

Chris' Contracting Story

I remember the day well when I officially entered into the contracting industry. I was helping a friend with a project his cousin was building in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. I drove up with the owner of the construction company to help him figure out some insurance issues he was having. At the time, my company also had an insurance company for self employed individuals.

After our week-long project the owner of the company prospected me to run his back office. Ultimately, I became the operations officer of the company and completed all of the contractor certifications for our general contractor - commercial class A license. Over the course of the seven years I was there I assisted in converting the company from analog to digital. I integrated AIA contract forms with all of our other processes.

From draw requests to lien waiver compliance, I was engaged in the successful management of dozens of projects valued at just under \$100 million. Some interesting aspects of my tenure was to learn the nuances of being 'fast track' specialists.

For example; we had done several contracts for GE Access in Boulder, CO. Along the way, they obtained two buildings on the Oracle campus in Boulder. We were tasked with building out 60,000 square feet from a gray shell to a full AAA Class office / computer clean space. We had two superintendents on site, up to 80 electricians on any given day, plumbers, HVAC mechanics, framers, etc... It was an amazing case of controlled and managed pandemonium. We pulled it off and saved GE over \$500,000 in extension penalties at the location they were moving from.

We also pulled several ground up projects out of the ground through to certificate of occupancy within 90 days of breaking ground. Two such projects were completed in Englewood, Colorado for two separate collector car businesses. We erected gorgeous metal buildings for each of these companies. One structure was 15,000 square feet and the other 23,000 square feet.

Our company was run very lean. Only 3 employees; we would sub out our superintendents on a per job basis. The company was massively profitable averaging around \$1.5 - \$2 million per month in gross revenue. It was during this engagement that I moved back into renewable energy.

The real estate crash of 2006-2007 caused our business to virtually seize. I suggested we move into renewables, however the owner of the company wanted to stay within his wheelhouse of small to medium commercial projects. I exited at that point and moved into solar full time.

Learn more about my energy journey by clicking onto the [READ MORE](#) under my Energy Story.

Suffice to say, with dozens of projects and tens of millions of dollars successfully completed, I love to apply my construction acumen with all of my lighting and solar projects.