



FIRM NEWS

Lathrop GPM Represents Central McGowan in Acquisition of Bemidji Welders Supply

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MINNEAPOLIS (May 15, 2024) — Lathrop GPM represented Central McGowan in an acquisition of Bemidji Welders Supply. The acquisition, which positions both companies for amplified growth and innovation, was announced on May 7.

Central McGowan is a leading distributor of welding and industrial equipment, gases, supplies, abrasives, safety equipment, beverage carbonation solutions and dry ice. It also is a FANUC-authorized integrator of robotic and automation solutions.

As family businesses, both Central McGowan and Bemidji Welders Supply have been staples in their communities for generations. The acquisition enables Bemidji Welders Supply, a welding equipment and supply distributor, to retain its name, identity, and other elements of its business.

Lathrop GPM has decades of experience working with closely held and family businesses, with these businesses or the individuals that own them comprising more than 30 percent of the firm's top clients. The firm works with these clients across all aspects of general corporate, limited liability company, partnership, tax and other business matters. In [September 2023](#), Lathrop GPM announced the launch of a Closely Held Business Institute to offer closely held and family business owners and executives topical programs, networking events and educational resources focused on maximizing the health and sustainability of their businesses.

Lathrop GPM's team representing Central McGowan was led by partner [Ryan Gerads](#) and associates [Aly Brandvold](#) and [Robin Swingley](#).

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