



Group Builders, Inc.

CONSTRUCTION SPECIALTY: Drywall, plastering, carpentry, cabinetry, fireproofing, acoustic
YEARS IN HAWAII: 35 | EMPLOYEES IN HAWAII: 350
PUBLIC WORK SECTOR: NA | WORK SUBCONTRACTED: 1 percent

Once again Group Builders, Inc. continues its upward ascent among Hawaii's Top 25 Contractors, rising to No. 14 in the annual rankings this year. The 35-year-old company held the No. 22 spot two years ago and was No. 17 last year.

The firm, which specializes in drywall, plastering, carpentry, fireproofing and acoustic insulation, reported earnings of \$66.5 million in 2014, a 38 percent increase over the \$48.3 million in 2013 revenue.

"Construction projects started to pick up, and even if there were unexpected delays in our awarded projects and we had additional scopes of work, we managed to finish as originally scheduled," says Anacleto "Lito" Alcantra, the company's founder and president. "We were able to face challenges, such as manpower distribution and accelerated schedules."



Lito Alcantra



The entryway of ONE Ala Moana

Builders in 2014 include Koolani condos in Kakaako, P858 Bachelor Enlisted Quarters at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Westin Maui, Ewa Villages Phase 2 and ONE Ala Moana.

Among the projects started in 2014 were the Four Seasons Resort Lanai, 801 South Street, The Ritz-Carlton Residences, The Grand Islander by Hilton and Symphony Honolulu.

"The Four Seasons Resort Lanai was a big challenge for us because of the logistics," Alcantra says. "It was a new experience for us to work in Lanai, not just due to shipping materials, but bringing employees to work there—some have to take the ferry every day, to and from work."

"I am very thankful to our employees, because by keeping their commitment to the company, we in turn are able to keep our commitment to our general contractor. Essentially, it is the employees who make the quality work and drive the company forward."

For the future, Alcantra predicts "robust growth in construction, especially in the Kakaako area. We expect the same growth in 2015 as 2014, and 2016 will greatly improve."

Group Builders' projects in 2014 include 801 South Street.



Inside a unit at Waihona

Before forming Group Builders in 1979, Alcantra began his career at an acoustic insulation and drywall company, where he rose through the ranks from janitor to vice president.

Projects completed by Group