
PRESS RELEASE



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Matrix Design Group, LLC Opens Western U.S. Office

PUEBLO, COLORADO, March 10, 2011 – Matrix Design Group, LLC (Matrix) announced the acquisition of Colorado-based engineering firm, Engineered Systems, Inc. (ESI). ESI, an electrical and mechanical engineering firm founded in 1985, specializes in the design and modification of manufacturing equipment, commercial systems, and electrical systems.

Matrix-ESI will continue day-to-day operations, providing electrical and mechanical engineering services and consulting throughout the Arkansas Valley. “We are excited about the opportunity to join the Matrix team and look forward to expanding our business,” said Page Lee, ESI Engineering Manager. “Acquiring ESI allows us to provide even better service to Matrix customers as well as the opportunity to reach out to new markets,” said David Burch, Matrix Vice President of Controls and Automation. “We are in the process of hiring additional personnel and look forward to taking advantage of this exciting opportunity.”

Matrix-ESI will now be able to provide a broader range of products and services to an expanded customer base while maintaining the quality support currently provided to existing customers. “We’ve done a great deal of work in the west over the past decade,” said Matrix President, Aric Pryor. “With the recent additions and upgrades of our safety systems in western mines, this acquisition is a natural next step in providing enhanced service and support in this area.”

About Matrix Design Group, LLC

Matrix is a designer, developer and marketer of safety and productivity technology for use in the underground mining industry. The innovative and industry leading products of Matrix include communications and tracking systems, mine atmospheric monitoring systems, belt control, and proximity detection systems. Matrix is a subsidiary of Alliance Resource Partners, L.P. (“ARLP”), a diversified producer and marketer of coal primarily to major United States utilities and industrial users.