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Destiny for partners

When **Toby Martinez** came to San Antonio in 2002, he didn't know that his future was soon to change. In 2002, Martinez worked for the Albuquerque, NM branch of Western Technologies Inc. (WTI) based out of Phoenix, AZ. He was sent to San Antonio to establish an office for the company.

While bidding on a job at La Cantera, Martinez met **Bobby Burge** who worked for ECS at the time.

"We were going after work for our respective companies, and the first time I met him was in the project office when we were both submitting our bid packages for the Shops at La Cantera," Martinez recalled. "He was with ECS and I was with Western Technologies Inc. We were competitors. However, neither one of us got the work."

"We formed a friendly alliance among each other as competitors, and we have that with other competitors now," he added.

"When Bobby went on his own and started his business, he called it **Burge Consulting Engineers**. He hired me, WTI, as a subcontractor to supplement his service. Together we turned some successful projects, and we decided it was a good match."



L-R: Toby Martinez, principal; Benny Krieger, Jr. P.E., geotechnical department manager; Alex Asbury, environmental department senior PM and business development manager; and Bobby Burge, P.E., principal

In 2004 they decided the good match would lead to joining forces for the same company. In Oct. 2005 they formed **Burge-Martinez Consulting Inc.**

During the ensuing five years, they hired numerous additional employees and worked to earn several contracts for geotechnical engineering services and construction materials testing services. Their hard work has resulted in contracts with Bexar County, San Antonio Water System, Union Pacific Railroad, and the City of San Antonio. Just recently they received word they were approved as a vendor to perform work for the San Antonio Independent School District bond program.

Some of their noted projects have included the Embassy Suites Riverwalk and the Briscoe Western Art Museum. Currently they are working on a new Porsche dealership on IH-10 in San Antonio.

As a certified MBE/SBE and state HUB business, **Burge-Martinez Consulting Inc.** provides geotechnical engineering, environmental consulting, construction materials testing and engineering, and special inspection services for clients in South Central Texas. —dn