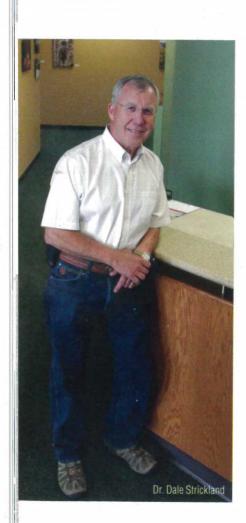
WEST Inc. Anchors

Dinneen Building Revitalization

STORY BY RACHEL GIRT PHOTOGRAPHY BY MICHAEL SMITH



Cheyenne, had outgrown its office space when the opportunity to lease space in two founders, working from home, to the historic Dinneen building arose.

of the founders of WEST Inc., to the projcompany, HCMS Group.

results," Strickland said, noting the at- New Zealand and Qatar. tractive blend of modern infrastructure the auto dealership.

The building came at an opportune Dinneen family, Strickland said. time for the rapidly growing company with 50 employees in Chevenne spread out in three different locations. Founded in 1990 by Strickland and Dr. Lyman

estern EcoSystems Technol- studies for both government and priogy, Inc. (WEST, Inc.), a na- vate businesses throughout the nation, tional firm headquartered in as well as for projects internationally.

The company has grown from the more than 80 full-time, benefited em-The downtown building's central lo- ployees and 75-100 part-time field cation attracted Dr. Dale Strickland, one staff. Their consulting projects run the gamut from the scientific research of ect. WEST Inc. leased 20,000 sq. ft., the wind energy and wildlife interactions entire second floor of the building, sub- to studies on wetlands, and even polar leasing 7,000 sq. ft. to another high tech bears. The company also teaches workshops in statistics and biology in the "We have been delighted with the United States, Africa, South America,

WEST Inc. was finalizing an expanwith high ceilings, open beams and the sion plan and considering options, like exposed red brick walls. His office was moving its headquarters to Ft. Collins once part of the former body shop for or Laramie, when Cheyenne LEADS brought the company together with the

> After considering their proposal, the company decided to stay in Chevenne.

With the opportunity to occupy a unique space, have room to grow, and McDonald, WEST Inc. designs, conducts, have access to amenities like nearby and provides analysis for ecological field restaurants, accessible parking and less



WEST Inc. has leased the entire second floor of the newly renovated Dinneen Building

traffic, Strickland likes the downtown area as a place to work.

"We wanted to stay in downtown for the amenities, the atmosphere and be close to government entities and other firms with which we work closely," Strickland said.

This state-of-the-art building is large enough to accommodate WEST Inc.'s expansion plans for the foreseeable future, and the quality is akin to office buildings found in more urban centers, Strickland added.

He hopes that future development continues to grow Cheyenne's already pedestrian-friendly environment.

Strickland further explained that WEST Inc. joined the Dinneen venture as an anchor tenant because the company placed a high value on helping downtown development. "Any chemical reaction requires a catalyst and I believe - I hope - that we are a catalyst here for future development." ■

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