

2001 SBA Small Business Award Winner

Accountant Advocate—Region 7
Joseph Eckelkamp
Eckelkamp & Associates, CPAs, P.C.

Joseph Eckelkamp is dedicated to helping small businesses grow and thrive.

Since starting Eckelkamp & Associates, CPAs, P.C. (E&A) in 1996, Eckelkamp has been actively involved in helping small enterprises grow and prosper. He created the firm with the specific objective of providing entrepreneurs and small-business owners access to the sophisticated skills and experiences available to those working in "large corporate America."

"Our roots are founded in running businesses ourselves, with all of us having worked on the other side of the desk before joining the firm." Eckelkamp said of his staff.

Eckelkamp & Associates has developed a strong reputation with its Rent-A-CFO service in the corporate executive, entrepreneurial, and minority markets. The firm is also experienced in turnaround situations and rapid growth companies. E&A also offers CEO-As-You-Grow services to those clients.

The firm's clients include several of the area's larger minority-owned businesses, high-tech companies, medical practices, financial services companies and many traditional small businesses.

"We distinguish ourselves by bringing passion and commitment to every engagement," Eckelkamp said. "We seek to add value through deep client relationships."

Eckelkamp says the firm's smaller size is a benefit to clients. "The diverse backgrounds of our professional staff offers a breadth of experience suited to most client needs," he said. "Yet we remain small enough to offer clients the passion, commitment, personal service and long-term relationships they deserve."

Eckelkamp also serves as an advocate in other ways. He is chairman of the Business Consulting Services Committee of the Missouri Society of CPAs with the objective of encouraging more CPAs to actively participate in advising their clients with value-added services. Eckelkamp is also involved in many civic and charitable activities that further the development of small businesses.

Accountant Advocate

Joseph T. Eckelkamp
Eckelkamp & Associates, CPAs, P.C.

Joe Eckelkamp founded his business in 1996 to emphasize Rent-A-CFO services, as well as traditional accounting and tax services.

A lifelong St. Louisan, Eckelkamp earned BSBA and MBA degrees from St. Louis University, and attended executive education programs at Harvard. Accomplished in the areas of taxation, contract negotiation, revenue enhancement, cost reduction, and systems design and integration, Eckelkamp has served as chief financial officer, V.P. and/or comptroller for a variety of regional companies. As an associate of Ernst & Young, he has handled two overseas assignments, performing expatriate tax compliance, pilot projects in information technology, and the sale of several companies.

Eckelkamp & Associates has grown steadily, with a diverse client roster. Its special focus remains small businesses, helping clients "keep what you reap."

Joe Eckelkamp's affiliations include the Board of Directors for St. Louis Children's Health Fund and Victims of Crime, the Board of Directors of the St. Louis chapter of the Financial Executive Institute, the Missouri Society of CPAs, American Institute of CPAs, and Lindenwood College's Accounting Advisory Board. He is also the author of several articles, a frequent speaker on financial topics, and has served as an adjunct accounting professor for several local colleges and universities.

NOMINATED BY:

David Clayton

"Joseph Eckelkamp's...commitment to developing business leaders, delivering solutions that allow small business owners to succeed, and working within the profession [has] prompted the nomination."