

Lafayette-based IDIM Construction LLC provides exceptional service to customers in Louisiana and West Texas



Jude Dubose,
Owner and
Managing Member



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In 2002, Jude Dubose recognized a good opportunity while working on a golf course construction project in Lafayette, La.

"I saw a need for someone to complete the infrastructure and start some residential development around the course," recalled Dubose. "I decided to go into business for myself, and four employees and I completed that project. By the time we finished, my phone was ringing off the hook, and away we went. Word got around that we were available, and we did good work."

Dubose took those calls, made connections with developers, and built a list of repeat clients in the Acadiana marketplace with his new company, IDIM (I'll Do It Myself) Construction LLC. Two decades later, the business is still serving some of its original customers in Louisiana from its headquarters in Lafayette.

A few years ago, the heavy civil and utility contractor took his customer-service philosophy to West Texas and built a similar following in that market. Dubose estimates that IDIM Construction's project list is now evenly split between the two states.

"We do our best to take care of our customers," stated Dubose. "Deliver the job on time, do it right, and I think that keeps them coming back."

In fact, a customer was responsible for IDIM Construction's move into West Texas.

"A developer we did a job for in Southwest Louisiana asked us to go out to West Texas and assist him with some projects," Dubose explained. "I told him no several times but finally caved. It proved to be a mutually good move for us and them, and we just remained in the market."

Focused on residential

IDIM Construction provides an extensive list of services in both Louisiana and West Texas, including site clearing and demolition, utility installation, soil cement and stabilization, curb and gutter construction, and paving.

"Our main emphasis is single-family residential developments, which makes up about 99% of our current workload, but we also work in the multifamily, commercial and oilfield markets, among others," Dubose explained. "We can provide full site construction. In some instances, we sub out items such as utility and paving,

An IDIM Construction crew installs pipe with Komatsu excavators and a wheel loader. "Across the board, Komatsu gives us reliability and provides us with great value and productivity," said Managing Member Jude Dubose.





► VIDEO

With a Komatsu D61PX-24 dozer, an operator grades a job site. "The 61s are workhorses and will move a lot of earth quickly," said Managing Member Jude Dubose.

but we aim to self-perform as much as possible. It aids us in keeping jobs on track and not having to work around others' schedules."

Dubose added that a typical project's value is \$1 million to \$2 million. IDIM Construction has as many as 15 jobs in progress at any one time and a staff of up to 50 that keeps them on track.

Support plays a big role

In addition to his team and the relationship they have helped build with customers, Dubose credits WPI Sales Representative Giles Peltier for playing a role in IDIM Construction's success.

"We have worked with Giles during the past several years, and he has been instrumental in not only helping us determine what equipment is best suited to our needs, but backing it with exceptional service," stated Dubose. "He fully supports us whether it's in Louisiana or West Texas. For example, we have several pieces of Komatsu equipment, and the newer ones are covered by the Komatsu Care program. Our previous Komatsu dealer kept a close eye on them with Komtrax, then alerted us when it was time for a service, and got it done."

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IDIM Construction focuses on completing single-family residential developments, and it does everything from clearing to paving. "We can provide full site construction," said Managing Member Jude Dubose. "In some instances, we sub out items such as utility and paving, but we aim to self-perform as much as possible. It aids us in keeping jobs on track and not having to work around others' schedules."

'Komatsu gives us reliability'

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Dubose added, "It keeps us working in the field and not working on machines. We have full confidence that will continue to be the case with WPI, and we're looking forward to building that relationship with them."

With Peltier's assistance, IDIM Construction has recently added several Komatsu excavators,

including PC170LC-11, PC290LC-11 and PC360LC-11 models. IDIM Construction also has two Komatsu D61PX-24 dozers, a D51PX-24 dozer and a WA200-8 wheel loader.

"We use our 170s and 290s for utilities, and the 360s are primarily for mass excavation," said Dubose. "Because our work is so varied, we need a range of sizes. The 61s are workhorses and will move a lot of earth quickly. We have found that the 51 is our all-around dozer. It has adequate power for moving earth on smaller projects and does a great job finishing. Across the board, Komatsu gives us reliability and provides us with great value and productivity."

Dubose added, "Giles helped us see the value of having newer machines and keeping them, for the most part, under warranty. I think we will continue to evolve our fleet and keep it fresh going forward."

Top priority

Maintaining solid relationships is still Dubose's top priority. That's why he has put further expansion for IDIM Construction on hold.

"We want to sustain where we are; it's manageable, and we can focus on providing our customers with quality projects," Dubose emphasized. "We have found a real niche, and the kinks have been worked out of our plans, so to speak. I think we stay where we are and concentrate on what we know best." ■



IDIM Construction's Jude Dubose (left) and WPI's Giles Peltier discuss equipment and service at IDIM Construction's headquarters in Lafayette, La. "We have worked with Giles during the past several years, and he has been instrumental in not only helping us determine what equipment is best suited to our needs, but backing it with exceptional service," stated Dubose. "He fully supports us whether it's in Louisiana or West Texas."

With a Komatsu PC290LC-11 excavator, an IDIM Construction operator digs a utility trench.

