

Motiva Port Arthur Refinery Expansion Project Business Success Stories

Roosevelt Petry Jr.
President and CEO
GP Industrial
Contractors Inc.

Roosevelt Petry Jr., is the president and CEO of GP Industrial Contractors Inc., a large Port Arthur based company that has grown from approximately 160 employees to 200 employees over the last three years as a result of the Motiva Port Arthur Expansion Project.

GP Industrial Contractors specializes in pipe and steel fabrication, engineering, field maintenance, fire watch, project management services, labor services and janitorial services. The company also has offshore and commercial divisions.

“The expansion project has had a very positive effect on the whole community. Motiva believes in hiring locally and supporting the community, but you must be qualified and you must be able to produce or provide a service at a competitive price.”

GP Industrial Contractors works directly with Motiva, in addition to its engineering contractors, Bechtel Jacobs.

“Not only has business volume increased, but the opportunity to work with some of the largest engineering firms in the nation has given us exposure and added to our resume.”

Hans Jorgensen
President
Pat Tank, Inc.

Hans Jorgensen is the president of Pat Tank, Inc., a Port Arthur-based, family-owned business. In operation since 1945, Pat Tank has been a part of the Port Arthur community for over 60 years.

As a storage tank construction company that builds above ground tanks for the petrochemical and oil industry, Pat Tank has an established history of working with Motiva.

“The Motiva Port Arthur Expansion Project basically allowed Pat Tank to be recession proof. It shielded us from having to lay-off employees. Our employees were busy and we ended up increasing our staff by about 15-20 people.”

With approximately 150 employees, Pat Tank employees work on projects directly for Motiva as well as through contractors like Bechtel Jacobs. Pat Tank covers a number of jobs at the Port Arthur operation, from tank fabrication and repair to field erection, welding and equipment operation.

According to Hans, the expansion project’s impact on the local community was obvious. Local hotels, restaurants and businesses are full now and they did not have nearly as many customers prior to the expansion.

Chris Street
Owner
Threads

Threads is an embroidery and screen printing company based in Port Arthur and owned by Chris and Leisa Street, a husband and wife team. While Threads has been in business for almost 11 years, the company's client base took a significant turn in 2007 when it began working with the Motiva Port Arthur Expansion Project. At the time, business was struggling and the Motiva work provided a much needed boost.

"The expansion project has helped our business grow. There's been a domino effect that's really helped the entire community."

To accommodate the increased business, Chris and Leisa purchased new equipment and hired two new employees. Since working with Motiva, Threads has developed a variety of apparel and promotional items, including hats, golf shirts, T-shirts, sweat shirts, computer bags and stress balls shaped like hard-hats.

"In the beginning, Motiva actually sought us out because we are a local minority owned business, but the reason behind our continued success is because customer service is our first priority. We do what needs to be done to get it right."

Yasiri Pablo
Owner
Y&M Cleaning
Services

Yasiri Pablo grew up helping her mother clean houses in the city of Port Arthur. After many years of working for others, Yasiri decided it was time to take control of her future and start a business.

In 2008, Yasiri and her mother opened Y&M Cleaning Services. It was slow getting the business off the ground, but in 2009 Yasiri secured her first contract with the city of Port Arthur Parks and Recreation Center. Thanks to a referral, from a Motiva representative Yasiri got her next big contract with CWS Corporate housing – an apartment complex where Motiva executives stay while visiting Port Arthur.

"We now have approximately 15 clients. It feels good to own my own business. I've worked many jobs; I've even worked on oil rigs, but being my own boss feels great!"

Through referrals Yasiri has grown her business and now services three complexes in Port Arthur, Nederland and Beaumont.

Y&M Cleaning Services offers complete janitorial services, maid services and property maintenance.