Kimberley Construction Building New Role as Government Contractor

A general contractor and master contractor company is taking on a new role majoring in government contracting after CIRAS helped the company understand the intricacies of selling to the government.

Kimberley Construction was formed in September 2018 as an offshoot of Kimberley Development, a 41-year-old Ankeny home building company. Troy Sydow, project manager for the newer company, said the home developer realized last year that it had been turning away smaller upscale renovation jobs and decided to form a new division to capture that work. Within a few months, Kimberley Construction had begun taking on commercial renovation work as well and was pondering the government sector. Sydow contacted CIRAS and began asking questions.

Webinar Week - A Special Series Spotlighting Government Agencies

Experts from the CIRAS Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) want to help get you started with a special week of webinars in March designed to explain how the buying process works at various levels of government agencies around the state. This five-part series includes webinars that will explain:

- Iowa Department of Transportation
- U.S. Department of Agriculture's FPAC Business Center
- City of Cedar Rapids
- U.S. Army Corps. of Engineers, Rock Island District
- U.S. General Service Administration

ILC Mentors Help Put Lean Training into Practice

John Magnussen, continuous improvement manager for Pella Corporation, likes to compare Lean management techniques to riding a bicycle: getting trained is great; but at some point, you just have to grab the handlebars and go. "You didn't learn to ride a bike by reading a book," Magnussen said. "You went out, and you rode a bike! You can read and train all you want, but until you go and actually practice it, you're not going to know." But wouldn't it be nice to have someone running beside you as you learned?

Upcoming Conferences, Trainings, & Workshops

The Center for Industrial Research and Service (CIRAS) seeks to make Iowa better by educating its businesses about the latest research-proven methods and best practices of industry. Here are just a few of the ways we plan to do that in the coming month.