

Many of you may have passed by the unassuming office of IMTT on Cutting Blvd., but had no idea what this business does. International Matex Terminals (IMTT) leases their tanks to companies that produce chemical and petroleum products, alternative fuel sources, waxes, and vegetable oils. The company historically places a great deal of importance on assisting the community in which they are based.

IMTT was founded by Jimmy Coleman Sr. in the 1960s. Mr. Coleman remained the head of the family oriented company up until his death in November of 2008. His son Tommy took over after his death. The company continues to run itself as a family.

When Mr. Coleman started the company in Louisiana, IMTT consisted of 3 terminals. Now the company runs 11 terminals including one in Quebec as well as New Finland.

IMTT's corporate headquarters are located in New Orleans, so when Katrina struck, 250-300 IMTT employees were displaced. Jimmy Coleman's deep sense of responsibility prompted him to rent out an entire extended stay hotel for all of the displaced workers and their families to stay in until they were able to return to their homes. He ensured that the children were enrolled in schools and assisted the families in their time of need. Taking care of IMTT employees is extremely important to the Coleman family.

Richmond's IMTT location takes after Mr. Coleman's spirit of giving through their Adopt a School Program. IMTT chose Richmond's Washington Elementary to be adopted. The company donates \$10,000 a year to the school and promise to continue doing so, as long as the company is in business. Plus IMTT covers the cost of shipping and tax.

Each year, teachers submit proposals, asking for what they would like to see in the classroom. Then IMTT employees meet with Washington Elementary faculty and staff to discuss how to get the most benefit out of the money. The gifts are open to the teachers' wants and desires. In the past, they've received computers, trees, and tricycles. The Adopt a School Program was very close to Jimmy Coleman's heart.

The company received hand crafted thank you letters from the children at Washington Elementary in appreciation for all the help IMTT has provided. The children wrote about themselves and included drawings and pictures of themselves. The books are evidence of the important positive impact IMTT has on the lives of these children. The staff at IMTT treasures these picture books.

IMTT also donates to the Richmond Police Activity League, the Black Men and

Women, and the City's Golf Tournament. They normally participate in the Summer Youth Employment Program. IMTT also works with recreational agencies like the California State Land Commission, Parent Teacher Associations, and Neighborhood Watch Programs. IMTT has a strong sense of safety and community. They encourage their employees to get involved with the local Richmond community.

Not too worry, IMTT plans to keep growing. They are in the process of building an additional 300,000 barrels by increasing their tankage. They have plenty of room on their property and intend to continue expanding and working in the community.