



PRESS RELEASE  
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# Local Manufacturer Expands Capacity

## CB Fabricating expands facility, adds high-tech equipment, hires staff to meet growing demand for services in multiple markets

Anderson, Ind. – In less than a year, Anderson, Ind., based sheet metal fabricator CB Fabricating, Inc., has expanded its production capacity by 75%, added a second shift, and hired three full-time employees to meet growing demand from clients in multiple industries. Two recent new contracts from clients in the aquatics and agriculture industries are among the many that have steadily expanded the company's offerings and facilitated the new hires. The expansion is in line with the trend in Indiana manufacturing employment, which has increased steadily over the past three years according to the 2014 Indiana Manufacturers Directory.

"We began seeing signs of recovery and growth as early as 2011," says Chris Barkdull, founder and president of CB Fabricating. "Looking ahead we decided early last year to implement expansion plans to stay ahead with technology and capacity. With the expansion we've been able to obtain business from international companies in transportation, agriculture, and other industries."

CB Fabricating added 6,500 square feet to its facility in mid-2013 for a total of 17,000 square feet to accommodate planned equipment additions. An Amada FO MII 3015 NT Laser Flex Cell— a computer-controlled, precision laser metal cutter—added in October allows the company to fabricate precision sheet metal products around the clock with automated load/unloaded capabilities and remote monitoring. Earlier this month an Amada Press Brake was also added to the lineup, further increasing capacity and improving turnaround time on client contracts.

Both pieces of equipment are programmed and setup using complex software and require employees with technology training and knowledge. In addition to the three employees hired in recent months, the company is seeking additional staff with greater levels of training and technology knowledge, says CB Advisor & Client Manager Julia Kattner.

"While CB prides itself on providing good wages and benefits to our employees, our challenge, like many others in the manufacturing sector, is finding qualified employees. We were excited to hear about the coming Purdue Polytechnic Institute and hope it can help train the technology-savvy workers that Madison County needs to keep moving forward," says Kattner.

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