

It's a SINDI/EDI Experience!

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The facilitators were very experienced and did a wonderful job keeping the presentations flowing with lots of audience participation. Margaret Conway, Innovative Energy Solutions

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The above contractors and consultants are providing first-hand testimonials of the Premier Training and Consultations they received through the Statewide Indiana DBE Initiative (SINDI) and the Entrepreneurial Development Institute (EDI) provided by INDOT. WC Benton and Associates are the superb and highly qualified consultants hired by INDOT to provide the highly praised and effective training at no cost to participants.

Where else in Indiana can you find a client that will teach the customer how to do business with them?

INDOT's Economic Opportunity Division has two primary programs to provide training and assistance to Indiana-certified Disadvantage Business Enterprises (DBEs): EDI for Contractors and Consultants and SINDI. While the focus of both programs is to prepare the community of certified DBEs to effectively and successfully bid on INDOT projects, the training may also be applied to business in the private, public and corporate sectors.

The mission of SINDI is to provide DBEs and program-eligible firms with state-of-the art continuing education programs that address construction management and engineering topics that will help DBEs better sustain their operations in an unprecedented economic environment. SINDI also serves as a valued resource for disseminating information about changing economic conditions as DBEs apply to INDOT and complementary construction markets.

For EDI, a select group of disadvantaged-, minority- and women-owned businesses meet in a contained environment for 10 days of intense classroom training. INDOT also provides one-on-one training as part of this program that is tailored to the specific needs of the particular DBE.

When a few of our past participants were asked to describe their experiences with SINDI and EDI in a couple of sentences, here is what they said:

- ✚ “Two sentences do not serve justice to the type of education and quality of training that I have received while attending EDI. It was my first year and it was something that I will never forget, and I wish to attend for a second year. I have become a better businessman and leader in my company. There are so many things that I learned while being there, but

most importantly the people. The staff was amazing, best welcoming I have had in a class in a long time. Thank you EDI for all that you have done to so many people like me”.

Ryan Potter, Reap Construction Group, Indianapolis, IN,

www.reapconstructiongroup.com

- ✚ “I attended April 2016 SINDI class in Indianapolis. The presenters were extremely knowledgeable and engaging to all participants. Additionally, their openness and willingness to share information and guidance in business-building strategies garnered great respect from me and the class members. I look forward to attending the next SINDI class”. *Claudia Douglas-Smith, CEO, Title VII Compliance Inc., Indianapolis, IN*

- ✚ “I participated in a SINDI session and was very pleased with the experience. The facilitators were very experienced and did a wonderful job keeping the presentations flowing with lots of audience participation. I was a newcomer to the group, and everyone was very friendly. I appreciated the opportunity to attend, plus it was free”! *Margaret Conway, Innovative Energy Solutions*

- ✚ “As a member of the 2016 class of EDI, I would like to thank you for the wealth of knowledge that I obtained from this year’s session. The information that was shared has been applied to my business and has been very effective. All thumbs are UP for EDI”!!! *James Elzy, Kingdom Steel LLC*

- ✚ “The training we received from the INDOT and WC Benton & Associates SINDI and EDI programs was state of the art. The knowledge we obtained, I know, will make us a valued partner with INDOT for years to come”. *Kimberly and John Edwards, Reliant Supply & Traffic Control Co.*

- ✚ “Participating in EDI and SINDI enhanced EnviroKinetics Inc. (EKI) by providing valuable networking, teaming and capacity-building opportunities with other DBEs. I also developed INDOT contacts and learned the foundations for success (from A to Z), which helps EKI to remain relevant in the marketplace. WC Benton & Associates’ benefits to EKI has been immeasurable”! *James Mosley, President, EnviroKinetics, Inc.*