

GAI acquires Austin-based petroleum engineering company

April 15, 2022

Pittsburgh-based engineering and environmental firm GAI Consultants has expanded further into the oil and gas industry with the acquisition of PGH Petroleum & Environmental Engineers LLC, headquartered in Austin, Texas.

Financial terms weren't disclosed. The deal closed April 1.

GAI has been in business since 1958 and has served the oil and gas industry since at least the early 1980s. Like other companies, that part of the business grew bigger with the Marcellus and Utica Shale boom starting around 2010. GAI Consultants provides engineering, planning and environmental services to businesses in energy, transportation and industry as well as government.

Bringing PGH into the fold dramatically expands GAI's capabilities in the oil and gas industry, GAI EVP/COO Stephen Gould told the Business Times in an interview.

That's because of the different focuses of the companies. GAI has worked mostly in the midstream and pipeline part of the industry, working on routing, surveying and civil engineering relating to transmission and gathering lines. PGH focuses on engineering and environmental consulting for gas reservoirs, gas reserves and at the wellhead.

"It is a complementary service set in many ways," Gould said.

There's also the geographic aspect, too. PGH — which has no connection to Pittsburgh, the letters in the company's name are its founders — does business mostly in Texas and California with its base in Austin. GAI, which has a footprint nationally, has an office in Houston.

Gould said that the companies together will be able to serve existing and new customers better because they'll be able to provide services in more parts of the shale industry.

"We'll be offering all these services in both Texas and up here in the Mid-Atlantic, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio, and nationally" Gould said.

PGH will continue with its Austin base and be known as PGH Petroleum & Environmental Engineers LLC, a GAI Co. Gould said that having an expansion in Texas, and the personnel working at PGH, will also provide a leg up for GAI when it comes to finding new talent.

Link to original press release:

<https://gaiconsultants.com/gai-acquires-austin-based-petroleum-engineering-company/>

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2022/04/15/gai-consultants-pgh-engineering.html>