Milford, Utah, and one of its largest geotechnical clients is Cedar City Inc.

Joel graduated from the University of Utah in 1990 with a degree in civil engineering with an emphasis on soils, foundations and environmental engineering. While at his first job in St. George with Kleinfelder Inc. as an Engineer in Training, he realized he preferred working with soils. In 1995, Joel had the opportunity to start a new geotechnical branch of an existing engineering firm in his hometown of Cedar City and become a partner. The partnership didn't work out, but the experience prepared Joel for the next step — owning a business of his own.

In 2005, Joel's dream became a reality when he and his wife, Coralee, who has a business degree, created GEM Engineering with the help of an SBA loan through Zions Bank. Joel performs the technical tasks and Coralee manages the office and lab operations. In the three years they have been in business, the company has grown from the two of them and a full-time geologist to a staff of 20. ■

GEM Engineering
269 N. 100 West, # 8
Cedar City, UT 84720
435-867-6478
www.gemengineeringinc.com