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SPARKLING KLEAN IS A privately held full-service janitorial company specializing in commercial cleaning for corporate clients throughout Nebraska and western Iowa. Founded in 1975 by Sandy Hammers, Sparkling Klean is certified locally and nationally as a "Women Owned Business." The company's offices and warehouse are located at 156th and West Center Road.

"Service" is the root of everything Sparkling Klean does for its clients, its website says. Cleaning programs are designed around each customer's personal needs and wishes. Their Vision Statement reads: "To provide a Standard of Excellence, unsurpassed by others in our industry, creating a Healthy, Clean, Secure environment that promotes our Customers, Ourselves and our Community."

Hammers found the inspiration for her cleaning business when she was contracted by a large construction company in Lincoln to provide clean-up services for newly constructed houses. The business, at first operating out of Hammers' home in Greenwood, Neb., quickly expanded into residential cleaning. Sandy's brother, Gary, joined the company in 1984, bringing with him years of experience working in a large commercial cleaning business in Denver, and a commercial division was launched.

Sparkling Klean's first corporate account was the Durham Plaza building at 84th & Dodge streets. Chuck Durham hired the firm himself, and "We will never forget the opportunity [Chuck] gave a new company," said Hammers. "We're proud to say that we still service that account today."

Eventually, the residential division was sold, allowing Sparkling Klean to focus on building its commercial base. Since then, the firm has concentrated most of its effort on growing its client base in Omaha; though the company has clients as far away as North Platte and Wayne, Neb., and southwest Iowa, and is working on adding clients in Lincoln, Neb.

Much of the company's success can be attributed to Sparkling Klean's Quality Assurance Measures, which include: emphasis on proper training; open communication between facilities managers and our office; quick response; nightly inspections; unannounced audits; employee recognition; exceptionally low employee turnover; and complete background investigations of employees.

"Trust and confidence are the foundation of every lasting client-vendor relationship, and the reasons we've kept many of our clients happy for years," their website reads.

Sandy Hammers said a casual, open-door policy with employees ("Everyone is on a first-name basis"), promoting from within, and staying personally involved in servicing facilities have also contributed to the firm's success.

"At the end of the day, we are proud of the reputation we have in the community, and the fact that our company started with two people working out of a garage and has grown to the size it is today," said Hammers.



Gary Wicker & Sandy Hammers

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