

Bestimate LLC owner welcomes variety of construction projects

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Bestimate LLC Phone: 715-506-0040 Website: www.bestimatellc.com



Nestled in a his log cabin-inspired home office in Marshfield, Bestimate LLC owner Bob Lewerenz can budget the cost of a steel building, work on concrete plan for a feed bin or use computer-aided drafting to finish an upscale home design, all in the same day.

“I’m having fun,” he said. “I get to be creative.”

Bestimate provides drafting, estimating, project management and purchasing services for commercial, residential and agricultural construction projects.

Lewerenz began the company in 2009 after he left his job as a construction estimator. He said he was initially concerned about having enough work to sustain a business, but repeat customers and referrals have kept him busy the past four years.

After starting out drawing commercial building plans, Lewerenz branched out into drawing plans for residential homes for lumberyards, home builders and individual homeowners.

“I design homes that can actually be built,” he said. “I make it easy for builders to see the dimensions and how it fits together.”

In the past year, Bestimate also has assisted in the building and remodeling of several churches.

Faith Fellowship Church leaders asked Lewerenz to assist with project management when the church was being built last year, and he helped them complete construction under budget. He also worked on building projects with Immanuel Lutheran Church in Hewitt and St. Paul’s Lutheran Church near Rozellville last year.

“You really feel good about helping people build a church and get it in under

budget,” said Lewerenz, who enjoys seeing a beautiful new church open its doors.

Lewerenz recently expanded his résumé to include steel building estimating and project management for Ripon-based M.P.B. Builders Inc., which became a Star Building Systems steel builder in February. Lewerenz attended Star’s Basic Builder School in May to be updated on steel building construction and pricing.

“Bob has a lot of experience doing drawings and calculating work,” M.P.B. Builders president Leo Souder said. “He’s pretty diverse with a lot of years of experience.”

M.B.P Builders plans to open an office in Rome in spring 2014. Souder said he hopes Lewerenz will help the company expand its central Wisconsin market coverage.

Lewerenz said he enjoys the variety of work Bestimate has brought him, and he is proud when he drives past structures he’s had a hand in building.

“It’s really rewarding to help people build things,” he said.

Marisa Cuellar can be reached at 715-384-3131. Find her on Twitter as @mnhmarisa.