



ENPAQ, LLC  
(MBE/DBE)



## High School Friends Find Business Success for Their Futures

When it comes to environmental contaminants like lead-based paint, mold, asbestos and air pollutants, you need expertise from people who know how to dispose of these hazardous materials. Combined, Anthony Hagerty and James Earle have two decades plus of experience in industrial hygiene, earth science related issues, testing and remediation. They now own their own environmental testing and consulting company, ENPAQ, LLC. “We do project management and compliance for commercial buildings, schools, and all sorts of interior demolition,” said Hagerty. “We bring knowledge to the project and we can out work anybody else in the city.”

The two were best friends in high school and have been working together in their industry since 2011. At the start, they often worked with Anthony’s father, Anthony Hagerty, Sr. who encouraged them to become business owners. In January of 2019, they took his advice and started their own company.

In just over a year they’ve won contracts with St. Louis Public Schools and several roofing and construction companies. Most of their clients need environmental testing before they start renovations, interior demolition, or construction cleanup. In the future they hope to win contracts at St. Louis Lambert International Airport.

The high school buddies set a goal when they started their company to provide the same level of service they’d want to receive. To do that, they have earned certifications for project management, asbestos testing, lead

assessment and inspections. The company has also received both Minority Business Enterprise and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise certifications through the St. Louis Lambert International Airport Business Diversity Development department.

ENPAQ is growing steadily and is eager to expand services in the Midwest and throughout the Greater St. Louis area. “There are a lot of opportunities in the city with the new NGA site and the new sports stadiums and teams that bring more flow and more revenue,” said Earle. “With each new project, there is the need to renovate and update all around the area and that brings business right into our wheelhouse,” he adds.

They admit that starting a new business can be a bit overwhelming at times, but they tell others considering a new business to “Go for it!” “It seems scary, but you just have to dive in,” said Earle. “The challenges will keep coming but it is good for your personal growth.”

Through all the challenges, Hagerty and Earle find time to give back to the community. The company has made the BiOME School their first community service project. They support the student-centered learning ecosystem for science, technology, engineering, art and math and sponsor events at the school. “Our work with the schools is usually when the buildings are empty, but we want to be involved when the kids are there too,” said Hagerty. “As our company grows, we plan to be more involved with the schools and the community.”