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Client Testimonials

"Three words. Integrity, quality, performance."

'Commissioning' Finds Glitches Before They Happen

February 28, 2014 — Before a flight, pilots go through a checklist. Not because they think anything is wrong with their plane, but because they must verify that all of its components are working together to keep them in the air.

Before publishing a work, a writer usually has it edited by another person. Any article benefits from a fresh set of eyes, not only to catch errors but also to evaluate the work from the perspective of the intended audience.

The same principle applies to any craft or industry, though each may call it a different name.

In construction and engineering, the process is called "commissioning" – and Taylor RyMar Corp. is one of the leading practitioners, particularly in the area of heating and cooling systems.

"We go into a building under construction or at completion to test mechanical systems and verify that the sequence of operation meets the design intent," says Rick Ryall, one of principals at the engineering, design and project-management firm based in Tempe.

It's like troubleshooting before any problems manifest themselves.

Ryall says the term evolved from the commissioning of ships. It's coming to the forefront in construction and design as more and more cities add commissioning requirements to their municipal building codes.

The benefits of commissioning a building include:

- Ensuring operations meet the owners' requirements and expectations;
- Improving overall energy efficiency to reduce costs;
- Verifying that employees are well trained and have the documentation they need to operate and maintain the building; and
- Identifying potential indoor environmental quality issues to forestall complaints.

To do all this, Taylor RyMar brings a holistic perspective to the design and construction process that integrates and enhances its traditionally separate functions. For example, the firm recently commissioned four medical clinics for Banner Health in the East Valley area of greater Phoenix.



"We were brought in to help fine tune the air-handler systems," Ryall says. Those systems distribute heated or cooled air throughout the buildings. Each of the 21,000-square-foot clinics – located in Chandler, Gilbert, Mesa and Queen Creek – has since opened.

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