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A new merger brings fresh perspective to the commercial door and hardware industry

Contract Hardware and Evergreen Construction Specialties will join together to bring relationship-driven, end-to-end commercial door services in-house under a new brand: Kinship Group.

Dec. 22, 2020 - Auburn, Washington: Under a new merger announced internally on December 4th, longstanding commercial door and hardware distributors [Contract Hardware](#) and [Evergreen Construction Specialties](#) will merge to create a new brand, [Kinship Group](#). The new company will provide the commercial construction industry with end-to-end services and solutions for doors and hardware, including specification writing and consulting, new construction project management, end user support and direct sales, installation, keying, preinstallation, and dedicated national account management.

By bringing all phases of Division 8 together—which are often disconnected—Kinship Group will be able to offer customers quicker project turnaround times, aggregated staff expertise, stronger relationships and communication, and seamless transitions through the entire construction process, including post-installation maintenance.

President and co-founder of Evergreen Construction Specialties Lance Stretch says a shared sense of values fueled the joining of the two companies:

“Through many conversations, [Aaron Garrett, President of Contract Hardware] and I realized how similar our two companies are,” says Stretch. “We both share the same stance on the importance of relationships in this business.”

“The linchpin in our business is building something you can’t always see,” Garrett says. “Kinship’s success depends on building trusted relationships with our contractors, end users, and employees.”

With the merging of the two companies comes an increased footprint: Evergreen Construction Specialties currently serves the Pacific Northwest, Mountain West, as well as national accounts around North America, while Contract Hardware has a long history of serving the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. Kinship Group’s headquarters will be located in Auburn, with branches in Everett and Midway, Utah. The new brand will keep all employees on staff from both companies. “Our staff are the beating heart of our business and supporting them is our number one priority through the changes ahead,” says Garrett.

Customers will benefit from the transparency and efficiency that come with bringing both companies under one roof. Contractor clientele will work with a single project or



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account manager throughout the lifecycle of a project, and end users will have access to a Kinship representative for regular maintenance and training.

“Under this new brand, Kinship is going to provide a more holistic approach to projects: We’ll be able to provide each of our clients more personal attention and grow stronger relationships with our customers—from design through to the end user,” Stretch says. “This is about relationships with longevity.”

Kinship Group will officially launch on Jan. 1, 2021. Current customers of both Evergreen and Contract Hardware can still contact their representatives via existing email addresses and through chihardware.com and evconspec.com.

About Contract Hardware Inc.

Founded in 1963, Contract Hardware services the commercial construction market by partnering with architects and commercial contractors to provide consulting and specification services on a wide variety of construction projects, from schools to high-rise buildings to hospitals. Contract Hardware also provides installation and direct end user sales and services.

About Evergreen Construction

Specialties

Founded in 1996, Evergreen Construction Specialties, Inc. is a world-class Division 8 material supplier of hollow metal doors and frames, wood doors, hardware, and security products, serving the Pacific Northwest, Mountain West, and select customers worldwide. Evergreen specializes in supplying materials for all types of commercial construction projects, including retail, class-A offices, educational institutions, healthcare, military, and mixed-use development.