

Bechtel agreement helping build local business

Bechtel National and Timberline Process & Controls, Inc. have entered into a mentor-protégé agreement, supported by the Department of Energy.

Through this agreement, Bechtel has agreed to support Timberline in increasing its technical and business capabilities, building industrial competitiveness and expanding its client base. As part of the agreement, Bechtel is supporting development of Timberline's Nuclear Quality Assurance program and helping develop the company for other DOE and federal agencies and commercial markets.

Timberline is a certified small, small-disadvantaged, 8(a), HUBZone, service-disabled-veteran-owned business that provides piping supplies and services.

The company has provided materials for the Hanford Site for 15 years, while diligently working to expand into fabrication. Owner Randy Tweten has aggressively pursued opportunities to build the company and make it more than just a supplier.

Bechtel currently purchases materials from Timberline for the Waste Treatment Plant, although these procurements are relatively small. "This provides an incredible opportunity to expand in not only the Tri-Cities, but into being a supplier to other government and commercial opportunities," said Tweten.

Timberline purchased land in the Horn Rapids development in Richland to build a 15,000- to 20,000-square-foot fabrication shop. The shop will employ 65 to 75 local workers in crafts, quality assurance, administration and material control. Groundbreaking is expected later this year.

Timberline is also teaming with other small businesses. Diamond B Constructors in Bellingham and Puget Sound Pipe in Kent are working with Timberline to help provide the materials needed. ■