



**Jeff Canon, President
Cara Canon, Marketing Manager
ProEnergy Services**

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In 2002, Jeff Canon envisioned what his company, ProEnergy Services would become. Eight years later, his dream is alive and growing from its central Missouri location with 450 employees and 150 independent contractors in 9 locations around the world. He talks about his decision to base his business out of the state of Missouri.

"I saw a real need in the eighties for a safe, reliable cost-effective service provider within the energy industry. I had worked in California, Houston and Atlanta by then, but I looked to Missouri when it was time to relocate, because my wife and I both had family there, and we needed them to help us run the business.

"The state of Missouri made things pretty attractive for us with the Enhanced Enterprise Zone and Quality Jobs incentives. And, from a strategic standpoint, we figured Missouri was the right place to be, because most of our competition was out on the west coast."

Jeff Canon on the mid-Missouri workforce:

"Sedalia is a blue-collar town, and ProEnergy is primarily a blue-collar business. But we also offer our customers planning and maintenance, so we draw our workforce from MU and Missouri S&T as well as from the immediate area. We also get customized training from State Fair Community College, and we hire college interns. That is a tremendous help.

"Our international employees are surprised by what they find when they come here, both in terms of work force and services, because, where they come from, you can't get all the amenities outside of large urban areas. They're also surprised at the quality of community life and the family fabric that you find in the area. Sedalia pretty much has it all."

Jeff is an avid hunter and enjoys 4-wheeling, and the region provides him with ample opportunities for both. But, when asked what he really likes about living in Missouri, he points to two framed logos on his office wall: The MU Tigers and the St. Louis Cardinals. "That's really why I came back!"