



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CWMF CORP. RECEIVES CENTRAL MINN. BUSINESS RECOGNITION

CWMF Corporation, formerly known as Custom Welding and Metal Fabrication, has been selected as the 2016 St. Cloud Area Business Central Mark of Excellence: Family Owned Business of the Year. The company is owned by second generation family members, siblings Carmie, Travis and Brian Mick.

Founded in 1968 by Loren Mick, the company originally focused on truck repair and contract hauling. In 1978 CWMF expanded the operation to offer custom fabrication services. In 1988 Loren Mick began manufacturing asphalt plant equipment with the introduction of CWMF's first product, the "Dust-Eater" baghouse. Since then, they have expanded their product line to encompass the full spectrum of asphalt production equipment, as well as custom fabrication of all types of industrial equipment — with an emphasis on large-scale capabilities.

Today, owned and led by the second generation of Micks, CWMF is best known for its heavy-duty asphalt equipment and custom fabrication. Since 1994, they have expanded operations with new equipment and multiple building additions. In 2012, one of their most aggressive additions included the addition of a large scale 30' x 120' paint booth facility. This resulted in a significant increase in sales and associated employment growth. In 2014 the company expanded their design, engineering and administration space, improving project workflow and overall customer service.

Since 2007, when Loren Mick's children began taking over leadership of the business, the company has nearly tripled in revenue and grown from 16 to 34 employees.

Although the company has experienced steady growth over the years, the biggest surge has occurred since 2008. In fact, the recession was good for CWMF. "The recession showed us a need for retrofitting large drums used in the asphalt industry," said company President Carmie Mick. "We discovered that a lot of older facilities would rather retrofit equipment on a planned replacement rotation, rather than buy new. That's become a great niche for us."

Carmie, Travis and Brian Mick will be honored at the 2016 St. Cloud Area Small Business Awards Luncheon on May 3 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn and Suites in St. Cloud. The luncheon is open to the public. The cost is \$19 per person and reservations can be made by calling the St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce at 320-656-3826 or online at StCloudAreaChamber.com. The Business Awards Luncheon is sponsored by the St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce.

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