

About Our Offices

Bluffton Center for Entrepreneurs
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The **Colonial Surface Solutions** building is home to the Bluffton Center for Entrepreneurs and its resident clients. Colonial's generous support includes below market rental rates.

BCE Staff

Pete Suter, Mentoring Services
Paula Scott, Administration & Communication

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Join us for fast, easy BCE updates on clients, events, networking, and ideas.

Affiliate's Crowd-sourcing Taps Student Talent

As the first Bluffton University student affiliate of the BCE, Remark Engineering, LLC has stepped off the well-beaten marketing path to offer clients an effective new approach.

Remark provides small businesses with affordable services using "crowd-sourcing" to tap the skills of talented graphic design and marketing students. Remark solicits vector logo designs from students in the Ohio and Indiana region, offering the reward of an academic scholarship to the designer of

remark!
engineering

the logo that is chosen by the Remark client. One of their current projects is to provide a logo for BCE affiliate J. Bankert Bookkeeping.

Remark Engineering is the brainchild of Bluffton University students Bracton Eicher, CEO; Kenneth Miller, CFO; Carter Sprunger, COO; and

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Upsizing at Drive Time



Doug and Sara Kisseberth have put the pedal to the metal as new business owners. The couple started Drive Time Driving Instruction in early 2010 to provide classes for new drivers. In one short year, they have enrolled students from 13 different school districts and are moving into a larger classroom at the BCE.

Drive Time currently offers classroom instruction in both Bluffton and Findlay, and the

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Remark Crowd-sourcing continued

Gregg Beitler, Partner. Eicher is a junior who got his start working in a century-old family business. Miller is a senior with plans to become a Certified Public Accountant. Sprunger cites his Swiss ancestry as the foundation for his interest in business and design. Beitler recently won the first place award in the computer-generated division of the Bluffton University art show.

BCE by the NUMBERS

Connections since April 2009

5
Client
Graduates

19
Resident
and Non-
Resident
Clients

46
Prospect
Meetings

Drive Time Upsizing continued

owners anticipate broadening services to the south.

The Kisseberths make an excellent team: Doug came to the business with 14 years of professional driving and 4 years of driving instruction experience. He is the primary driving instructor. Doug also holds a degree in business/accounting from Bluffton University. Sara runs the Drive Time office and is a classroom instructor; she is also the web communications manager at Bluffton University.

Drive Time also employs Casey Lauger, Karen Fink, Duane Weaver, and Chuck Chiow, as classroom and in-car instructors.

Together, the Drive Time staff make drivers' education comfortable and fun. Sara notes that their number one attraction is convenience, followed by "our goal of driving

qualified students quickly. Ideally, we would like to make sure that all students complete their driver's education requirements right before they are eligible to get their license." And the Drive Time instructors aren't far off that mark. Ninety percent of students pass their driving test the first time.

One thing the Kisseberths were not able to influence was winter weather, which kept some students off the road. Sara explains that additional instructors and the purchase of a third car has put more students behind the wheel.

The Kisseberths are pleased with their Bluffton location and students. Sara remarks, "I would not be surprised to see our business in Bluffton match or surpass our Findlay classes.... Bluffton is a very supportive community with good people and quality youth."



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