



**BEST
OF THE
CORRIDOR**
2006

Best engineering firm: Design Engineers

Design Engineers made its mark in the Corridor as a forward-thinking and environmentally savvy engineering firm in 1996 when it headed the conversion of an old grocery warehouse into the Osada apartment building and successfully completed the largest geothermal project in the state at that time.

Since its start in 1983 the engineering firm has worked on dozens of sustainable projects — projects totaling today more than \$130 million in construction costs — and now has three LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)-accredited full-time professionals on staff, said Amy Infelt, a principal with Design Engineers. The firm is also responsible for designing the Northridge Park Pavilion in Coralville, the first green roof in Iowa.

But the company of 24 employees is known for more than its environmentally friendly designs; it is also known for its variety of work. Design Engineers is work-



ing on a number of challenging projects, ranging from the Heartland Express corporate office complex in North Liberty to a new police facility in Davenport, which will be the state's first LEED-certified municipal building.

Despite Design Engineers' vast assortment of successes, Ms. Infelt said, the firm is most proud of its employees.

"We understand our success is directly related to the work they do," she said.

Runner up: Ament

-Christina L. Erb

