

UPDATE

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Client Profile

Ken Chybowski & Dawnelle Ganz Milwaukee Bearing & Machining, Inc.

Ken Chybowski believes that to build a successful business you have to have a strong team, a team that is not only skilled in what they do, but that holds your same values and business philosophy. At Milwaukee Bearing & Machining, Inc., that philosophy revolves around respect, appreciation and dedication, not only for their family of customers, but for their employees as well.

Ken began his career in the bearing industry in 1984 with a company called Fusion Bearing. Over the years he went through several different buyouts and mergers with the companies he worked for, moving up in the ranks as his career developed.

Ken eventually became President of BHW Bearing, Inc., a German owned bearing manufacturer. In 1991, he had the opportunity to purchase the Milwaukee location from the German parent company. He did and changed the name to Milwaukee Bearing & Machining, Inc. that same year.

At that time, the company had around 33 employees and was located in Milwaukee on the corner of 96th and Carmen Avenue. The company leased two older buildings that didn't allow for expansion and were not laid out very efficiently. By 1997 Ken was ready to expand and looked for a new location.

Today Milwaukee Bearing & Machining, Inc. is headquartered in a beautiful 40,000 square-foot building on

eight acres in Menomonee Falls. They employ around 70 employees and run three shifts.

"Moving into the Menomonee Falls location was one of the best business decisions we ever made," said Ken. "It has given us the space to grow in the production of bearings and in the development of the machining part of the business, as well as the ability to expand the physical plant in the future."

Milwaukee Bearing & Machining, Inc. specializes in two areas. The first being the manufacturing of fluid-film, babbitt-lined bearings, which are used in electrical motors, pumps and turbines.

Their second area of specialization is in the contract machining of large diameter machine parts for mining equipment and power generating equipment.

Although today's economy looks grim, Ken looks to the future with confidence and optimism. "We've seen a continued growth in revenues

over the years, and we are hopeful that this will continue into 2009."

But Ken doesn't do it all alone. His daughter, Dawnelle Ganz, Executive Vice President, joined the company 16 years ago. At that time she wasn't sure she'd make a career of it. "I started here to gain some experience in business and Human Resources. Over the years I have had the opportunity to make a career out of it and work my way through every aspect of the business," she said.

They both admit there is something special about working together in a family business. "You often know exactly what the other is thinking and how each will react

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*Ken Chybowski, President and
Dawnelle Ganz, Executive Vice President,
Milwaukee Bearing & Machining, Inc.*



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in different situations,” Dawnelle added. They find together that they have a wonderful balance. Ken’s expertise lies in the technical aspects of the business while Dawnelle complements this with her background in Human Resources and Administration.

They both agree that the greatest challenge the company has faced over the years is finding qualified machinists to fill positions. “We look for people who are not only skilled in their trade, but who fit the structure of the company and want to work as part of our team,” said Dawnelle.

As Dawnelle takes the reigns, she will work not only with her father, but with the strong executive management team that they have established over the last few years. They continue to build their company around the same philosophy Ken established when he bought the business.

“We have a strong client base and we pride ourselves in providing them with quality products, timely delivery and fair pricing,” said Ken. “We value both our customers and our employees and treat them with respect and appreciation. That’s our philosophy.”



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Fraud Alert - continued from page 1

The SBA is working with the SBA Office of the Inspector General (OIG) to investigate this matter. The OIG asks that anyone who receives such a letter, report it to the OIG Fraud Line at 1-800-767-0385, or e-mail the OIG at OIGHotline@sba.gov.

WKMR Firm News

Mike Toennies, CPA in our Oconomowoc Office, was recently awarded an Employee Recognition Award through the Pewaukee Chamber of Commerce. Mike was recognized for his 10 years of dedication and commitment to Winter, Kloman, Moter & Repp, S.C. and his clients.



Congratulations **Amanda McNutt, CPA!** Amanda works in our Oconomowoc office and recently passed her CPA exam.

Paul Sehmer and **Sandy Strelka** attended the Prevention and Protection of Abused Children’s Dinner Auction on February 7.

On February 14, **Mark Potts, Larry Gebhard** and **Sandy Strelka** attended the Montessori School of Waukesha Dinner Auction.

Proceeds from the two above mentioned events went to benefit each organization directly.