

UPI provides packaging solutions

Company promotes recyclable products made of wood, plastics and steel

BY NOELLE RULSEH
Herald Times Reporter

Name of business: United Packaging Inc.

Ownership: Brad J. Smith and Doug Mickelson; Joe Olejniczak, regional manager

When business started: 1999 for the Reedsville facility

Location: 401 Industrial Drive Park, Reedsville

Phone number: (920) 754-1197

Web site: www.unitedpackaginginc.com

Hours and days of operation: 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday; 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Tuesday to Thursday; 7 a.m. to noon, Friday

Services provided-products sold: United Packaging Inc. (UPI) manufactures a full line of industrial packaging products including wood pallets and skids, wooden containers, bags, tacks, cylinders, bins, baskets, casks, barrels, drums, cans and pails. UPI provides packaging solutions for customers through design, testing, competitive pricing and service.

The management team includes two degreed packaging engineers who work with customers on new package designs and cost reductions. UPI's objective is to seek new and improved packaging designs, materials and methods to serve their customers.

UPI promotes returnable and recyclable packaging products including wood, corrugate, plastics, steel and composites. It supplies packaging for many industries including appliances, original equipment manufacturers, lawn and garden, recreation, windows and doors, military, and wire and cable.

UPI's corporate headquarters is in Crosby, Minn., with manufacturing plants in Minnesota and Wisconsin. The Reedsville UPI facility has more than 28,000-square-feet of manufacturing capacity and a large lumberyard that includes 11 acres for expansion.

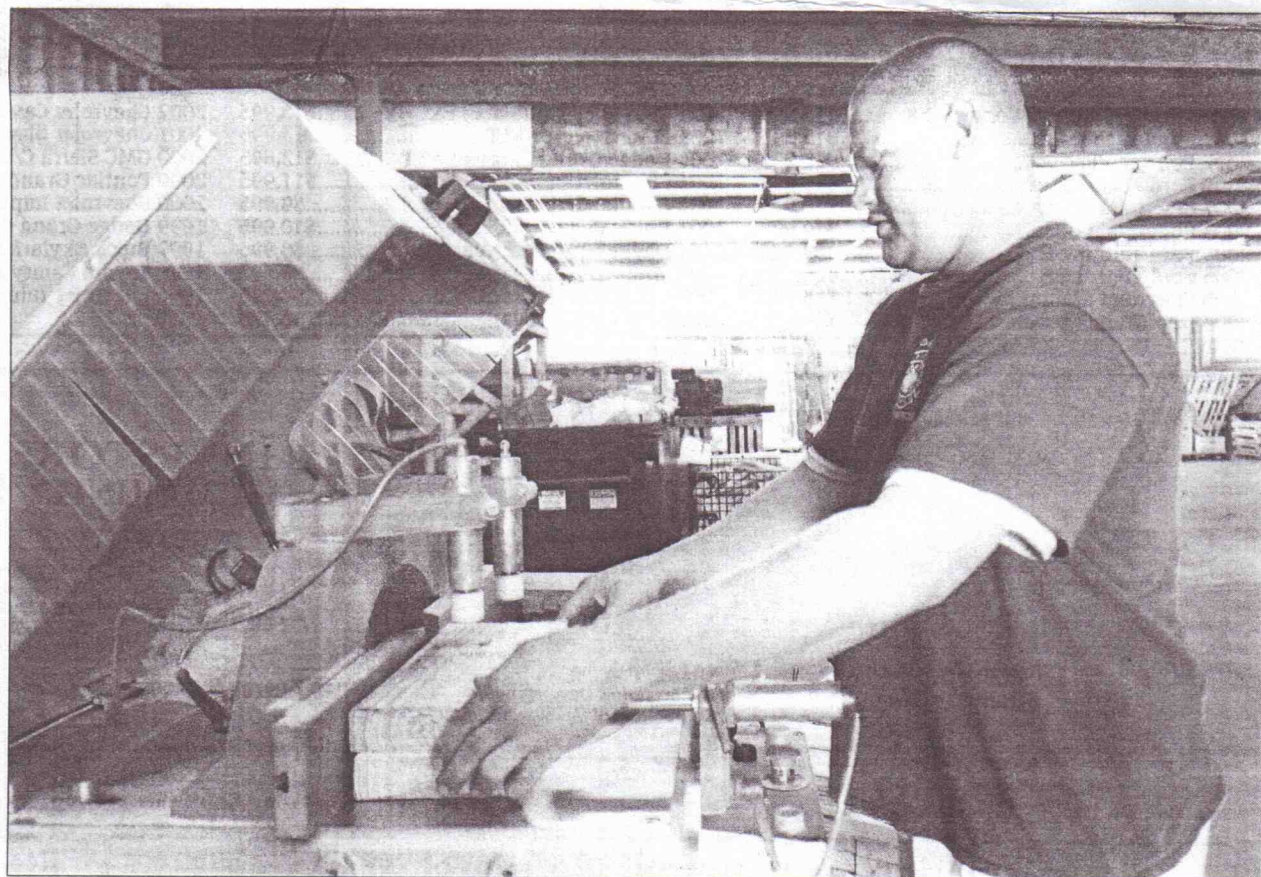
How has business changed since opening? UPI has tripled its business with new clients, as well as developing more business with existing clients. UPI locations have expanded with manufacturing plants in Peterson and Windom, Minn., and Reedsville, Fond du Lac and Tomah.

Who are the customers and from where? The clients are from Wisconsin including the Sheboygan, Mayville, and Madison areas.

Who or what is the competition? Competitors are



From left, Scott Dvorachek, Jeremy Glasow, Joe Olejniczak, and Andy Hoeffler stand in one of the crates created at United Packaging in Reedsville. **Jaslyn Gilbert/HTR**



Co-manager Scott Dvorachek cuts stacks of wood for a finished product. **Jaslyn Gilbert/HTR**

“It is great to be able to solve customers’ problems. There is great satisfaction in doing that.”

— Joe Olejniczak, regional manager, United Packaging Inc.