

From the Houston Business Journal

:<http://www.bizjournals.com/houston/blog/drilling-down/2014/06/global-aerospace-engineeringfirm-lands-in-houston.html>

Global aerospace engineering firm lands in Houston energy market

Jun 26, 2014, 8:31am CDT



[Jordan Blum](#)

Reporter- Houston Business Journal

[Email](#) | [Twitter](#)

A Singapore-based aerospace engineering services firm is aiming to make a big splash in the Houston energy market, but the company's leaders insist the transition is a natural one.

Quest Global Services is a 17-year-old company that has its earliest roots in New York and India before it expanded throughout North America, Europe, Asia and Australia. While aerospace engineering may be its specialty, the company focuses on a vast array of engineering services, with energy as its top growth area, said Chairman and CEO [Ajit Prabhu](#).

Quest is opening its Houston office in the Greenspoint area with more than 100 employees and 8,500 square feet of leased office space with plans to grow to about 500 people in Houston within about five years, Prabhu said.

"Oil and gas is our most recent entry," Prabhu said. "We are definitely looking at expanding the business It's going to be an interesting play."

[Got Energy? Sign up for our Energy Inc. newsletter here](#)

To expedite Quest's foray into the Houston market, the company acquired Houston-based Beeken TechQuest engineering firm earlier this year.

Prabhu said the plan is to increase Quest's oil and gas business from \$50 million in revenue to \$250 million by 2020. Houston will be Quest's worldwide energy hub, he said. The idea is to provide engineering services and solutions for the upstream oil industry , equipment manufacturers and other energy companies.

Quest's acquisition of Beeken and its Bangalore-based arm, UFT Beeken Engineering Services, was to create a highly capable team to support the oil and gas upstream technology area. The Houston location will be the hub of Quest's global oil and gas business as it expands its footprint worldwide.

[Steve Gerber](#), Quest Global's senior vice president of strategic accounts, recently moved from the company's Connecticut offices to Houston to help lead the changes. Gerber said

Quest focuses on covering the noncore aspects of engineering so the oilfield services companies can focus on the core issues.

That is where Gerber insists Quest's aerospace strengths will fit in nicely with the energy sector.

"The aerospace world is highly regulated, very process regulated," Gerber said. Oil and gas "is very entrepreneurial, and they move very fast What we bring to the table is processes to enable the speed."

Energy companies can focus on growth, production and more, Gerber said, while a company like Quest can take care of the technical documentation, design-support activities and other critical minutiae.

This is even more important as oil and gas becomes increasingly regulated in the U.S. during the shale boom, he said.

Stay up to date on Texas energy news with the [Energy Inc. news ticker](#), bringing you by-the-minute coverage from the Texas Business Journals.

Jordan Blum covers energy for the Houston Business Journal. Read the top Texas energy news in our free weekly newsletter, Energy Inc. [Click here to subscribe to the Energy Inc. newsletter](#).