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Clients who are looking for turnkey service and a high level of expertise in commercial real estate and construction can count on Cissell Mueller.

Not many people get to launch their dream jobs based on friendship and a love for building, but that's just what two St. Charles County men did, and commercial real estate in the St. Louis area and beyond hasn't been the same since.

In the early 1990s, Bob Cissell and Duane Mueller met at a local property company. Both were just starting out in their careers. Bob

had recently graduated from the University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL) with a degree in Accounting. Duane, also a new UMSL grad, was working as a journeyman carpenter. Things clicked, and in 1992, the two branched out on their own and created Cissell Mueller Companies. Little did they know that what started with two guys working from a small bedroom in Bob's home would soon expand to multiple operations in St. Charles County employing more than 45 people.

Cissell Mueller Companies consists of two separate but related entities: Cissell Mueller Company, LLC, a full service commercial real estate company, and Cissell Mueller Construction, Inc., a general contracting company. Together, they provide seamless, integrated services that result in high quality projects and exceeded client expectations.

"Cissell Mueller Company provides an uncompromising level of service to help our clients acquire, develop, market, sell, lease, build and invest in commercial properties," says Cissell. "We have the experience and attention to detail required to handle building codes, permits and legal issues quickly and smoothly. We also act as leasing agents and represent buyers and sellers in commercial real estate transactions."

On the construction side, Cissell Mueller Construction provides a full range of contracting services for business owners, property managers, architects and tenants. "We're a one-stop-shop," says Mueller. "From scheduling and estimating to the final punch list, our design-build services are tailored to each project's specific

Story by Becky Pagel Photos by Michael Schlueter



Co-owners Bob Cissell (left) and Duane Mueller look over plans in the boardroom at their offices.

needs, and we handle all of the many moving pieces so our clients don't have to worry about anything."

Cissell Mueller is truly a homegrown organization. Both Bob Cissell and Duane Mueller grew up in St. Charles County and settled there to raise their families. It was important to them that their business also be headquartered in St. Charles County, where they could continue to build lasting relationships within their community. Although completely committed to the metro area, Cissell Mueller continues to grow, and the multi-million dollar company has now expanded to 28 states.

Employees at Cissell Mueller wear many hats, which means they contribute in multiple ways and are very invested in the company. Employee retention is high, with several employees having been



Cissell Mueller Construction crew work on a warehouse addition for Reckitt Benckiser in St. Peters.

there more than 15 years. The company also values its military personnel. "A number of our superintendents are retired military," says Cissell. "We're glad to be able to provide opportunities for veterans, and we see the benefit of their training in day-to-day operations."

One of the biggest advantages clients discover when working with Cissell Mueller is the unique opportunity to find everything related to commercial real estate and construction under one roof. For busy clients, this is a huge plus.

Have things changed at Cissell Mueller since it began in 1992? As a company, it will always be firmly committed to providing the very best services to clients while also seeking ways to profitably expand business. To be successful, this takes constant introspection and evaluation. "We're always looking at our organization to see what can be improved," says Mueller. "That helps us to keep moving forward successfully."

Both Bob and Duane see a bright future for Cissell Mueller and are gearing up for continued success. They plan to grow as opportunities arise, but not so quickly that it jeopardizes their ability to weather tough times. This approach has served them well, and they expect it to sustain them far into the future.

It's a good vision – one that began nearly 25 years ago in a small bedroom office, and it still leads the way today.

For more information about Cissell Mueller Companies and commercial real estate or construction, please visit their websites at www.cissellmueller.com or www.builtbycm.com or call 636-970-0330.



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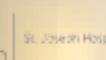
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