

# T.S.I.T.

## T. Smith Inspection and Testing

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**P**roviding exceptional customer service and specializing in the testing and observation of materials that were outside of most Consulting Materials Engineering Firm's core services were the cornerstones of Terry Smith's business plan when he started T. Smith Inspection and Testing (TSIT) in 1993. As a senior at Louisiana Technical College majoring in Petroleum Engineering Technology, Terry Smith and his friend Arthur Etherly planned on being employed in the petroleum boom of the early 1980's. Upon graduation into the recession of 1982 including oil prices at just over \$35 a barrel, they both transitioned to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers where Terry's first field assignment was in the inspection of asphalt laydown projects in Arkansas. After a period of time working at Southwestern Laboratories' Dallas office as the CMET laboratory manager, Terry was encouraged to open TSIT in Fort Worth, originally as a MBE firm. Rather than using the MBE as his primary marketing tool, Terry relied on TSIT's customer service and specialty service skills to attract a following of clients in both the public and private sector. TSIT regularly participates in many technical and professional societies including TXAPA, TSPE and ASCE. Terry also currently serves as a board member for the Texas Council of Engineering Laboratories.

Geotechnical Engineering services were being provided in 2008 when Chisha Musenda, MS, PE joined the firm as a Principal Engineer. In 2011, Arthur Etherly joined TSIT as COO and assisted in opening of a branch office in Irving. Kemp Akeman, PE joined the firm in 2012 as a Principal Engineer assisting both with the CMET and Geotechnical Service line and also with Marketing Services. TSIT has now grown to over 42 employees and celebrated its 20th anniversary by building an 8,000 sf corporate office and laboratory in Fort Worth in 2013. We currently hold DBE, HUB and Small Business Certifications.

Early service lines that were under served in the D/FW area included asphaltic concrete inspection and testing and roof observation services. TSIT also was heavily involved in field load testing and forensic testing and documentation of in-situ construction materials on many projects throughout North Texas. In 2008 he added the Geotechnical Engineering service line. In 2013, Bruce Spracklen was hired as the Director of Asphalt services. Bruce brings experiences in the areas of aggregates, asphalt production and laydown and asphalt consulting on FAA, TxDOT, New Mexico DOT and U.S. Army COE projects. He also has been involved in TXAPA. Bruce has been recognized for one of his FHWA projects as a Leader in Quality Control.

Over the past 20 years we have been a valued team member on most of the NTTA projects including a partnership role providing the QA services on the President George Bush Tollway Eastern Extension. We were involved in four sections of the Chisholm Trail project, the Highway 161 Extension, LBJ Express and the North Tarrant Express. TSIT is a part of the team awarded a TxDOT Materials Testing contract for TxDOT's North Region.

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Our Asphalt Concrete department currently provides mix designs as well as both plant and field inspection and testing services for asphalt, SMA and Superpave materials. We also offer a full service aggregate testing department.

TSIT is excited to be included as an Associate Member in TXAPA, and we are looking forward to active participation in this organization with a goal of bettering ourselves and the industry by this experience. 