## ruby

## Great customer service key to contractor's success.

Elder Demolition is a first-class, full-service demolition company serving clients throughout the western United States since 1997. Founder and President, JD Elder, takes pride in precision while delivering the safest, highest quality demolition work.



Like many other small businesses in the industry, Elder Demolition spent years taking on any job that came their way. "We would do everything from commercial building to lumber mills, to renovating grocery stores, malls, and hospitals. Anything that required demolition, we would take on," JD explained. "While this business approach kept us busy, the work we were doing wasn't particularly enjoyable—or profitable for that matter."

A member of Portland's Entrepreneurs' Organization (EO), JD was inspired by other business leaders in his community to narrow the scope of his services and widen his profit margin while maintaining a passion for his work. "Once we had honed in on what we wanted to offer," he says, "the number of people in our office went from eight to two or three."

Business continued to boom throughout the company's shift in services and having a smaller office staff worked well—most of the time.

## A LITTLE HELP WHEN YOU NEED IT

Providing quality customer service is the secret sauce in any business endeavor and being available to answer when clients come to call is critical to success. "We have an office manager, one or two estimators, and a fields operations manager in the office," says JD. "Despite having people available to pick up the phone, there were moments when call volume exceeded the number of bodies in the office. I didn't want callers going to voicemail during working hours. I needed a different solution."

Having the bandwidth to answer calls isn't a new dilemma for the industry. According to PH Media Group, 79% of American consumers are unsatisfied with the way construction businesses handle their calls. Wanting to provide a memorable experience for his callers, JD found Ruby<sub>®</sub> through his EO chapter. "I knew about other answering and voicemail services, but Ruby's reputation as an extension of your business made them stand out. Ruby's service is personal, and that's not easy to find," says JD.

Receptionists serve as back-up to keep JD and his employees productive. Available from 5am to 9pm. M-F, and 6am to 6pm on weekends, Ruby assists Elder Demolition in answering calls when the office crew is already tied up on the line or focused on

another task. "Trusting Ruby with our calls gives us just enough time to wrap up a task and hop on the phone with a customer that would have otherwise been sent to voicemail," says JD. "Ruby sounds like they're right in our office. I've had employees call into the office asking when the new receptionist was hired—even they couldn't tell the difference!"

In addition to transferring live calls, Ruby collects necessary information and relays messages when speaking with a caller isn't an option for JD or his team. "If we can't take the call, Ruby takes a message and sends over an email notification, right away. If I am in a meeting with a client, I can forward the message to someone who can quickly follow up—and I don't even have to pick up the phone." With clients in different time zones, having Ruby available to answer calls before and after business hours has proven beneficial.

"With Ruby serving as a back-up to the office staff," JD says, "I have peace of mind knowing that my calls are being answered by a professional team of receptionists, and I'm not missing out on any business opportunities."

## A SLICE OF ADVICE

"It's kind of funny," JD points out, "On paper, it sounds so simple, but Ruby's service comes together in a way that makes it so valuable. Despite using the service as extra support rather than a replacement for office staff, Ruby is familiar with who we are and what we do. They've made personal connections with us, as well as our clients. Each receptionist is empowered to go above and beyond for their clients—and it shows. Stop worrying about missed calls. Call Ruby!"



Discover how Ruby can help your business grow.