

Jon M. Thomas

Principal

Co-Founder and President of Thomas & Williamson: Mr. Thomas has 33 years of experience as a Project Manager of school and institutional projects. His experience is equally apportioned in design and construction and includes a vast portfolio of K-12 school construction projects valued at over \$100 million annually.

An essential factor in the success of each project on which Mr. Thomas has served has been the integration of program and cost. "We always felt that it was absolutely essential to spell-out the program of the project, in fine detail, then associate the costs – before the design process began." In order to achieve this integration of program and cost, Mr. Thomas developed management systems that "model" the costs of projects based on educational programming information.

"The school districts with whom I have worked found a real benefit in being able to see where the cost concentrations of their projects would be as a result of their conceptual educational needs." The cost modeling systems were developed by Mr. Thomas in response to a school districts' need for instantaneous feedback on the cost of their projects. The combined understanding of building design and project cost has also enabled Mr. Thomas to bring substantial cost reductions to projects through Value Engineering.

"I guess that my focus has always been on continuous improvement. When you are managing a project with a definite completion point and budget in mind, it is sometimes difficult to comprehend the concept of continuous improvement. If you divide the processes of designing and constructing into phases, the results can be very positive. Instead of waiting until the drawings are completed to get bids – you



*Jon M. Thomas – President
Thomas & Williamson*

perform a cost estimate and verify the scope hasn't changed appreciably from the initial program. If you review the project at the completion of each phase of design and construction, you will find it is quite easy to improve the outcome."

Education

BS Civil Engineering Technology,
Point Park University

Associate of Applied Technology
Triangle Institute of Technology

Continuing Education Certification:
Engineering - Penn State University
Planning – University of Texas at Austin

Registration

Pennsylvania EIT Certified

Experience

33 years

Affiliations

PASBO
Verland Foundation Board of Directors