

DAN COUTO

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

To whom it may concern,

I've had the distinct pleasure of working with the team at Dario Designs for the past year. During my career in operations, I have had the opportunity to work with other design and consulting firms and have often seen a cookie-cutter template applied to projects yielding marginal feasibility. Not Dario.

The Dario staff is knowledgeable, understands the realities of operations and really works to understand the why each operation is unique. I can always count on the fact that David Hogan and David Ehrhardt never pull punches when it comes to tough conversations on our perceptions versus the realities, and we always feel we can challenge their assumptions.

As we embarked on our recent expansion project, it turned into a learning experience for our team. Countless hours in meetings created a true team atmosphere where the learning curve on the construction business started. David Hogan spent many hours taking the time to explain potential obstacles and provided resources to gain a better perspective on the project. One of these learning opportunities was meeting with past customers to discuss lessons learned in projects and even sharing critiques of the Dario team. Dario took an open-book approach and was always very honest about areas they could help us with and the areas out of their expertise.

Often you hear that vendors want to partner with companies they serve; Dario makes this the fiber of their company culture. Without hesitation I wholeheartedly recommend them and will be using them for future projects. Dario is by far the best in class.

Best Regards,

Dan Couto

7/7/09