



Name: Janet L. Castle

Occupation: *President and owner of Hydro-Marine Construction Company, Inc.*

Overseeing major bulkhead repairs, removing underwater debris from channel beds and installing steel and concrete pile jacking underneath bridges? These may not seem like typical contracts for a women-owned company.

However, Janet L. Castle continues to break the mold, proving that the marine construction industry doesn't have to be male-dominated.

Castle serves as president and owner of Hydro-Marine Construction Company, Inc. Founded in 1997, Hydro-Marine is the construction division of The Castle Group, located in Hainesport. The Castle Group is made up of three separate companies, all working together to combine their knowledge and expertise in the marine engineering and construction industry.

"Before Hydro-Marine was formed, we were contracting out a lot of our construction work," Castle says. "So we figured, why not form our own marine construction company and have our own people do the work? Small contracts opened the door to bigger contracts, and here we are."

Janet L. Castle has an impressive background, receiving her education from Embry Riddle University, Mercer County Community College and Burlington County Institute of Technology. She has managed construction projects for well-known corporations and organizations such as Kimberly-Clark Corporation, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Sunoco, DuPont, New York Power Authority, Delaware River Waterfront Corporation and Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission.

Not only does Castle possess the leadership and organizational skills to manage a company from behind the desk, but she also has the ability and the certifications to get in the water. She has received her commercial diver certification from the Association of Diving Contractors International. Additionally, Janet holds a variety of Women Business Enterprise certifications from the New Jersey Commerce & Economic Growth Commission, the Department of General Services (PA), the City of Philadelphia, the Empire State Development Council and the State of Delaware.

Under the leadership of Castle, Hydro-Marine Construction has been the recipient of multiple awards. In 2008 The Philadelphia Business Journal recognized Hydro-Marine as one of South Jersey's 25 fastest growing companies. More recently, they received the 2009 Project Excellence Award from the Coasts, Oceans, Ports and River Institute. This was awarded for their repair and restoration of Quay Pier at Penn's Landing in Philadelphia. Quay Pier suffered severe damage when a tanker collided into the pier in March 2006.

"We are able to provide our own staff of divers and fully equipped boats and barges, and bring professionalism and know-how to our work that few other diving contractors do by meeting the highest standards in our divers and equipment," Castle says. "That is the true secret to our continued success."

A New Jersey native, Castle lives in Jobstown with her husband Bill, her sons Alex and Liam, and their dog, Muffin, the company mascot.