One of those periodic downturns in the petroleum industry resulted in the organization of Petru Corporation, a full-service land company based in Santa Paula. Petru Corporation is a consulting company offering a full line of land services, with a special focus on California and the Pacific Northwest.

During the severe industry downturn in the mid-1980s, Tim Truwe was laid off by an independent oil and gas exploration and production company. Thereafter, Truwe worked as an independent landman and started working out the details and concept of a land consulting and development company. Truwe’s experience includes employment in the title insurance industry and the petroleum industry.

Petru Corporation was launched officially in 1986 by Tim Truwe and Gary Peterson. Truwe took full control and ownership of the Corporation around 1991. Although the industry was in recession when the company was founded, Petru stayed busy serving the energy and title insurance industries while expanding its line of professional land services into other areas, including the legal profession and governmental agencies.

Among the early employees of the corporation were Tim’s father, George Truwe, who became a landman for the company after retiring as a school teacher and administrator. Other key individuals in the growth of the organization were Tim’s daughter, Elizabeth Truwe, who serves as vice president and corporate secretary, and Cathie Feeney, who is executive assistant/landman/bookkeeper.

Petru Corporation has performed title searches, examinations and write-ups for various title insurance companies and their underwriters, for the issuance of title insurance policies on complex multimillion dollar projects. The title insurance industry relies upon Petru’s title expertise and has insured their title work. Petru’s team of title experts can handle the most complex and involved title issues.

Petru Corporation maintains a large data base of land title records for a majority of the counties in California. This enables Petru to perform title work in a majority of counties without leaving its office, providing clients with cost and time efficiency.

Petru Corporation has been retained to act as an expert witness in litigation involving oil and gas related matters, title, title insurance, water rights and subdivisions of land, and has prepared narratives relative to these issues for court proceedings.

Petru Corporation has provided its services for a wide variety of projects including railroads, water rights, industrial/commercial, natural resources, green energy, rights of way, easements, leasehold estates, agricultural land, subdivisions, mining, offshore petroleum leases and road widening and abandonments. The Corporation has managed title, land and oil/gas projects ranging from as small as one acre of land to more than one million acres.

The Corporation has planned land subdivisions, performed regulatory processing of land subdivisions and lot line adjustments and performed legal lot determinations under the Subdivision Map Act and local ordinances.
Petru performs regulatory (permit) consulting on projects including—but not limited to—oil, gas, mineral, wind, solar and geothermal projects as well as agricultural and business projects. Petru maintains a good rapport with local, state and federal governmental agencies.

The Corporation has acted as an outside or satellite land department for various petroleum and geothermal exploration and production companies, providing title searches, drillsite title reports, lease negotiations, managing land/lease records, joint ventures, acquisitions/divestitures, land availability checks, rights-of-way and permitting. This includes both onshore and offshore on private and federal/state lands.

Petru Corporation has a deep knowledge of natural resource and title matters, they inform and educate their clients in these matters.

Petru Corporation works in conjunction with other industry professions and companies to provide a full complement of services beyond those traditionally offered. Such professional companies include geophysicists, attorneys specializing in oil and gas and real estate, environmental consultants, geologists, title insurance companies, surveyors, engineers and draftsmen.

The Corporation has provided its services to major and independent oil, gas, mineral and geothermal companies, mining companies, solar and wind companies, title insurance companies, attorneys, California Department of Justice, U.S. Department of Justice, local governmental agencies, water purveyors, developers, individual land owners and many others.

The success of Petru Corporation was featured in a recent episode of the Enterprises television show, hosted by former pro football quarterback and television personality Terry Bradshaw. Petru Corporation was featured as an expert and authority in the energy field, specifically in relation to oil, gas, mineral, geothermal, green energy, title, regulatory and land matters related thereto.

Petru Corporation currently employs eight land and title professionals and is located at 250 Hallock Drive in Santa Paula and on the Internet at www.petrucorporation.com.

The Corporation and its employees support a number of civic and charitable activities, including Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Clara Valley, Disabled American Veterans, Food Share, Paralyzed Veterans of America, California Oil Museum, several Peace Officers Associations, Smile Train, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, and the Ventura County Rescue Mission.

The demands placed on the natural resources and real estate industries by the need for use of land and energy for various projects will be a challenge to meet. Petru Corporation has and will continue to meet those challenges by providing its expertise and unique line of land services to the natural resources and real estate industries, professions, businesses, and individuals in need of its services.