



VanTrust Real Estate is a full-service commercial real estate development firm with a regional focus and a national scope. VanTrust, which was founded in 2010 by Cecil Van Tuyl and Dave Harrison, has offices in Columbus, Dallas, Phoenix, and Jacksonville, with its headquarters in Kansas City. VanTrust has completed numerous significant development projects in Kansas City, including Park Place, Plaza Vista, and Meadowbrook Park, to name a few. The company specializes in ground-up development for product types such as office, industrial, multifamily, hospitality, and retail. VanTrust is uniquely equipped to be nimble and entrepreneurial, with 63 employees nationwide, and the firm places a strong emphasis on being responsible stewards of both real estate and communities.

Mike Wirtz joined VanTrust in 2013 to help with the financial side of the company. Mike oversees all accounting functions for VanTrust and its affiliated entities in his current role as Controller. Mike oversees information technology and computer system operations in addition to his financial responsibilities.





"What I value most about working at VanTrust is their dedication to the real estate and communities by always doing what's right by the dirt. Meadowbrook Park is a great example of this in action. VanTrust purchased the 136-acre Meadowbrook Park site in Prairie Village, Kansas, which was previously home to Meadowbrook Golf and Country Club. VanTrust collaborated with community stakeholders to develop a vision for a redevelopment that would benefit the entire community. VanTrust sold a portion of property to the county, and they created a one-of a kind park that includes a fully accessible playground. This project really hit home for me because I grew up in that community and have enjoyed watching community members embrace and enjoy the project today. I even worked at that same golf course as a teenager!" said Wirtz.

VanTrust has been a customer of BDS since 2015.

"When I started, VanTrust was small enough where I could do some of the IT help desk and troubleshooting part-time. As we grew and opened more locations, the amount of IT issues and complexity ballooned. Eventually, it felt like I was spending most of my time on IT, where I needed to also be focused on accounting and finances," explained Wirtz.

It was at that time that VanTrust began looking to partner with an IT company. VanTrust struggled to find an IT partner that provided the type of quality of service they desired, until eventually finding BDS.

"When we began working with BDS, our IT frustrations were immediately relieved. My time spent addressing IT problems went from taking up half of my days to virtually no time at all. There has been less volatility within our whole network since we've brought BDS on. BDS is always quick to address our issues, often with no wait time required. With BDS on our side, our IT operations are running smoothly, and we can focus on our core business of doing right by the dirt," said Wirtz.



Right: **Mike Wirtz**, Controller at VanTrust & **Tito Huynh**, Vice President at Business Data Services