

**COMPANY:** A FIRM THAT SUPPORTS



NOT JUST  
structures.  
but associations, too

BY RAND ZACHARIAS

There is far more to the Okanagan's AcuTruss Industries Ltd. than helping to put roofs over the heads and floors under the feet of Western Canadians.

For Dave Marcoux, founding president of AcuTruss Industries Ltd. in 1971, the coming year is something of a celebration as the company enters its 40th year of doing business in British Columbia. Part of that legacy is the next generation of employees, many of whom are already long-time members of the growing associated group of companies, and will lead AcuTruss, AcuJoist Manufacturing Corp. and Okanagan Door and Window into their next 40 years of business.



Luba Provier, Manager, AcuTruss Vernon; Ken Fuhmann, Senior Designer, AcuTruss Kelowna; Ron Kusheryk, Manager, AcuTruss Westbank; Rob Voros, VP Sales & Marketing.

AcuTruss is one of Western Canada's leading producers of technically advanced truss and floor systems for residential, farm and commercial structures. With several manufacturing plants and a number of sales offices, the company has a global customer base.

The year 1978 saw the birth of its first affiliate, Okanagan Door and Window. The company has shipped quality door and window products from its Vernon plant throughout British Columbia—extending to the U.S., Mexico, Japan and China.

As building technologies have advanced, in 1998, AcuJoist was created, manufacturing the only I-Joist systems for supporting and installing floors in British Columbia; the competition is none other than the much larger American corporations of Louisiana-Pacific and Weyerhaeuser. Marcoux saw the need for a western Canadian product; approximately 50 percent of the factory in Kelowna/Winfield saw its floor space designated to create the franchised Nascor brand I-Joist in British Columbia.

The next generation with whom Marcoux enjoys sharing responsibility of the various AcuTruss affiliates include Barry Schick, general manager and vice-president in Vernon; Rob Voros, vice-president of sales and marketing in Kelowna; Ken Fuhmann, senior designer in Kelowna; Rick Spring, plant manager at Kelowna/Winfield; Ron Kusheryk, sales and design for Westside to Penticton; Luba Provier, plant manager and sales in Vernon; and Tom Kelly, manager of AcuJoist Manufacturing.

Barry Schick likes to point out how active founder Dave Marcoux has been with various industry associations. "He and four others started the local HUDAC chapter in Vernon, the Housing and Urban Development Association of Canada, a forerunner of the CHBA, in the north Okanagan. He's also worked with SICA, the Southern Interior Construction Association and the CHBA-CO which is growing. For this company, it's all about support through associations with people, business and government."

A full-time engineer has been on staff with AcuTruss for decades offering technical support—not always a position seen in the industry. Leading edge technology like lasers also ensure quality in fabrication.

"Our joist and truss systems were used on the bridge project here in Kelowna," says Rob Voros, "Also, the Kelowna General Hospital expansion saw Nascor I-Joists used as a forming component."

"More recently, we added Nudura brand foam-insulated concrete wall systems just as this recession hit. With this product, we've seen steady growth and it excites us for the future as we make our way through a difficult global market."

Schick concludes, "I think it's important to give Rob Voros a pat on the back as he is vice-president of the present CHBA-CO board, continuing the legacy of AcuTruss's involvement with local business and community—we're happy to see that level of engagement remaining at present and for the future." ■

Trusses and joists by AcuTruss played a key role in the construction of the Bill Bennett Bridge.

