

# Smith Consulting Architects marks 20 years

**Smith Consulting Architects**, San Diego's largest woman-owned architectural design firm, commemorates its 20th anniversary this year.

When President and Founder Cheryl "Dennie" Smith founded the firm in 1988, it mainly focused on industrial and office space, as well as tenant improvements — markets that were thriving at that time.

Through the years, the firm has expanded into master-planning, corporate offices, biotech, R&D, complex manufacturing, healthcare, retail and mixed-use centers.

Its clients include recognized industry leaders with names like **Qualcomm, Callaway Golf, Gen-Probe, Arena Pharmaceuticals, ViaSat, Dow AgroSciences, Beckman-Coulter, Northrop/Grumman Ryan Aeronautical**, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services.

In 2005, Smith expanded her company with a new office in Palm Desert to take advantage of the growth and devel-

opment of the Coachella Valley area, where she grew up. The company's desert office recently celebrated its two-year anniversary.

Smith Consulting has been a member of the U.S. Green Building Council since 2006 and currently has four LEED-accredited professionals on staff, two of whom are vice presidents.

The firm has more than a dozen projects in the works that are seeking LEED certification.

Smith Consulting recently completed design and construction documentation for the new 140,000-square-foot headquarters of Hunter Industries, a LEED-registered project in San Marcos that was recently chosen by the California Center for Sustainable Energy as a winner for the Special Achievement by a Medium to Large Business in the 2007 San Diego Excellence in Energy (SANDEE) Awards. More recently, it was named "Sustainable Communities

See **Smith** on 31C

# Smith

*Continued from Page 19C*

Champion" by SDG&E during its 2008 Energy Showcase Awards.

As a testament to the company's loyalty, 20 percent of its 33 design and support professionals have been with Smith Consulting for more than 10 years.

"It makes a world of difference when you have a strong team behind you," Smith said. "It's not just about winning jobs, it's about performance, customer service and client satisfaction once you have them, and that's where our team shines. Our employees aren't here simply to do a job. They really look out for the best interests of the company as a whole."

Currently in San Diego County, Smith Consulting Architects is working on a 233,000-square-foot renovation for Callaway Golf in Carlsbad; a 75,000-square-foot, five-story office building for Arena Pharmaceuticals on Sorrento Mesa; the new 96,481-square-foot Abrams Westview Plaza office building in Scripps Ranch; and the new 90,000-square-foot Tri-City Wellness Center/ECR Corporate Center within the master-planned business community of Bressi Ranch in Carlsbad.

In Palm Desert, the firm is completing work on several buildings within Desert Business Park, a new 80-acre professional campus.

Looking to the future, Smith sees steady growth for the firm, as it continues to seek work in high-growth areas and embrace distinct design trends.

"We have positioned ourselves well in growing markets, such as the desert communities," said Smith. "We also will continue to broaden our expertise in sustainable design, which we firmly believe will become the norm for all development types."

More information about the company can be found on the Web at [www.sca-sd.com](http://www.sca-sd.com).

Source Code: 20080926tca