

Pedro Ramirez, P.E.

President/CEO at Orinoco Coffee & Tea

Summary

Engineering is a complex brew of mathematics and scientific knowledge used to build and improve processes and structures.

My love for engineering had long been matched only by my passion for coffee and tea. Following more than two decades of a successful career as an engineer, I retired from the field and fully applied my proficiency for science and math to the growth of Orinoco Coffee & Tea.

Experience

President/CEO at Orinoco Coffee & Tea

October 1996 - Present (19 years 8 months)

As President and CEO of Orinoco Coffee & Tea, Ltd., I devise short- and long-term strategies for company growth, balancing capital and staffing needs, while developing a company culture that embodies unified goals and values – thus enhancing the customer experience.

My job is to oversee and safeguard Orinoco's performance, which I accomplish internally by monitoring our core business areas, and externally by fostering and maintaining an active role within our industry, customer market, and the economic climate at large.

Orinoco Coffee & Tea is a Columbia, Maryland-based coffee and tea distributor which brings exotic beverages to America. The company was awarded a Gold Medal in the International Coffee Tasting 2014 competition.

Worldwide selection; on-demand roasting and packaging capabilities; organic and fair trade certifications; and a commitment to five-generation strong customer service set Orinoco apart from other wholesale roasters and distributors.

Fast Facts about Orinoco Coffee & Tea:

- Five-generations of coffee growers, coffee exporters, coffee importers, and coffee roasters
- Provide a variety of coffees, teas, and juices – plus virtually everything else a coffee shop needs
- Customers throughout the United States, including restaurants, retail stores, coffee shops, & consumers

Senior Project Manager at URS Corporation – Baltimore, Maryland

August 2005 - October 2010 (5 years 3 months)

URS Corporation was a global, full-service engineering, design, and construction firm, and a U.S. federal government contractor. URS merged with AECOM in 2014, creating one of the largest and most diversified engineering companies in the world.

My last project at URS was the Patapsco Twin Sanitary Sewer Interceptors Rehabilitation for Baltimore County. This project is, to date, the largest project of its kind for Baltimore County. The project gained national recognition for its size, complexity and innovativeness and it was published and presented in national conferences.

As a Senior Project Manager, my duties included, but were not limited to:

- Lead liaison in charge of Engineering Projects with Howard County Public Works Bureau of Engineering and Bureau of Utilities.
- Planning, directing, and coordinating a cross-functional team's activities to manage and implement projects from initiation to final operational stage.
- Monitoring and reviewing all project and program economics to include costs, operational budgets, staffing requirements, sub-contractors, resources, and risk.
- Identifying and assembling an appropriate blend of resources to meet project and program needs and requirements; including sub-contractor selection.
- Planning, scheduling, monitoring, and reporting on activities related to EPA Consent Decree projects and programs.

Project Manager at Baltimore County, Department of Public Works, Maryland

August 1990 - August 2005 (15 years 1 month)

As a Project Manager for the Baltimore County Department of Public Works, I monitored outside consultants, ensuring that engineering projects were developed, designed, and constructed in accordance with Baltimore County specifications, budget, and deadlines.

The focus of my work at Baltimore County was to rehabilitate its aging sanitary sewer infrastructure by using advanced trenchless methodologies. These projects were often EPA Consent Decree mandated, requiring extensive multi-jurisdiction work with local, and State and Federal agencies.

Project Engineer at RJN Group

February 1989 - August 1990 (1 year 7 months)

My first job out of college...in many ways my most formative years! As an engineer for a national consulting engineering firm, I spent lots of time in the field and interacting with clients as I worked in public work projects across the Mid-Atlantic area. As life goes, one of those clients decided they would be better served by having me work for them. They hired me and shifted my starting career from the consulting engineering world to the public service ranks at one of the largest municipalities in the State of Maryland: Baltimore County.

Education

The Catholic University of America, Washington DC

Master's Degree, Engineering/Industrial Management, 1993 - 1995

The Catholic University of America, Washington DC

Bachelor's Degree, Civil Engineering, 1984 - 1988

Professional Certifications

Professional Engineer (P.E.) in Maryland, Washington DC and Virginia

Project Management Professional (PMP) Certification
