## Firm Uses 'the Cloud' to Improve Efficiencies

DENEB, Inc. CEO and founder Ken Lykins took his 25-year-old construction software company to a new level by providing cloud computing applications.

By Barb Charzuk, Times Reporter

DENEB, Inc., a 25-year construction software firm, is profiting from technological changes to assist clients in improving profits and eliminating costly expenses.

Although the company headquarters is based in Dayton, Ohio, CEO/founder Ken Lykins maintains an office at 16824 Avenue of the Fountains.

As a business management partner with more than 100 commercial customers, Lykins said his objective over the years has been to improve the functionality of financial and project management software.

A typical DENEB customer is a commercial contractor with 10 or more employees.

His latest venture is providing cloud software technology that collects, integrates and reports data from accounts payable, accounts receivable, bank reconciliation, general ledger, inventory, job cost and payroll.

"I know what contractors need to run their businesses," said Lykins.

Around the time of the Y2K bug scare in 2000, and rewriting computer software applications, Lykins said he looked ahead to the next wave. Cloud technology capability started about six years ago, and two years later, Lykins got on the bandwagon.

Cloud-based eDENEB is the third generation of the firm's construction accounting and estimating systems originally released in 1985.

The latest version lets the construction office and manager on-site to communicate about ordering material and reviewing the project via computer laptop or smart phone.

Company executives will explain eDENEB computer application at an April 18 conference in Dayton.

Company president David Coggins will explain how cloud-based software collects and integrates data to provide "snapshots" of possible job costs.

"The resolution of these real issues will demonstrate how eDENEB users manage jobs, and thereby, their costs more efficiently," said Lykins.

He would provide a similar local workshop if area contractors express an interest in the cloud computing application.

Lykins' career path evolved senior positions managing both large and mid-sized construction companies. His understanding of the complexities of managing a profitable construction operation became the foundation of DENEB's integrated construction software.

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